Summer Village of Kapasiwin

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Spring Newsletter

Spring 2021
www.kapasiwinalberta.com

Message from our Mayor!

On behalf of Council, welcome back to the "lake" for the 2021 season! We hope everyone is safe and well.

2020 was truly a remarkable year and we want to thank all Villagers for their efforts in battling Covid over the last 15 months. Council will continue to follow and support the lead of our public health officials and provincial government in appropriate actions for the Village. Based on the current situation all our normal Village social activities are paused until further notice. We will continue to monitor the Covid situation and are hopeful we can proceed with some activities, only when it is safe to do so. Just a reminder that when we can hold activities, we need Village volunteers to step up and organize. Please let Council members or Emily know if you are interested.

Despite Covid other important things were/are happening in the Village as follows:

Footpath

Council is very pleased that the court action is now behind us. It was a long journey through the court system that consumed a lot of Administration and Council time and had a net cost to the Village of about $55,000 over the last several years. We remind you to please stay within the path boundaries and respect owner's privacy as you enjoy the path.

Land Use

This spring Council approved our Municipal Development Plan which is a requirement under the Municipal Government Act. The plan is available on our website. We very much appreciate the feedback we received from residents at the open house and public hearing that took place in developing our plan. The next step will be to update our Land Use Bylaw to align with the Municipal Development Plan. We look forward to your input when we restart that process, that was delayed while the required Municipal Development Plan was prepared. Our current Land Use Bylaw remains in place until then and should be reviewed if you are planning improvements to your property.

Drainage and Road Maintenance

Last year we had some drainage work done on the north road that has improved some standing water issues. This summer we will be looking at some grading, gravelling and dust control to keep our roads in good shape. We are fortunate to have pretty good roads in our community. We also have a lot of pedestrian traffic so please be mindful of our 30 km per hour speed limit.

Budget

Council recently passed our 2021 budget which is reflected in your current tax notice. We have managed to keep our tax increase to 4%. We are likely to face increasing cost pressures over the next few years for policing, waste removal, fire services, emergency planning, security cameras, maintenance, etc. Council will continue to focus on being fiscally responsible but changing responsibilities under the Municipal Government Act and more balanced cost sharing arrangements with partners will likely increase our future operating budgets.

Fortunately, on the capital side we have benefitted from generous capital funding from the provincial government over the last several years. This has funded our hall improvements, recreational areas, roads, drainage etc. This year it will fund some additional work on Railway Avenue and enhancing the playground. Council will be looking at opportunities for the remaining unused capital funds that will focus on protecting our infrastructure and enhance safety. In evaluating capital plans the related future operating costs must also be considered.

Kapasiwin Transfer Station

3503 Township Rd. 533A
Range Road 35 north of Hwy. 16

Kapasiwin residents are entitled to receive a transfer station card that grants them access to nearby transfer stations where they may drop-off acceptable materials free of charge. If you require a card, please contact Emily to arrange to have a card printed and mailed to you.

Summer Hours
Thursday, Saturday, Sunday
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Winter Hours
Thursday, Saturday, Sunday
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Acceptable Materials

- automotive waste
- blue bag recycling
- commercial/construction waste (charges apply)
- electronics recycling
- grass and leaves
- household hazardous waste
- household waste
- metal recycling (charges apply)
- mixed waste (charges apply)
- tree trimmings

The Kapasiwin Transfer Station has a fully operational compost site. In the interest of the environment please participate in the composting program for grass and leaves. Clear plastic garbage bags should be used. Place your leaves and grass clippings in the clear bags and transport them to the compost pile. Please do not dump compost in nature reserve.

Please do not store household garbage outdoors unless contained in animal proof receptacles. We do not want to attract animals into our Village.

Message from the Mayor continued

Brush, etc.

Over the years some residents have gotten into the habit of dumping grass clippings, branches, leaves, lake weeds, ashes, etc. across the road onto our natural reserve or CN property. This often causes issues with our ditch grass cutting. But more importantly it creates a significant fire hazard. Last fall while on my morning walk, I discovered a small burnt area caused by dumping of ashes which was still smoldering and growing. This could have caused a large fire if left unchecked. So please do not dump anything across the road. The Kapasiwin Transfer Station is very close and can appropriately handle all these materials.

