



**The Lacombe Fish and Game Association  
Annual Newsletter – January 2024**

To our amazing sponsors and members...

Every year, the Lacombe Fish and Game Association is pleased to put together a report that outlines our projects and activities that have helped to enhance conservation and education initiatives within our community. It was an exciting year as you will read below!

First, on behalf of the Executive, I want to thank each and every one of our members and our corporate sponsors. Your contributions are invaluable to our ability as an Association to invest in high profile and high impact projects throughout our communities. This year we were able to leveraged sponsorship dollars with grants to maximize the impact of our projects and events.

To our corporate sponsors, please know our Membership chair will be reaching out to offer the allocated number of free Lacombe Fish and Game Association memberships as part of your sponsorship package. Memberships have many benefits and would be perfect for any valued employee, important customer or essential supplier contact located within Lacombe / Lacombe County that has an interest in hunting, fishing or spending any amount of time in the great outdoors.

Our Association is also excited to announce the First Annual LFGA Awards Night & Gala! Taking place on April 13<sup>th</sup> at the LMC, this year we will continue to recognize the many achievements of members in the outdoors. But we will also have an event that brings together the community to celebrate all that is the outdoors in a fun, social, banquet format. The night will also see fundraising towards new playground equipment at the iconic Len Thompson Pond. We hope to see as many of you as possible! Tickets are for sale on our website.

Finally, I want to thank many of our core volunteers, and members of the Executive. These projects and events would not be possible without our extraordinary volunteer base. The Kid's Conservation Camp at our Chain Lakes Conservation Property; the Kid's Can Catch Youth Fishing Day at the Len Thompson Pond; and the conservation projects to be outlined later in the newsletter would not have been possible without these dedicated volunteers. Please individually thank these volunteers if you have a chance to do so.

Finally, please contact me with any questions, comments or concerns at [president@lfga.ca](mailto:president@lfga.ca).

Sincerely,

Brad Pallister  
President



## Kids Can Catch

Once again, our flagship event took place on a beautiful day on June 3, 2023. This year was a bit different, however. The LFGA was proud to stand with our partners at the City of Lacombe and Lacombe County for the grand opening of one of Alberta's few, fully accessible fishing docks. We had an estimated 500 participants on hand to celebrate; with many known to have travelled from both Calgary and Edmonton, and areas in between. Lots of local and industry media also attended the event. Once again, the highlight of the day is the trout release where kids are able to physically release 500 trout into the pond. Fishing equipment is available to all to borrow for the day, LFGA volunteers help teach first time anglers, many prizes are given away and every participant is fed a free hot lunch. And most importantly, smiles are everywhere...



A special THANK YOU to the Alberta Conservation Association's Education Grant; Central Alberta Coop for supplying the food and MEG Global and DOW Chemicals for their above and beyond contribution of face painters, a bouncy castle, extra prizes for participants and additional volunteers.

For more information visit  
<https://www.lfga.ca/news/kids-can-catch-2023>.

## Cenalta Youth Conservation Academy

This year saw another successful camp in July with more than 30 youths being educated on all things conservation at the LFGA Conservation property located on the edge of Chain Lakes in Ponoka County. LFGA & Cenalta volunteers help to educate and train on several hunting, fishing and conservation education. The LFGA also maintains and manages the camp facilities on the property that include several sleeping cabins and a main lodge.

## Len Thompson Trout Pond – Accessible Dock Project COMPLETE!

Only two years ago, the Len Thompson Trout Pond had a small, old and unstable dock that had a tendency to sink. Now, only two years later, anglers have many opportunities to get closer to the fish. Two new floating docks were installed in the fall of 2022 and our new, fully accessible fishing dock was ready for anglers just in time for the Kids Can Catch day!



This dock is 100 feet long and 100 feet wide, has 79 steel piles that were installed (on ice) and has approximately 3400 square feet of deck space. Plenty of room for activities! We were thrilled to see a kid catching a rainbow trout off the dock just before the ribbon cutting.

The LFGA wants to extend its heartfelt thanks to the financial contributors of this large project.

- Government of Alberta
- City of Lacombe
- Lacombe County
- Lacombe Fish and Game Association (thanks to our sponsors)
- Team Jigger Foundation
- Len Thompson Lures
- Lacombe Kinsmen

All of the vendors on the project exceeded our expectations. Kevin with IMC Construction was our general contractor, and made this project a reality! Thompson Ditching, D&M Concrete, Canadian Custom Decking, Iron Tech Services and Advance Foundations all let their work speak for itself. We could not be happier with how it all turned out. And most importantly, feedback from users and community members alike have nothing but positive things to say.





## Other Projects and Updates

The LFGA was thrilled to receive a significant donation on behalf of the City of Lacombe's Len Thompson Trout Pond Park. In September, Wolf's Botanical made a \$30,000 in kind donation for beautification of the Len Thompson Park. Dozens of trees were added, as well as all the tree beds were improved. A huge thanks to the Hainzmann family!



