



MARCH 2021

SPRING NEWSLETTER

WWW.VALQUENTIN.CA

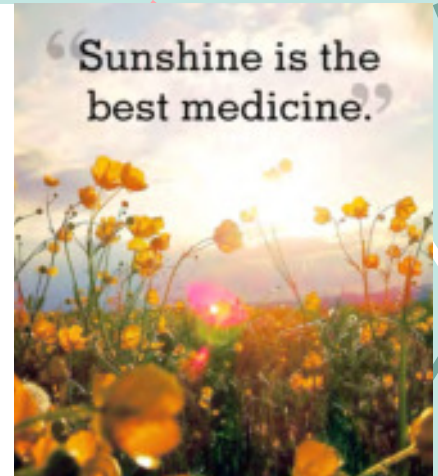
@LACSTEANNE



If you would like to submit an item for inclusion in the Newsletter - please email to marlenehwalsh@gmail.com

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Summer Village of Val Quentin - Contact Information

Mayor Roger Montpellier Phone: 780 566 5177

Email: r.montpellier@valquentin.ca

Deputy Mayor Marlene Walsh 780 668 3182

Email: marlenehwalsh@gmail.com

Councillor Bob Lehman 780 924 2137

Email: vqboblehman@gmail.com

Municipal Administrator Dennis Evans 780 446 1426

Email: d.evans@valquentin.ca

Val Quentin Website: <http://www.valquentin.ca>

Facebook: @lacsteanne

Emergency Services - Contact Information

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| • Fire, Ambulance, RCMP Emergency | 911 |
| • RCMP Stony Plain Non-Emergency | 780 968 7200 |
| • RCMP Stony Plain Emergency | 780 963 2217 |
| • Community Police Officer/Animal Control | 780 924 3434 |
| • Health Link | 811 |
| • Alberta One Call | 1 800 242-3447 |
| • Power Outages | 780 310-(WIRE) 9473 |

Development Permits and Compliance Certificates

Diane Burtnick Box 339, Sangudo, AB T0E 2A0 Ph: 780 284 0410

Email: valquentindevelopment@yahoo.com

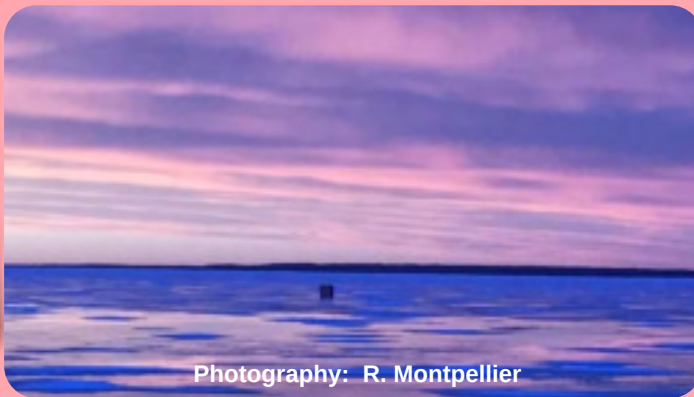
Safety Code Permits

- including Building, Electrical, Plumbing, Sewage & Gas Permits

Development or construction in the Village requires a Safety Permit

Superior Safety Codes Inc. 14613 - 134 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5L 4S9

Ph: 780 489-4777



Council Meetings

Regular Summer Village of Val Quentin Council meetings are held every month on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Sunset Point Building, Sunset Point, AB.

In compliance with Alberta Health Service Guidelines, currently, Council meetings are held virtually via ZOOM. Residents are welcome to attend these meetings.

To receive the link to the meeting, or to submit items for addition to the Agenda, please contact the Municipal Administrator:

Dennis Evans at e:mail: d.evans@valquentin.ca

Telephone: 780-446-1426

Shared Services Review for Summer Villages of Lac Ste Anne and Lake Isle

The Summer Village of Val Quentin has applied for a grant to hire a consultant to review services in individual summer villages that may be shared among many or all summer villages on the two lakes.

The Summer Villages of Val Quentin, Sunset Point, Castle Island, Yellowstone, Ross Haven, West Cove on Lac Ste. Anne with Southview and Silver Sands on Lake Isle has agreed to take part in this review if the grant application is approved.

If the grant application is unsuccessful, this group will continue to examine and review opportunities where the shared services model may be able to be implemented.

We have completed Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Agreements with Lac Ste Anne County, and the Village of Alberta Beach which identify opportunities where our municipalities will continue to work together. These documents will be available to view on our website at www.valquentin.ca.