Responsible Pet Ownership

With spring upon us there are more people around the Village. Just a reminder that under our Responsible Pet Ownership Bylaw your dogs must be on leash when off your property, including the foot path. Also, dog owners must ensure their dogs don't hinder access on the foot path across their property. Also, you must clean up after your dogs. Thanks in advance for being responsible for your pet which shows respect for all villagers. We have again contracted with Tom Puffer, as the Village's Bylaw Officer, to handle any bylaw related issues and to do patrols of the community. Please contact Tom at 780-916-5043.

In closing, on behalf of Council I want to thank Emily House for her outstanding service to our community. We are lucky enough to have had Emily help us for the last 3 years and hope that will continue well into the future.

On a personal note, I want to thank fellow Councillors John McIvor and Tim Kirby. Over the last almost 4 years they have brought their knowledge, wisdom, and enthusiasm for the Village to the Council table. It's been a pleasure and a lot of fun to work with them.

Looking forward to a safe and enjoyable year!

- Mayor Tim Wiles

Village Administration

Many thanks to Tim Wiles, John McIvor and Tim Kirby for their support and guidance over the last three years since I became your CAO. Their commitment and personal time, which is given so freely, to serve on the many boards and committees required to run the municipality so effectively is greatly appreciated. Also, thank you to Dave Wiles for keeping the Village looking great. I know that Council, residents, and I greatly appreciate your efforts.

The Administration Office is currently available by appointment only. Please call Emily House at 780-914-0997 or email at emily@milestonemunicipalservices.ca schedule an appointment.

Election 2021

General Election: August 14, 2021
10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Summer Village of Kapasiwin Community

Nominations Close: July 17, 2021

A candidate can file their nomination form in person starting immediately and ending at the close of Nomination Day on July 17, 2021. Nomination forms can be found on the Village's website. Prospective candidates can contact the Returning Officer by phone 780-914-0997, or email emily@milestonemunicipalservices.ca to schedule an appointment to submit your nomination form. It is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure their information is submitted to the Returning Officer by the deadline.

Returning Officer: Emily House
Phone: 780-914-0997
Email: emily@milestonemunicipalservices.ca

2021 Assessment and Tax Notices

You will find enclosed your 2021 Property Assessment and Taxation Notice.

Please note that the **ASSESSED VALUE** for your property is as of **July 1st, 2020.** We highly recommend each resident closely examine their Property Assessment and speak with the assessor regarding it when you receive it. The Assessment Complaint Deadline is August 3, 2021.

PROPERTY TAXES are DUE JUNE 30, 2021 by midnight.

Penalties will not be applied if the Village receives your payment on or before June 30, 2021 or if the post mark on your envelope is June 30, 2021. At this time, we will only accept cheques or money orders. Unfortunately, being a smaller municipality, the option of e-transfer is not available to us at this time.

An 18% penalty on your current tax levy will be applied on July 1, 2021. On January 1, 2022, an additional 18% penalty will be applied on the complete outstanding amount (previous and current tax levy and penalties).

If you should have any questions regarding this or if you would like to speak with the Village's Assessor, please feel free to contact Emily at 780-914-0997.

Village Website

Our website has a new look. We are hoping that residents will find it easy to navigate and find information. Administration will be focused on updating our website and to ensure the information provided is relevant and current. Please check our website on a regular basis as new information is being added. If you have any suggestions, please email Emily at emily@milestonemunicipalservices.ca. Please also consider filling out the consent to be put on Kapasiwin's electronic mailing list to receive emails on important updates within the Village. The form is enclosed in this package.

Fire Smart

Remember to Fire Smart your yard!! By managing the vegetation around your house and buildings, you will limit the risk of a ground fire climbing up into the trees and potentially jumping to your home, especially if you live near a forested area. We encourage all residents to ensure all fuel is stored properly.

This spring is giving us unprecedented dry conditions. We will continue to monitor the Parkland County website and the fire ban status and will adjust the sign on Gibbons Avenue when it is safe to do so. We will also post information on our website and www.albertafirebans.ca. With this in mind, we must be very cautious of the fire hazard in the Village. We have a lot of dead fall on undeveloped property and long dry grasses that are very susceptible to fire, so please be cautious with your activities around the Village.

Disaster Recovery Program

Overview: The Disaster Recovery Program (DRP) provides financial assistance to qualifying applicants to help restore uninsurable property lost or damaged by a disaster to its basic, pre-disaster functional condition. DRP's provide financial assistance as a last resort to assist those affected by a disaster.