BEFORE



AFTER



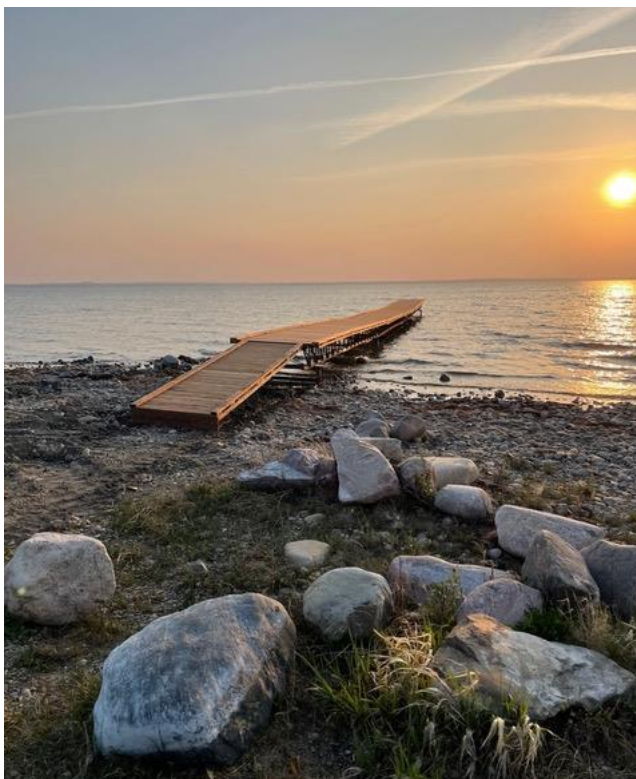
The LFGA also purchased a used trailer BBQ this summer. A refurbishment of the trailer will take place this winter, with the intent to utilize the trailer for LFGA events as well as to have it available for rent. LFGA members and sponsors will be able to rent the trailer for preferred rates.

Please contact a member of the Executive to learn how to rent this new LFGA asset.



## Lacombe Fish and Game Association

The iconic Wilson's Beach fishing pier was in urgent need of refurbishment this spring. Thanks to a grant from the Alberta Conservation Association, as well as work done by LFGA volunteers, this pier is looking great and ready for anglers.



We are also pleased to announce that the caretakers of the two recreational facilities operated by the LFGA will continue on. Lakelife Management will continue to manage the Wilson's Beach Campground as well as Burbank Park. The LFGA Executive would like to thank Melissa and Sheldon for all their hard work in the past, and look forward to their continued stewardship of these important recreational and fishery access sites.

### Awards Night Banquet

This banquet and social evening takes place annually at the Burbank Hall and allows the LFGA to award members with prizes for their hard-earned successes harvesting fish and wildlife in the field.

Approximately 30 awards are given out to these skilled conservationists. The LFGA is excited to host a greatly expanded Awards night at the LMC on April 13, 2024. Members of the community and all conservationists are encouraged to attend.



# Lacombe Fish and Game Association

## Public Fish Stockings

The LFGA, along with significant contributions from our partners the City of Lacombe, the Alberta Conservation Association and the Government of Alberta, stocked nearly 6500 rainbow and tiger trout into the Len Thompson Trout Pond and East Stormwater Pond over the 2023 season. For more information, visit <https://www.lfga.ca/fishing.html>.

## Our Sponsors

The Lacombe Fish and Game Association would like to recognize the following corporate sponsors who have generously contributed to our local fisheries projects.



Wolf Creek Building Supplies  
LA Carpet and Tile  
New West Truck Centres  
Servus Credit Union  
Track on 2  
Kles-Air Mechanical Ltd.

Gill Construction Ltd.  
BDO Canada LLP  
Central Alberta CO-OP  
D&M Concrete Products  
Thompson Ditching  
Downton's Transport Ltd.

## Monthly Meetings

The LFGA holds meetings at 7:30pm on the second Tuesday of every month, with the exception of July and August. Meetings generally last an average of 1 hour, and allow all members to participate with the organization. A social event occurs at the conclusion of each meeting, and a \$50 attendance draw is won by a member at the end of each meeting (usually Dave James). We would love to meet you at these meetings.





Lacombe Fish and Game Association

# PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE **2024 LFGA Awards & Gala**

*For more information or tickets please visit [www.lfga.ca/gala](http://www.lfga.ca/gala)*

**Saturday, April 13, 2024**

Individual Tickets \$60.00

Table of 8 Tickets \$400.00

**Lacombe Memorial Center**

Cocktails at 4:30pm

Dinner at 6:00pm

Awards at 7:00pm

**Live & Silent Auction!**

**Gun raffle!**

**Door Prizes!**

*All fundraising at this year's gala will be allocated towards building a brand new community park at the popular Len Thompson Fishing Pond in Lacombe, Alberta. In partnership with the City of Lacombe.*



**SAVE THE DATE**

# APRIL 13



Lacombe Fish and Game Association