Val Quentin Landfill

Val Quentin landfill is accessible to residents who wish to dispose of natural material such as lake weeds, grass clippings, or tree branches.

The key is available by contacting Clr Bob Lehman.

Val Quentin Municipal Election - Nomination Day - July 3, 2021 July 31, 2021 - Election Day - Location: Alberta Beach Heritage Centre

The Val Quentin Election will be held on July 31, 2021 between 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

I would like to encourage you to consider running and to assist with your decision, you may wish to review **[A Candidates Guide to Running for Office In Alberta.](#)**

If you decide to proceed, please contact **Dennis Evans** and request an election form which will require you to gather signatures from five Electors eligible to vote in this election. **Fill out the form and return to Dennis Evans, CAO Val Quentin on July 3rd, 2021 at the Sunset Point Office between the hours of 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

There are many challenging decisions governing a recreational community with permanent and seasonal residents. The wishes of the two factions may not always align - permanent residents often want access to all the amenities available in other communities, while many seasonal residents may prefer that we accentuate summer and lake activities.

Council members are guided by the [Code of Conduct For Council Members](#). In an effort to be fair and equitable and create healthy outcomes for all residents, the decisions made by Council must take these factions into consideration. The role of a council is governance, meaning we're responsible for the research and negotiations needed for decision-making and policy-setting, as well as for allocating authority and accountability. Our role does not include municipal management or policy administration, which are in the very capable hands of our Chief Administrative Officer Dennis Evans.

Following are a few of my observations that may help in your decision to run for office. Once elected, many outcomes we think we will be able to accomplish soon turn into items over which we have no control. Many of our decisions are based on Provincial Guidelines. For example, we thought it would be a good idea to allow golf carts to operate in our village under certain conditions. We soon found out this is not allowed under the Alberta Highways Act. Still advocating!

On occasion, there are no simple answers or quick solutions, as the myriad of issues Council faces require different approaches. One learns very quickly to look at all points of view and listen intently. It's amazing what one learns by being open, and the influence that has on decisions. People who run for office to complete an agenda quickly learn that people around them soon understand their motives. The learning curve for a new councillor can be steep! Assuming one knows nothing but is eager to fill the gap, is a great place to start! My background in business and engineering has been an advantage in understanding the financial aspects of our role. New councillors must be prepared for a good deal of homework to understand how a municipality operates.

If you consider running for office you should be an unbiased thinker with good common sense, remembering the good of the entire community is paramount. It may be tough on the ego, but the person elected is just one vote out of three and the elected official must bear in mind that they are part of a team that needs to be cohesive. Once elected, the Provincial Government offers mandatory classes which must be attended by all elected officials.

Assuming our next Council achieves balance, the Village will continue to be a wonderful place to live with a vibrant community, preserving the values that brought us all here in the first place. However, nothing stays the same. Thirteen years ago, when I first joined Council, I attended one or two meetings a month. Now it's five or six meetings per month with a significant amount of information and correspondence to review.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my years on Council. It has been my privilege to meet many of our residents, outstanding volunteers and incredibly dedicated Councillors from Val Quentin and other communities. Also working with Deputy Mayor, Marlene Walsh and Councillor Bob Lehman has been exceptionally rewarding.

Regards, Roger Montpelier

Watershed Action Group

Submitted by: Roger Montpellier, Mayor, Val Quentin

Shane Getson, MLA for Lac Ste. Anne-Parkland is chairing the Watershed Action Group committee that is focusing on investigating what actions can be taken to improve the removal of the aquatic vegetation that becomes trapped behind the old weir.

The group is also examining:

- improvements that can be made to the weir in the form of maintenance or new construction that would aid in lake-level control.
- the shoreline stabilization regulations to streamline the process required to obtain permits for emergency maintenance work on shoreline armour.
- Flowering Rush mitigation program on Lake Isle
Flowering Rush is an invasive aquatic plant found on lakeshores and slow-moving rivers that were observed in Lake Isle approximately seven years ago.

Lake Isle and Lac Ste. Anne Water Quality Management Society (LILSA) members are attempting to mitigate the spread of this plant and continue to focus on removal.

51 truckloads of flowering rush were removed from the west end of Lake Isle in 2020.



LILSA is a non-profit society run entirely by volunteers. Our mission is to improve the quality of the water by educating residents of Lac Ste Anne and Lake Isle on best practices and to encourage all municipalities within the watershed to adopt goals to achieve this mission. We have an 8 member board made up of six elected, one appointed by the Lac Ste Anne County, and one appointed by the Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation.

