## LACOMBE MUSEUM ACHIEVES "LEADER" DESIGNATION FROM ALBERTA MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION

(Lacombe, AB) – The Lacombe Museum proudly announces its official attainment of the prestigious "Leader" Designation from the <u>Alberta Museums Association</u>, marking a significant milestone as the institution enters the year 2024 with enthusiasm and distinction.

This esteemed recognition underscores the Lacombe Museum's unwavering commitment to the preservation and exhibition of cultural heritage. The museum's leadership is thrilled to share this accomplishment, as it reflects the culmination of dedicated efforts by the entire team in setting a new benchmark for excellence in historic sites, archives, collections, and community engagement.

Surpassing industry standards, the Lacombe Museum joins an exclusive group of only three museums in the province to hold the esteemed "Leader" status. This achievement is a testament to the organization's tireless work over the last decade, solidifying its position as a cultural beacon in Alberta.

The Alberta Museums Association and its esteemed Review Jury Members played a pivotal role in acknowledging the museum's exceptional contributions to cultural excellence. Their recognition extends the Lacombe Museum's status as a Recognized Museum to eight years, further affirming its dedication to preserving and promoting the rich history of Alberta.

"We are deeply honoured to receive the 'Leader' Designation from the Alberta Museums Association. This designation is a reflection of our team's tireless efforts and unwavering dedication to preserving and promoting our cultural heritage - it is a testament to our commitment to providing an exceptional museum experience for our community and beyond." said Melissa Blunden, Executive Director at Lacombe Museum.

The celebration of this achievement is an invitation to the community and beyond to explore the Lacombe Museum and become an integral part of its ongoing journey in history preservation. As a recognized cultural institution, the museum invites everyone to join in the celebration and experience the richness of Alberta's heritage.

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## More information on the Alberta Museums Association and Accreditation Programs:

https://www.museums.ab.ca/what-we-do/recognized-museum-program.aspx https://www.museums.ab.ca/what-we-do/recognized-museum-program/leader.aspx

## **About the Lacombe Museum**

Located in Lacombe, AB, the Lacombe & District Historical Society (LDHS), operating under the brand name "Lacombe Museum," is an award winning non-profit and an Alberta Museum Association Recognized Museum Leader which oversees the 1894 Michener House Museum, the 1902 Blacksmith Shop Museum, and the 1904 sandstone/brick Flatiron Building Museum. LDHS cares for over 40,000 artifacts and 20,000 records in its Collections Space and the Heritage Learning Garden, encompassing 0.3 acres of educational cultural landscaping on its 1.0-acre site with adjoining gardens. The diverse history of early Lacombe, the Michener Family, and subsequent occupants of the three buildings is represented in the Museum's collections, exhibits, programs, and special events.

More information about the Lacombe Museum can be found at: www.lacombemuseum.com