The Summer Village of Kapasiwin

Spring Newsletter

Greetings to all Residents of Kapasiwin!

Spring 2023
www.kapasiwinalberta.com

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Regular Office Hours
Mon - Fri, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Council
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John McIvor, Deputy Mayor
Tim Kirby, Councillor

Administration
Emily House
Chief Administrative Officer
Janet Zaplotinsky
Administrative Assistant
Lynnette Kraley
Administrative Assistant

Public Works
Dave Wiles

Development Officer
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PO Box 2945
Stony Plain, AB T7Z 1Y4
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pcm1@telusplanet.net

Assessment
KCL Consulting – Grant Clark
Phone: **1.888.419.2128**

2023 Property Tax Notices
Property Tax Notices will be mailed by May 24, 2023. Property taxes are due on June 30, 2023.

Alberta First Call
Call before you dig:
1.800.242.3447
You must give at least two or three working days notice and have your legal land description available when you call.

Message from your Council...

I'm writing this while watching the ice melt off the lake. A sure sign that Spring and Summer 2023 are upon us - and the many fun times that come with lake life. On behalf of Council, we hope everyone Wintered well and we look forward to seeing ALL OF YOU soon. We want to update you on some important Village news.

Village Improvements

The first thing you'll notice as you drive in is the clearing and mulching on the east side of the North and South roads. This was done to help provide a fire break. There is still a little tidying up to be completed along the edge of the road, but it is coming along nicely.

At the same time as the road clearing was completed, we also had some trails cut in our nature reserve. This gives us all a chance to enjoy a quiet walk amongst the trees. It also has the added benefit of providing a bit more fire protection in the event our Village is at risk.

On the north end, the trail can be accessed at the lake-side of the playground and just before the north road starts to curve westward. On the south end, the trail can be accessed across the road from the Village field, gate six, and gate one. The cut line that runs south from the tennis court also connects with the new trail. I encourage everyone to try the trails out. As the trails are new, it's not easy walking, so you will need good footwear. Prepare yourself to get a bit of a workout, going up and down a few hills. But, with plenty of use and a little more love to clean up the trail, we hope this becomes a "well-worn path".

We have completed a number of improvements in our beautiful Village, as of late. As a sign of the times, we will be refreshing most of the Village signs with paint and repairs. The traditional Village sign that Tyke Drever built was kept and all spruced up as well! A Village bulletin board has been placed near the mail boxes. We are also installing new posts and gate number signs that will be First Responder-friendly. New speed limit signs will be added that show your current speed. We will also be straightening up the existing "leaners".

You may have noticed the new fence around the Village field. It was installed with the hope that it would keep out the joyriders in vehicles tearing up the grass. A small parking lot has been built at the Hall. We will also be refreshing (painting, roof repairs, etc.) the outdoor toilet at the Hall. The tennis court will get a new fence and gates as well. Lots of things on the go to look out for!

Summer Activities

There will be a full slate of social activities this Summer. Wine and cheese, horseshoes, the water race on the August long weekend, fireworks, and, new this year, a bowling tournament. The Village calendar has more details. We are lucky to have several families that volunteer to organize these fun events
- Dewarts, Drevers, Onyskos, McIvors, and the Wiles. Thank you so much!

Lake Walter Levels are Low

Due to low precipitation over the past many months, the lake level continues to drop. In addition, TransAlta has had maintenance issues with their treatment plant which adds water to Wabamun Lake as required by Alberta Environment. Low water levels encourage aquatic vegetation growth. Let's not add to the problem with excessive use of fertilizer, vegetation clearing along the shore and improper sewage disposal. Useful information on maintaining lake health is available from the Wabamun Watershed Management Council (**www.wwmc.ca**) and below.

Message from your Mayor, C'td..

Rogers Tower

Rogers approached the Village about locating a telecommunications tower on Village property. While Rogers generally seeks Community's approval when locating towers, it can essentially locate them wherever they choose, by getting a CRTC order. In this case, Rogers initially wanted to locate the tower immediately north of the Village Hall. However, in working with Council and Emily, they have agreed to locate the tower north of the tennis court, as close to the tracks as is practical.