For several years there has been increasing concern among the lake users that the water quality of Lac Ste Anne and Lake Isle may be deteriorating. Complaints were made about increased blooms of Blue-green algae, weed growth, and murky waters. The shoreline of Lake Isle is also being taken over by Flowering Rush which is a prohibited invasive weed.

We invite you to join the LILSA group and help improve our lakes.

LILSA Memberships for 2021

LILSA relies on the income from our membership purchases to fund our lake initiatives. Please consider purchasing a 2021 membership. You will need to purchase a membership in order to vote at our AGM typically held in August. Memberships can be purchased for \$20 and payment options include:

- E-transfer to lilswaterquality@gmail.com
- Please include your name address, email, and phone number
- Mail to LILSA Box 152 Alberta Beach, AB T0E 0A0
- More information on LILSA can be found at lilswaterquality.com

Shoreline Stabilization

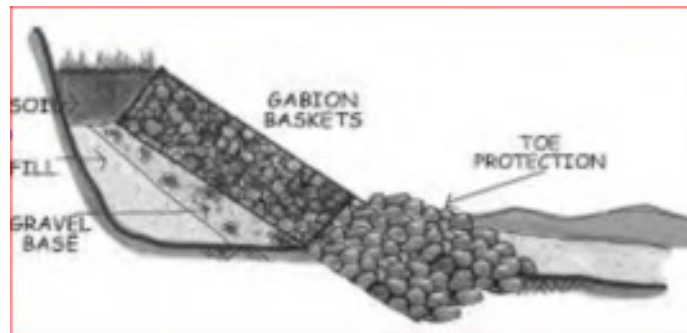
Submitted by: Roger Montpellier, Mayor, Val Quentin

The Summer Village of Val Quentin will be conducting a ZOOM Meeting on May 8, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide information to our residents on what work is allowed to stabilize, protect, repair and maintain the lakeshore. Information will also be provided on the new regulations for piers, boatlifts and mooring balls.

The information will be provided by Chris Vierath, Senior Lands Officer, Alberta Environment and Parks. Tel. # 780 788-7108, email Chris.Vierath@gov.ab.ca

Please email Chris any questions you may have to enable him to research information for the meeting. Include a sketch drawing if it will help to explain your question.



Invasive Species ****ALERT****

ZEBRA MUSSELS IN MOSS (MARIMO) BALLS

Live zebra mussels have been found in moss (Marimo) balls that were imported into Alberta. Moss balls are commonly sold in pet and garden stores. Zebra mussels are listed under the Fisheries (Alberta) Act as a prohibited species. It is illegal to possess, release, sell or transport these species within the province.

If you purchased moss balls after January 1, 2021, they must be disposed of.

Follow the disposal protocol (on page 2) to protect Alberta's aquatic ecosystems.



Ice Fishing Huts

Ice Fishing is a popular and enjoyable sport at Lac Ste Anne and has resulted in an increase of ice fishing shelters/huts on our lake. Please ensure your ice huts and all debris are removed by March 31, 2021!



Ice huts (shelters) can make ice fishing during the cold, windy days much more enjoyable. For structures placed on the ice for the purpose of shelter while fishing, there are rules that apply to protect fish populations and our lakes.

If ice huts are not removed before ice breaks up, debris can enter the water putting both people and our fish populations at risk. Thank you for doing your part to maintain the health of our lake to ensure clean, safe places for our fish populations to thrive.

A Message from Diane Burtnick

Development Officer, SV of Val Quentin

Hello Residents of Val Quentin

It looks like spring is finally going to come and bring warm weather and sunshine. Once the nice weather is here to stay, I will be doing inspections within the summer village checking for properties that may be considered unsightly.

During the past couple of years, the spring weather has been very wet, causing flooding in some yards. You are required to contain runoff within your lot, have troughs draining to the ditch at the front of your property, and make every effort to ensure water from your lot is not draining to an adjacent property.

Please make sure your yards are well kept and there are no unsightly items in your yard. You are allowed one RV on your property if you have a home. If you have a valid Development Permit, are in the process of a remodel or construction of a new home, you are allowed to have an RV on site while construction is ongoing.

Please contact me if you wish to report an unsightly property or have any questions regarding construction within the village. Diane Burtnick 780 284-0410

Tri Village Regional Sewer Commission Update

Submitted by Brian Purnell- AMAA (Ret'd), CET (Ret'd), Chairperson,
Tri Village Sewer Commission.

