



Summer Village of Sandy Beach December 2020 Newsletter



Message from the Mayor

The year 2020 has been difficult for far too many people, including individuals, families, business and industry. Covid-19 has dominated the daily news and has become the focus of our conversations. Further, the pandemic has caused changes in the way we socialize, make daily purchases, shop, worship and celebrate festive events.

To those of you who have lost a loved one, I offer my most sincere condolences. If you have lost your job or closed your business, I can only offer my sympathy. To those front-line workers, truck drivers, delivery people, grocery clerks, hospital and long-term care staff, and first responders, please accept my thanks. With a vaccine on the horizon, there may be an end to this pandemic. We may return to our former way of living and doing things, seeing each other face-to-face, holding family dinners, going out to a restaurant and shopping at the mall. In the meantime, kindly observe all Alberta Health Service notices, restrictions and best practices.

Council work has continued throughout the year. Over a few months' meetings were conducted remotely and now have returned to in-person meetings and following AHS protocols. We have granted additional time to pay property taxes without penalty and that final deadline of December 31st is fast approaching. Council is also committed to not raising the Summer Village portion of your property taxes in the coming year. We continue to work closely with the Council of the Summer Village of Sunrise Beach on the most efficient and least costly means of dealing with waste water. Many residents will note the work that has begun adjacent to the Administration office for the near future opening of a truck fill station.

We are committed to keeping residents informed. To that end the Summer Village website contains your best source of information and is updated on a regular basis. Meeting Minutes, AHS updates and other announcements can be found on the website and I invite you to view it at your leisure. As our household gets ready for Winter and gets those cross-country skis waxed up, we hope that you are making preparations for what you like to do to enjoy the festive season. Be safe, be careful, let your neighbours know if and when you are away, and most of all, be happy.

On behalf of your Council, Administration and Staff, we wish you all the compliments of the season, a warm and happy festive time and a happy and healthy New Year. See you around the Lake.

Gordon Drybrough

Mayor, The Summer Village of Sandy Beach, AB

The Rural Reality - Be FIRESMART

Forest & Prairie wildfires are capable of spreading at an astonishing rate. Crowning wildfires often spread at rates of 7 kilometers per hour and can potentially send embers as far as 2 kilometers ahead of the fire. Wind-blown prairie fires can travel at speeds in excess of 10 kilometers per hour. In Alberta, 50 percent of wildfires are caused by human activity. The remaining 50 percent are sparked by natural lightning.

Over the last 10 years, an average of 1,300 wildfires a year have burned 210, 000 hectares of forest annually in Alberta. Wildfires have forced the evacuation of thousands of people from their communities and have even destroyed homes. If you live in or near a forested area, you may be more likely to encounter a wildfire. The best way to protect yourself against loss, damage or injury is to practice Firesmart principles on your property. By following the Firesmart Home Owner's Manual, you can help reduce that risk.

For more information, please see the following link:

<https://wildfire.alberta.ca>



Season's Greetings from Council & Staff
Wishing you a healthy, happy & prosperous 2021



Tax Payment Plan - DIRECT DEBIT ONLY

The Summer Village has a TPP in place where by property owners can make monthly payments. If you would like to be on the plan, please email svsandyb@xplornet.ca

TPP is direct debit ONLY. Submit a signed and dated direct debit authorization form (from YOUR BANK) by January 15th.



Summer Village Website

Check out the website for the Summer Village for all updates especially the Welcome page and Calendar

<https://www.summervillageofsandybeach.ca>

Health Link Alberta

Health Link Alberta provides health advice and information through a toll-free phone number to all Albertans. Access is 24-hour, 7 day a week and support is provided by experienced registered nurses and health-care professionals.

Toll-free: 1-866-408-5465

Edmonton: 780.408.5465

To view online health information visit

<https://myhealth.alberta.ca>

The Summer Village of Sandy Beach is part of the **Tamarack Health Advisory Council** area. If you have feedback on the current and future direction of Alberta Health Services, community participation is welcome. Contact our Community Engagement Officer at 1-877-275-8830 or email at: tamarack@albertahealthservices.ca/hac.asp for further information.

COVID-19

All Covid-19 updates are available on the Alberta Government website: <https://www.alberta.ca>

Please monitor the website DAILY for any enhanced public health measures and celebrate responsibly and safe.

Look out for the safety of others too.

Numb Bum Event

Annual Numb Bum ice race for 2021 has been cancelled due to COVID-19.

LAGOON

The future of the lagoon and updates regarding the lagoon is on the welcome page of the website. Contact the office for further updates.

Household Waste Reminder

The Summer Village has a bylaw in place whereby Summer Village Public Works will pick up 5 bags ONLY **every Monday** excluding holiday Mondays when garbage will be picked up on the Tuesday. **Extra bags, torn bags, strewn bags and rotten meat will be tagged and not removed. Same applies for organics in black bags. 5 bags 30lb each per lot ONLY.** Order a new stand.

Garbage must be stored in weatherproof, watertight; animal proof containers and/or durable plastic bags that must not exceed 30lb in weight each. Household waste goes in black bags and organics in orange or clear bags.

**PLEASE HAVE GARBAGE OUT BY 7:00 AM DAY OF PICK-UP
DO NOT LEAVE YOUR BAGS ON THE ROAD FOR DAYS PLEASE.**



WINTER TIPS

Information from <http://www.getprepared.gc.ca>

Are you prepared? Do you have a 72-hour kit? Any emergency plans? Do people know where you are?

Basic car kit

If you have a car, prepare a small kit and keep it in the vehicle - The basic kit should include:

- Food that won't spoil (such as energy bars) • Water • Blanket • Extra clothing and shoes • Candle in a deep can and matches • First aid kit with seatbelt cutter • Warning light or road flares • Small shovel, scraper and snowbrush
- List of contact numbers

Recommended additional items to keep in your car • Sand, salt or cat litter (non clumping) • Antifreeze, windshield washer fluid • Tow rope and jumper cables • Fire extinguisher • Roadmaps, whistle and flashlight

Know the Risks ~ Make a Plan ~ Prepare a Kit