In Council's view, this is the least intrusive location for the tower. Rogers will be responsible for all construction and ongoing operating costs. When completed there will be a short access road off the main road to a fenced clearing in the trees, where the tower and utility shack will be located. For our trouble, the Village will receive $8,000 per year, over the initial five-year lease term. This is the current market rate for this type of arrangement. The annual rental fee will be determined at each five-year renewal date. Rogers would be responsible for removal and decommissioning costs, should they no longer want to use the tower. We expect work to commence on the tower in the near future.

Finances

The bad news, like everyone else, is that the Village is facing increasing cost pressures. Policing, Fire Services, Emergency Management, Security Camera Operating costs, street lights, etc., are all going up. The good news, is that the Education Property Tax Requisition has gone down, so our overall taxes are going down.

As I've stated before, we are fortunate to have healthy capital funding from previous provincial grant programs. These provincial grants are funding all the projects mentioned above. Council is carefully considering other opportunities as we go forward.

The Provincial government funding is changing significantly in 2024 to a new Local Government Funding Framework. What this means to the Village is still a bit unknown. Council and Administration will continue to monitor this topic carefully and will keep residents informed.

Land Use Bylaw

Council has continued to work on this project over the Fall and Winter. We expect the new Land Use Bylaw to come into force by this Fall. A draft of the new Bylaw will be available on our website shortly. A notice will be sent to Villagers who are on the email circulation list when the draft Bylaw is posted.

In June there will be an in-person Open House that will be lead by our consultant, Municipal Planning Services, to go over the changes and answer any questions you may have. Likely in August, we will hold a virtual public hearing (to maximize the opportunities to participate) as required under the Municipal Government Act. Taking into consideration the hearing feedback Council plans to finalize the Bylaw in the fall. More information will follow as the process unfolds.

Our Sincere Thanks

On behalf of Council, I want to acknowledge and thank Emily House for all her hard and thoughtful work. Running a Summer Village is no longer a simple exercise. Keeping up with all the regulatory requirements of the Municipal Government Act, health and safety codes, financial requirements, WCB, working with partners like the County of Parkland, and serving Villagers is a very big task. And Emily always has a cheery and friendly style, not to mention a good sense of humor. We are lucky to have her.

I also want to thank my fellow Councillors, John McIvor and Tim Kirby. We've been working together for a long time now and have dealt with some difficult matters. However, we always approach this work as a team and with the best interests of the Village in mind.

Lastly, I want to thank all the Villagers. While we all love our lake spots, it's the people that make our Community the incredibly special place that it is.

Your Council,
Tim Wiles, John McIvor, and Tim Kirby

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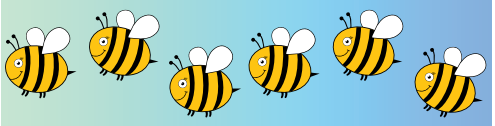


Events

Welcome Wine & Cheese - July 1
Annual Information Meeting - July 15
Horseshoe Tournament - Date TBD
Land and Water Games - July 29 & 30
Labour Day Fireworks - September 2
Lawn Bowling Tournament - July 15

Newsletter Contributions

Alberta RCMP, Yellowhead Regional Library, Wabamun Watershed Management Council

Kapasiwin Transfer Station

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

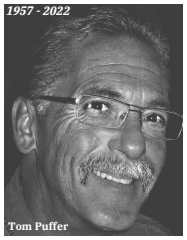
Kapasiwin residents are entitled to receive a transfer station card that grants them access to nearby transfer stations where they may drop off acceptable materials free of charge. If you require a card, please contact Emily to arrange to have a card printed and mailed to you. All Transfer Stations remain open for their regular operating hours.

Summer Hours
Thursday 9:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 10:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Winter Hours
Thursday 10:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Saturday 10:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 10:00 - 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 reserves. Please do not store household garbage outdoors unless contained in animal-proof receptacles. We do not want to attract animals into our Village.



Tom Puffer

It is with great sadness that the Summer Village of Kapasiwin announces the untimely passing of Tom Puffer, our Bylaw Officer. Tom was a long-time resident of Wabamun and served the Community as Bylaw Officer for many years. Council and Administration would like to offer our deepest condolences to Tom's family and friends. Our thoughts, prayers and memories are with his family.