Program Changes: For DRP's that occur in 2021, the Government of Alberta has set homeowner funding limits and implemented cost-sharing mechanisms between the government and program applicants.

Homeowner- funding limits: The province is implementing a homeowner funding limit of up to $500,000 per application for eligible costs and a limit of one-time assistance per property, regardless of the transfer of ownership.

Purchasing Insurance: It is important for Albertans to become educated about their disaster risks and ensure they are adequately insured. There are more insurance options on the market now than ever before.

Learn how you can prepare for emergencies and disasters by visiting at www.alberta.ca/emergency-prepardness.aspx. Also visit for further information on Alberta Disaster Assistance Guidelines online at www.alberta.ca/drp.

Yellowhead Regional Library

As residents of a member municipality, you are entitled to the full benefits of the YRL service. The Summer Village of Kapasiwin's designated library is Wabamun Library and library cards are free. For details on library business hours and library card costs please contact the library directly at 780-892-2713.

Summer Employment Opportunity

The Summer Village of Kapasiwin has set aside a budget of $2,400 to hire a summer student to help around the Village. If you are interested, please submit a resume to emily@milestonemunicipalservices.ca by June 21, 2021.

Warning Buoys

The buoys have again been placed in Kapasiwin Bay as a demarcation line for users of watercraft in the bay. We ask residents and guests that when using motorized watercraft, please leave your boat launch or dock and head straight out past the buoys before engaging in your activities. The area from the beach to the buoy demarcation line is reserved for swimmers, canoeing and paddleboats, tubers and rowboats giving them a safe place to enjoy the lake environment. Thank you, John and Doris, for again putting the buoys out this year.

Water Safety

Stay legal. Get your Pleasure Craft Operators License at EYC

Canadian law requires that anyone, regardless of age operating a vessel fitted with a motor, whether the motor is in use or not, must have a valid Pleasure Craft Operators License, commonly called the boat license. There is a $250.00 fine for not being in possession of the card. To get the card you must pass a simple exam after a course instruction, which teaches you the basics of water safety. Become a certified safe boater and save yourself embarrassment and a possible fine. Courses are available online.

Mooring Standards

Alberta Environment and Parks has released the Disturbance Standard for Temporary Docks and other Mooring Structures for Personal Recreational Purposes (alberta.ca/mooring-standards-engagement.aspx). The purpose of this Disturbance Standard is to set the maximum acceptable footprint for temporary seasonal docks, temporary seasonal boat lifts and associated structures for personal recreational purposes. Please see the Village's website for more details.

Developing and Building

A Development Permit must be applied for before obtaining any Safety Code Permits necessary for new construction, additions, decks, demolition, and excavation (HOLDING TANKS & CISTERNS). This permit is to ensure that your project or home occupation conforms to the Village's Land Use Bylaw, including proper setbacks from property lines, etc.

Our Development Officer, Tony Sonnleitner, can be reached at 780-718-5479. A site plan, showing the location of existing buildings and the proposed development must be submitted when applying. Application fees must accompany all Development Applications.

Safety Code Permits including electrical, plumbing, building, etc. must be obtained from Inspections Group before beginning your project. You must apply for these permits to ensure that your project is safe and conforms to safety code regulations and must be obtained before commencing work. Permit forms can be found on the Village's website or at www.inspectionsgroup.com.

Alberta 1 Call: 1-800-242-3447

Whether you are involved in large excavation job or simply installing a fence or planting a tree - don't gamble on the unknown. Remember there are underground gas, electrical and telephone lines. It is a free service, so call before you dig. 1st Call suggests you call at least two working days before you plan to dig.

Kapasiwin Memorabilia

Remember When …

The Dates the Ice Went Off Lake Wabamun

1999 – April 24	2000 – April 27	2001 – April 28	2002 – May 15	2003 – May 2
2004 – April 20	2005 – April 19	2006 – April 22	2007 – April 28	2008 – May 7
2009 – May 1	2010 – April 14	2011 – May 9	2012 – May 7	2013 – May 7
2014 – May 2	2015 – April 20	2016 – April 9	2017 – May 11	2018 – May 9
2019 – April 24	2020 – May 3	**2021 – April 30**		

Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the World.
By Albert Einstein (1879-1955)