# LATS NEWS Leduc Assisted Transportation Services



# LeducTransit.ca

Spring 2020

#### **LATS Welcomes You Onboard**

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a harsh effect on transit all over the world and transit agencies have responded with unprecedented speed, putting new measures in place to help protect against the virus. Transit has been classified as an essential service during this time as we continue to keep our clients connected to the necessities they need, such as employment, groceries, medicine and medical appointments.

We have retained a few of our LATS drivers to meet our service demands and assist with Food Bank deliveries but many of the staff you normally see driving you are temporarily redeployed to other City of Leduc departments.

As the Province of Alberta begins to ease restrictions, so will the City of Leduc and things will slowly begin to open up again. Continued health and safety measures will remain in place on all transit services in order to protect our riders at this time.

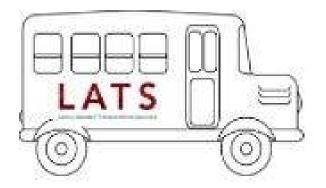
Social distancing has become the new normal and that's good because it helps keep us all safe. When you come onboard our buses, you will notice some seats are blocked off to support social distancing. You may be directed where to sit by the operator.

We have strict cleaning procedures in place to keep you safe when you ride with us. Our buses are cleaned and sanitized each day. In between clients, the operators clean touch points such as handrails, seats, windows, ledges, etc., so that the bus is always clean for the next client. The Operators wear gloves and masks to help protect both themselves and you. Passengers are highly encouraged to follow Alberta Health Services (AHS) guidance to wear non-medical masks or face coverings when using public transit, or in other locations where physical distancing is not possible.

Currently LATS is only operating Monday to Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and all bookings are done through Edmonton DATS. You can make a reservation by calling 780-986-5000 or 780-496-4567, (option 2).

When you call into DATS to book your ride, you will be asked some COVID-19 prescreening questions prior to DATS booking your reservation. If you haven't booked a ride for some time, you will need the following information:

- Your LATS client card number
- The time and location you wish to be picked up at
- The location of where you are going including the address
- The time you would like to be picked up and taken to another location or returned to your home



#### **LATS Fares**

Currently, LATS fares are free until the end of June. Beginning July 1, Leduc Transit and LATS will resume collecting fares on all transit services. Over the past three months, all fares were waived on Leduc Transit and LATS in an effort to reduce financial strain on our community. March passes for Leduc Transit and LATS will be accepted as valid payment for the month of July. If you don't have your March pass, you will be required to pay a fare of \$4 per trip, unless the location you are going to is a sponsored location.

Monthly passes will go on sale at the Civic Centre on June 22<sup>nd</sup> and cost \$140. They are also available online at:

leductransit.ca/fares/buy-passes-online. Ticket books can be purchased from the Civic Centre or from the LATS Operators for \$40.

#### **Our Community Sponsors**

Our sponsors appreciate your shopping at their locations in order to have your one- or two-way trip sponsored.

#### Two-Way Sponsors:

- True Tough Massage and Fitness and Therapy
- Canada Safeway
- Leduc Co-op
- Leduc Co-op Hardware
- City Centre Mall
- Medicine Shoppe

#### One-Way Sponsors:

- Craig's No Frills
- Farmer's Market
- Second Glance

## **Goodbyes are Tough**

Many of you have become fond of our Operator Deb over the years. Deb and her husband are relocating to be near their families. We would like to thank her for many years of continued service and for her dedication to her job. We will miss her and wish her the very best in the future!

# **Travel Training**

If you are new to LATS and would like some help understanding how to use the service, you can call for some Travel Training. This service helps you learn how to book a ride, when to book a ride, what information you will need to know in advance, where to purchase fare products and even one-on-one training if required onboard the LATS buses.

If you need any information on booking a ride, or you just have some general questions you need answered, please call the LATS office at 780-980-8444 and we will be happy to assist you.

DATS Client Service Centre Hours are as follows:

- Monday to Friday7:30 am 5:00 pm
- Saturday and Sunday
   7:30 am to 12:00 pm

If you need to cancel your reservation, your cancellation must be received by DATS, at least 2 hours prior to your scheduled pick-up time.



#### The Food Bank

LATS has been assisting the Leduc and District Community Food Bank with the deliveries of food hampers over the past three months. Deliveries are made in Leduc, Devon, Calmar, Nisku and Beaumont as well as to local Leduc schools for distribution to their families. This initiative has been well received and we would like to give a shout-out to our operators (Karen, Samir and Russ) for all of their hard work!

#### **Client Updates**

Recently, the LATS office has been making phone calls to all of our clients to update their information. This is something we do on an annual basis so that your information remains current. We ask for your current address, phone numbers and emergency contact information updates. As well, we update any changes to the mobility equipment you use.

If you didn't get a call, or if you missed our call, please call into our office so that we can update the information we have on file for you. Please call our office at 780-980-8445 or 780-980-8444.

# Feel – Good Activities during COVID-19

Social distancing is important to help limit the spread of the coronavirus; however, you don't have to spend all of your time indoors! DO avoid feeling cooped up, lonely and bored, try some of these activities. We know they will put a smile on your face!