Updates on current activities will be shared in future newsletters.

Background:

Approximately 30 to 35 years ago, the three communities of Alberta Beach, and the Summer Villages of Val Quentin and Sunset Point entered into an agreement to promote the development of a sewer system for the three communities.

Prior to this work, each landowner was required to establish their own human waste disposal system which ranged from individual outhouses to pump-out septic tanks. Concern for the quality of lake water was a driving force behind this project. At that time, the Provincial Government expressed the same concerns and provided funds directed towards the establishment of a sewer system including an evaporative lagoon for the treatment of sewage which is then transferred in small amounts into the Sturgeon River. This occurs for only a week or two per year and only a specified amount of treated sewage is transferred annually.

The sewage system includes impermeable transmission lines with five lift stations allowing for changes in altitude of the ducts in order to maintain flows.

Over the past few winters, the sewage system experienced a number of transmission line breaks downstream of the main lift station in Alberta Beach. These were costly to repair. Identifying this concern, the three Municipalities and the Government of Alberta put up joint funding in the winter and spring of 2019 to construct a forced main transmission line using underground drilling techniques to reduce the inconveniences of construction within the populated centres. Trenches were provided outside these centres to bring the effluent towards the sewage lagoon northeast of the Tri Village area.

Current Situation:

A financial audit of the TriVillage Sewer Commission was conducted using the 2019 financial statements. The findings of the Chartered Professional Accountants were favourable, stating:

During the course of our audit of the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2019, we found that the organization has well established internal controls, which appear to ensure proper segregation of duties for the size of the organization.

(Doyle & Co., May 22, 2020)

In June of 2020, involved municipal leaders in the County of Lac Ste. Anne hosted a meeting with the TriVillage Sewer Commission to discuss the possibility that a sewer line might be constructed from the Darwell Sewer Lagoon, which was reaching its maximum capacity, to the TriVillage lagoon. Negotiations continued until late summer, when they were discontinued with no further outcome to date.

In February 2021, a Five Year Capital Plan developed by the Operator of the System was accepted for information. Three maintenance projects in the plan were approved for implementation in 2021, cost not to exceed that identified in the Plan.

Future Considerations:

- Current and ongoing By-law Reviews to conform with changes to the Municipal Government Act
- Further study and implementation as appropriate for the Five Year Capital Plan

Ste Anne Emergency Regional Partnership

Submitted by Janice Christiansen - RDEM/ Marlene Walsh - RDDEM

Fire Service

Please check your Insurance Policy to confirm the coverage you have for your home or cabin in the event of a fire. Some insurance policies may only cover limited amounts for fire suppression

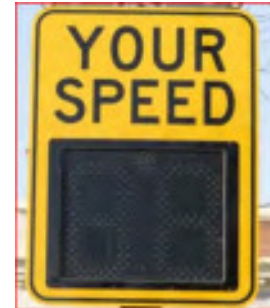
Radar Speed Display Sign Installation

Radar Speed Signs will be installed in the Summer Village this spring.

The installation of radar speed display signs can mean the difference between life and death, by increasing awareness of speed, with a goal of reducing the speed of offenders.

Radar speed signs typically slow down traffic in a range of around 10 - 15 km/hr.

This may sound small, however, it represents a substantial reduction in the risk of serious injury or death.



Culverts

Inspect your culverts for obvious blockages. Over time debris can build up against the openings of your culverts, restricting or even stopping flow. Regularly inspecting your culverts and clearing debris is one of the simplest and most effective steps to minimize potential flooding.

Consider these suggestions to prevent or minimize flood damage in your home or cottage:

- Install water sensors or flood detection systems.
- Regularly test your sump pump & consider a battery backup.
- Regularly clear debris from drains and ditches.
- Regularly check and clean downspouts and gutters.

Sump Pumps

With spring upon us and sump pumps starting to run, the sewer commission would like to remind everyone that sump pumps are not to be connected to your sewer line. Doing this causes excessive flows throughout the system. It causes the lift stations and associated equipment to run for long periods of time and results in excessive wear and tear. This results in additional maintenance costs that are passed along to you the customer. As we welcome Spring, we must also be mindful of the spring thaw and possible ice push as a result of high winds.

With Val Quentin being located on a flood plain, groundwater from rains or melted snow may rise to the level of the foundation and cause unwanted flooding. To help mitigate this, ensure that valuable items are not stored in crawl spaces. Check your sump pumps regularly to ensure they are functioning properly - and if they are showing signs of aging - you may even want to consider replacing them!