Alberta RCMP Launch App to help keep Albertans Informed

Alberta RCMP has officially launched their brand-new mobile app for iOS and Android devices. The app has been developed to simplify online user experience on mobile devices to ensure that Albertans can access information quickly and conveniently. The app is available as a free download through Apple or Google Play.

Developing the app allows the Alberta RCMP to provide the public with online access to news, crime reporting, detachment locations, crime mapping and statistics, and a map for initiatives like Project Lock Up. The app also provides access to partner law enforcement services, mental health supports, Crime Stoppers, and links to Alberta RCMP social media accounts.

"An app is an easy way for the public to stay connected and report crime to the police along with gaining quick and easy access to Alberta RCMP news and information," said Supt. Peter Tewfik, Officer in charge of the Alberta RCMP's Community Safety and Wellbeing Branch. "Having an app will provide the public with an option for digital accessibility that is convenient and centralized." Even though the app provides convenient links to Alberta RCMP social media account, this app will not replace existing website, social media feeds, or other sources for information. The tool also will not replace other methods of crime reporting, engagement, or emergency assistance. Citizens should remember that social media posts or use of other third-party crime apps are not appropriate ways to report a crime.

Why it is important to report any crime? To strategically put resources where they are needed. This information is supplied to officers, and this will determine where they do patrols.

If you need to contact the Alberta RCMP or to report a crime, please remember the following:

- For emergencies, or if you see a crime in progress, phone 911.
- For non-emergency property crimes, you can file your report online through the Alberta RCMP app or contact your nearest RCMP detachment.
- If you have information about a crime and wish to remain anonymous, contact Crime Stoppers at 1.800.222.TIPS (8477), online at www.P3Tips.com or by using the "P3 Tips" app available through the Apple App or Google Play Store.
- For scams and fraud, contact your local detachment and the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca.

In full compliance with Canadian privacy laws for mobile apps by the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada and the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Alberta, the Alberta RCMP app will not track or monitor users in any way.

"And Spring arose on the garden fair,
Like the Spirit of Love felt everywhere;
And each flower and herb on Earth's dark breast rose from the dreams of its wintry rest."
- Percy Bysshe Shelley

Be a Responsible Pet Owner

We would like to applaud the residents who respect their neighbors and Community by keeping the pet noise to an acceptable level and cleaning up after them.

Please pick up after your pet, even if it's in your own yard! A single gram of dog feces contains 23 million fecal coliform bacteria and viruses. Dog feces can pollute the environment and filter its way into water supplies. Not just your personal cistern, well or eventually the groundwater land lake... But eventually everyones. Dog feces left behind creates an unattractive and unhealthy environment.

Dogs are not allowed to run freely in the Village. Please keep them on a leash or contained in your yards to respect your neighbors and the Village. We love the atmosphere of our Village and would like to emphasize keeping it clean and safe for our continued and future use and enjoyment.

Developing & Building

Inspections Group is the service provider contracted by the Summer Village to provide the permits, compliance monitoring and inspections to completion of your development. Once the Development Permit has been approved and issued by the Development Officer you can download any permits you may need or if you have any questions, visit the Inspections Group website **www.inspectionsgroup.com**.

Yellowhead Regional Library

The Yellowhead Regional Library (YRL) operates a number of libraries in the Parkland area and beyond. The Summer Village of Seba Beach is a member of the YRL and contributes to the Wabamun Library. We encourage residents to become members and enjoy a wide range of services that they provide.
For additional information, please visit **yrl.ab.ca** or **kapasiwinalberta.com**.

TRAC (The Regional Automation Consortium)

TRAC (The Regional Automation Consortium) is a partnership of Yellowhead Regional Library, Marigold Library System, Northern Lights Library System, Peace Library System, and their member libraries.

Governed by the TRAC Society, TRAC connects over 180 libraries and hundreds of thousands of Albertans to holdings of nearly three million books, magazines and movies. In addition to a shared library catalogue, the TRAC Society offers member libraries services and resources such as eResources, training, shared procedures and best practices to facilitates access to one of the largest Consortia collections in Canada.