- Going for a walk is a great way to see some new scenery, get some fresh air and appreciate your surroundings. Just remember to keep 6 feet or 2 meters between you and your fellow walkers.
- Learn to master a new recipe. When you have extra time on your hands, use it to learn something new. Share your favourite recipe with your friends over the phone, by email or through text.
- 3. Writing letters used to be something people did all the time and there was nothing better than being the recipient of a letter. Letter writing is a good way to work on your fine motor skills and cognitive skills too so go ahead and write!
- 4. Get some exercise! Did you know that you feel better and your body will thank you when you exercise? Your body produces

- endorphins when you exercise. Endorphins are chemicals our bodies produce and they interact with the receptors in our brains, triggering a 'positive feeling' in our bodies.
- 5. How about a little spring cleaning? It's a great time to organize your closets and drawers and get things ready to donate post-Covid-19.
- 6. Complete a puzzle. If you like to go online, there are plenty of sights that offer puzzles and games for free.
- 7. Take the time to learn a new hobby! Maybe you have always wanted to learn to knit, sew, crochet, play an instrument or discover how to bake sourdough bread. YouTube is a great way to learn things on line and all you have to do is search for what you want to learn the resources are endless.
- 8. Have you ever thought about learning a new language? Perhaps you have a friend who can provide you with some online lessons. If not, there are plenty of free sights online so search away.
- 9. Garden! Everyone loves to look at beautiful gardens full of pretty blooms, whether in the ground or pots on a patio. Something about nature just makes us smile. Spring is the perfect time to learn how to plant a vegetable garden too and you will appreciate the exercise you get tending to it as well as, the bountiful harvest it supplies you with in the fall.
- 10. Read a book. The Leduc Public Library is still offering curb-side pick-ups until they reopen. For more information you can call 780-986-2637 and leave a voicemail or you can email them at <a href="mailto:curbside@leduclibrary.ca">curbside@leduclibrary.ca</a>



#### The City of Leduc

The Government of Alberta announced stage two of their relaunch strategy yesterday with the notable lifting of restrictions on more businesses, sport and recreation services and gathering capacities starting June 12. With the announcement, the City of Leduc is assessing and determining feasible timelines and conditions for the reopening of city-owned facilities such as the Leduc Recreation Centre, Alexandra Outdoor Pool, Maclab Centre for the Performing Arts, Lede Park and Leduc Spray Park.

Additional details and opening dates for these facilities will be announced as soon as plans are finalized to ensure public safety in each space. The City of Leduc will continue to work with business owners to help meet provincial requirements for reopening.

See <a href="https://www.leduc.ca/news/city-leduc-prepares-stage-two-relaunch">https://www.leduc.ca/news/city-leduc-prepares-stage-two-relaunch</a> for further details.

#### The Older Adult Services Program

FCSS runs the Older Adult Services program and provides information on services and programs for seniors and families caring for older adults within the City of Leduc.

What are some of the reasons to call Older Adult Services?

- You need assistance with completing forms for government programs
- You have concerns associated with aging and care giving
- You need assistance with developing new programs for older adults
- You are looking for information about city programs, and federal and provincial benefits for seniors

 You need information about emergency services, health support groups, community medical services, or safety

For more information, please contact Older Adult Services at 780-980-7109.

#### Just for fun

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#### Streets in Leduc

Ε	D	C	В	R	K	N	T	S	S	S	С	Υ	В
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Ι	0	N	A	Ε	P	T	U	U	R	N	A	W	K
R	R	K	С	C	Α	R	0	T	Α	Ε	D	Υ	Ε
D	A	N	K	Α	R	U	С	Н	٧	С	Υ	R	Y
N	W	0	G	L	R	0	N	F	I	S	В	Ε	S
U	Ε	0	0	P	0	С	Ι	0	N	Ε	0	٧	T
K	P	T	L	K	W	Υ	T	R	Ε	R	U	0	0
R	P	K	D	R	D	A	R	K	٧	С	L	C	N
0	Ι	Α	D	Ι	R	K	Α	D	I	S	Ε	S	Ε
W	Н	R	R	K	I	С	М	R	L	D	٧	I	L
٧	С	0	Ι	L	٧	М	R	Ι	L	0	Α	D	Α
U	Н	Α	٧	Ε	Ε	С	0	٧	Α	0	R	Ε	N
С	D	D	E	S	D	٧	E	Ε	S	W	D	Ε	Ε

MCKAY COURT
RAVINE VILLAS
WOODS CRESCENT
COADY BOULEVARD
BLACK GOLD DRIVE
CHIPPEWA ROAD
WORKUN DRIVE
DISCOVERY WAY
KEYSTONE LANE
SPARROW DRIVE
NOOTKA ROAD
SELKIRK PLACE
SOUTHFORK DRIVE
MARTIN COURT

Play this puzzle online at : https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/1245240/

## **Just Joking**

- Q. "What's the best thing about Switzerland?"
- A. "I don't know but the flag's a BIG plus!"
- Q. "Why did the scarecrow win an award?"
- A. "Because he was outstanding in his field!"
- Q. "What do you call a pig that does karate?"
- A. "A pork chop!"