Wildfire season is almost here!

Even with snow on the ground in some areas, dry conditions will begin to appear as we head into spring!

Fireban Information

Winter Burning Information

To help protect your home/cottage from wildfire, FireSmart it:

- Remove flammable items that are within 5 feet of your property
- Keep roof and gutters free from debris
- Prune trees and shrubs regularly
- Conduct a FireSmart home assessment
- Talk to your neighbors about what you can do to FireSmart your community.

Safeguard Your Home Against Burglary & Crime

We are including this reminder as a result of a recent incident that occurred in Val Quentin during the daytime on a weekday.



Lac Ste Anne - East End Bus Society

Serving east end of Lac Ste. Anne County

LORNA PORTER - SENIORS EVENT COORDINATOR

COVID-19 Vaccine Booking – Book Now!

Starting February 24th, Albertans who were born in 1946 or earlier can receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

Steps 1, 2 & 3

1. Call 811 to book an appointment at the Alberta Health Services – Onoway Vaccine Clinic
2. Call EEB during office hours which are stated below for your transportation needs:

If your appointment is Monday – Friday Between the hours of 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

- Call a minimum of 24 hours in advance
- If you are a resident of east end of Lac Ste. Anne County
- Cost is \$5.00 per person
- Pickup locations
 - Darwell Seniors
 - Alberta Beach Seniors
 - Cherhill
 - Gunn General Store
 - Onoway Seeley Manor

3. Sit back and let EEB transport you to and from your appointment.
Must book your transportation needs a minimum of 24 hours in advance.
*Note we will be following AHS protocols

Contact Lorna at (780) 905-3934 Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

To receive an EEB monthly schedule send your email address to eastendbus@gmail.com also available on www.lsac.ca or www.onoway.com

Road Ban

COUNTY OF LAC STE ANNE

The County of Lac Ste. Anne has issued a Road Ban Notice that will affect ALL LSAC roads.

The road ban came into effect at 2 pm, Tuesday March 16, 2021 and will be in place until June 1, 2021 or until advised by LSAC.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the road ban, please contact Public Works at

PHONE: 780.785.3411 | TOLL-FREE: 1.866.880.5722 | FAX: 780.785.2985 | lsac.ca

What Matters to You Virtual TOWNHALL

MLA Shane Getson invites you to attend a local townhall to discuss the issues that matter to you. **Please register at 780-967-0760.**

Date: April 28th 2021

Time: 7:00PM-9:00PM

Location: Onoway, Alberta Beach,
Val Quentin, Sunset Point and Areas

Constituency Office:

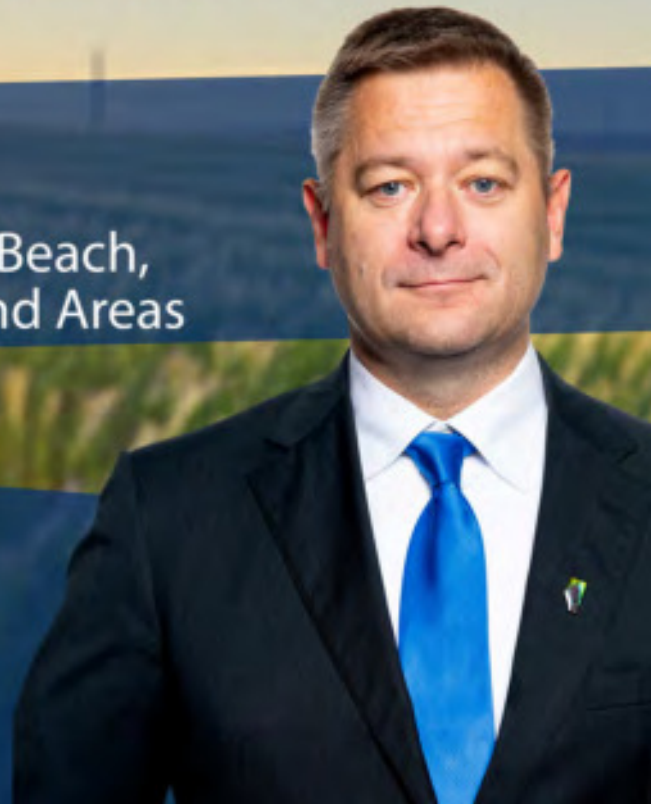
#18, 4708 Lac Ste. Anne Trail North

P.O. Box 248 "Onoway PO"

Onoway, AB T0E 1V0

780.967.0760

lacsteanne.parkland@assembly.ab.ca



Alberta Beach Municipal Library

BETTY MEADS, CHAIRPERSON
- ALBERTA BEACH MUNICIPAL LIBRARY BOARD



Spring Greetings from the Alberta Beach Library!