Member libraries can access the TRAC library catalogue (TRACpac) by visiting **tracpac.ab.ca** or by downloading the **TRACpac app**.

Kapasiwin Memorabilia

Dates the Ice Went Off Lake Wabamun

1999 – April 24	**2005 – April 19**	**2011 – May 9**	**2017 – May 11**
2000 – April 27	**2006 – April 22**	**2012 – May 7**	**2018 – May 9**
2001 – April 28	**2007 – April 28**	**2013 – May 7**	**2019 – April 24**
2002 – May 15	**2008 – May 7**	**2014 – May 2**	**2020 – May 3**
2003 – May 2	**2009 – May 1**	**2015 – April 20**	**2021 – April 30**
2004 – April 20	**2010 – April 14**	**2016 – April 9**	**2022 – April 27**

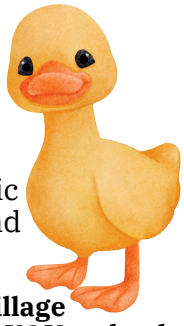
2023 - May 3

Wabamun Watershed Management Council

Wabamun Watershed Management Plan

(full report, a 2-page summary at **wwmc.ca**)
The 4 Main Goals Are As Follows:

1. Good Water Quality
2. Engaged Stewardship
3. Wise Land Use
4. Healthy Aquatic Ecosystems and Biodiversity



The opportunity to provide a WWMC update in this Summer Village Newsletter is about Goal #2 Engaged Stewardship ---Engaging YOU, to be the stewards of Wabamun Lake. In the WWMP, the following objectives are related to this goal:

- Residents and visitors are knowledgeable about how they can lessen their impact on and contribute to lake health.
- The community shares its collective responsibility to be the best stewards of the Wabamun Lake watershed and stewardship programs inspire individual and collective action.

An excellent way to enhance knowledge about our coveted Lake is to visit **wwmc.ca** You are encouraged to review the Wabamun Watershed Management Plan, studies/reports, history, the 'Get Involved' page, and newsletters. For the most recent update on WWMC activity/happenings, see the Spring 2023 WWMC Newsletter (Lakescape) (includes Lake Water Level Update, South Shore Boat Launch, etc.).

Stewardship action: The health of Wabamun Lake is the responsibility of each one of us. So... talk about the health of the Lake with your neighbors, and family and friends. Share your knowledge, and this spring and summer do at least one new action for the good of lake health that will inspire your circle to further care about and for the Lake. (Remember too, to share with the WWMC the action(s) you and your circle have undertaken).

Also, support the WWMC by bolstering our membership numbers (general membership is free) - go to Get Involved, and now that we have charitable status, consider making a donation for stewardship projects; all donations will receive a charitable tax receipt.

Report a Wildfire

If you see a wildfire in a forested area, call: 310-FIRE (3473)

Alberta Wildfire

Stay current on Alberta's wildfire situation. See where wildfires are burning in Alberta and how they impact you. Get up-to-date information on wildfire conditions and hazard. Join us on Facebook and Twitter.

View all current fire restrictions and bans in place across the province at **albertafirebans.ca**.

Stay up to date with the

Alberta Fire Bans App!

Regardless of where you are in Alberta, the Alberta Fire Bans Application will help you find the most current and reliable information on all active fire advisories, fire restrictions, fire bans, and OHV restrictions in Alberta.

FireSmart™ Canada App

FireSmart Canada is a national program that helps Canadians increase neighborhood resilience to wildfire and minimize its negative impacts. It was founded over 20 years ago to address common concerns about wildfire in the wildland urban interface.

Everyone can be FireSmart.

We all have a part to play when it comes to preventing wildfire and reducing risk. FireSmart Canada has developed practical, effective, and science-based programs that provide you with tools to be better prepared when wildfire occurs.

Lightcatch App

Use Lightcatch to track suspicious activity in your area. It's a free phone app to help prevent crime in your area, it's like a block watch program that is for your phone. This app will keep you connected with what could be happening in your area. You can also post information notifying others of any suspicious activity.