We are thrilled that Libraries were able to open, and with Covid restrictions in place, we can again welcome our patrons in person.

The Alberta Beach Library Board would like to give a huge shout-out of THANKS to Cathy and Sandy for the tremendous behind-the-scenes work to fill everyone's reading and viewing needs while the library was closed. While patrons were unable to come into the library, it fell to Cathy and Sandy to suggest and pick items to send out for curbside pick up. It definitely took more time and effort than if folks were able to come in and pick their own items.

Again thank you ladies for the great effort in accommodating the community. It is truly appreciated.

Since the new year via curbside, we have been able to help four hundred plus families with their reading, viewing, printing, copying, and social needs.

We continue to assemble and distribute our adult and kid craft bags. Twenty-five of each goes out every month in both Alberta Beach and Onoway. The next bags will be ready at the beginning of April.

We encourage you to check out the Online Story Time. Watch for it on Facebook. And.. check out the AMAZING Art Wall - prints are available for sale!

Also, don't forget to check out many amazing resources accessible from our website. A library membership is all it takes to access Ancestry info, Audiobooks, Recipes and much more. It's worth checking out.

The Book Club continues to meet via Zoom. Thirteen people tuned in to talk about our current book selection.

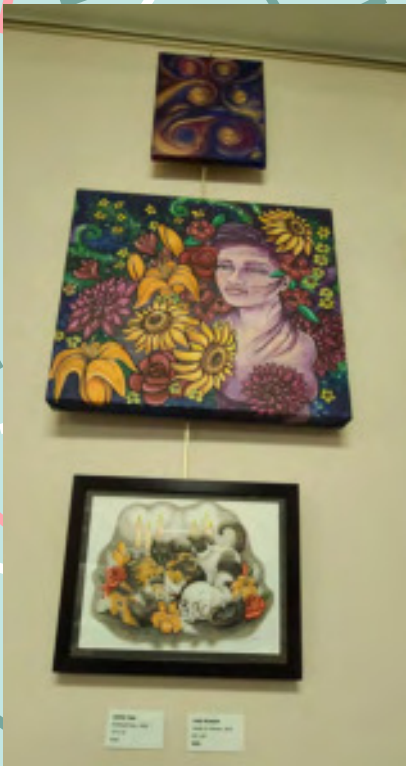
Stop by and check out our book sale that is in progress. Lots of treasures!!

Happy Easter to you all and we are looking very forward to getting back to a more normal delivery of library services and programming. Stay tuned.

**Many thanks to ALL Volunteers who assisted with the Library Casino in 2020
including Val Quentin Residents
Merle & Maureen Armitstead and Art Brochu**



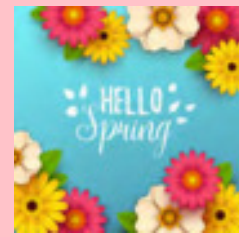
Dan's Face n' Bod' Art
@DansFaceNBodArt · Artist



Community Showcase

MO JO GARDEN CENTRE & DINER

53310 Hwy 43 Phone: 780-887-2836



Mo Jo Garden Centre and Diner is a family-run business in the rural area. Come in for a homemade meal and be treated like one of the family. One shop does it all.

Consignment items on sale!

Eggs for sale \$4.00 dozen

Butchered chickens locally grown, government inspected \$3.00 per pound

Frozen meals, homemade soups, baking, preserves, local honey, homemade bread, cinnamon buns, pies, birthday cake, and custom baking done on request so you get fresh baking.

Sunday Breakfast Buffets 9:00 – 2:00.

Reservations guarantee a table.

Mexican Buffets

Greenhouse sells soil, seeds, annuals, perennials, trees, shrubs, vegetables, herbs. You will want to stop in and check out our inventory.

Cowboy Church every Sunday starting at 3:00

Follow us on our Facebook page

MO JO Garden Centre or MO JO Diner





Artist: Cortney Dawn Radtke



Enjoying some Val Quentin Vibes

WITH CORTNEY RADTKE



Cortney loves living in Val Quentin!

Life is very busy for her as a single working mom of four girls, however, she still finds time for her artwork and photography.

Cortney says.

"I have always had an artistic touch! I love taking scenic photographs when the opportunity arises. I spend my free time taking photographs and spend a lot of time painting."

