



Summer Village of Ghost Lake Newsletter

www.ghostlake.ca

May 2017

Annual General Meeting – June 10th

The Village Annual Meeting will be held on **Saturday, June 10, 2017** at the Community Services Building. The meeting will commence at **1:00 pm** to discuss the civic business of the Village from the past year.

Minutes from last year's meeting are now available on www.ghostlake.ca and the agenda for the 2017 meeting will be available after June 3rd. Anyone who would like a copy of these items in advance of the meeting, is asked to contact the Village Office at (403) 554-5515 or download them from www.ghostlake.ca.

2017 Tax Notices will be in the Mail on or before May 9th

The tax rates have been set for 2017. The municipal portion of the taxes increased 6.6% in 2015. The Summer Village saw a 3% increase in school requisition in 2017. **The overall 2017 Tax Revenue is increasing by 4.6%**

This year's *municipal* budget will levy \$94,375 in taxes and the *school requisitions*, determined by the Province and Calgary Catholic School Board will levy \$120,344.

Actual rate increases will vary from property to property depending on the assessment changes experienced on each individual property.

Please note taxes are due on JUNE 30, 2017.

There will be a 10% penalty assessed on all taxes that are received with a postmark that is after June 30th. We accept post dated cheques, so if you normally pay at the end of June, you are encouraged to mail a post dated cheque dated June 30th and we will hold your payment until that date.

How to Pay Your Taxes

1. **By mail** - send cheque to the Village Office.
2. **Pay Online** at Telpay. - go to www.telpay.ca click *Telpay Online* -- click *Get Started* click

Sign Up The Summer Village of Ghost Lake payee account 0074397. *New account set up takes a few days to process so don't leave the set up to last few days or your payment will be late.* Service fees apply.

3. **In person** at any TD Canada Trust Bank. Take your tax notice with you and ask the bank teller to deposit your cheque into the bank account number shown on the bottom of your tax notice. Ask them to include your account number and name as reference (make sure to keep your receipt)
4. **TD Canada Trust Customers** – set up the Summer Village as a Payee on your web banking portfolio. If you are interested, please contact TD web banking and let them know you want to set up a personal payee *The Village Bank Account details they require are listed on the bottom of your tax notice*

NOTE: When paying online and by telpay make sure your payments are made at least 4 days PRIOR to tax deadline date to allow for processing time. When paying by mail, make sure your envelope is postmarked on or before June 30th.

NOTE: If you have not received your Tax Notice in the mail by May 23rd, please contact the Village Office.

Weed Control Management Plan – Information Session Saturday May 13 12 noon

The Natural Environment Committee has developed a weed control management plan with the assistance of an environmental company. An open house will be held on Saturday May 13 commencing at noon, at the Community Services Building to inform the public on the management plan and answer questions on the workplan for this year.

Village Office Box 19554 RPO South Cranston, Calgary, Alberta T3M 0V4 Phone (403) 554-5515 Fax (403) 206-7209
email admin@ghostlake.ca

Mayor: Brian Oblak (403) 275-5007 Deputy Mayor: Warren Wilson 403 803-9770 Councillor: Noel Betts (403) 881-3839

Help Wanted Seasonal Labourer

The Village has an opening this summer for a seasonal labourer to cut grass and perform maintenance work on Village property. 4 days per week for 6 weeks. Anyone interested in this position is asked to submit a resume to the Village Office by **May 23rdth**.

The competition is open to secondary and post secondary students returning to school in the fall.

Rate of pay: \$15.00 per hour.

Supervisors for Seasonal Labourer

This year's position is under the STEP employment program. The Village requires a supervisor each day for the summer worker under the STEP and Work Alone regulations. The past few years have been successful having individuals take turns one week at a time supervising. All we require is your attendance at the Orientation Meeting held on or before the employee's first day of work and then each day during the week you are scheduled to supervise. If you are interested in helping out this year, please contact the Village Office 403-554-5515 or admin@ghostlake.ca and let us know which week(s) Jul-Aug you are available to help.

The program cannot proceed without supervisors, so please contact the Village Office by May 23rd if you are willing to assist.

911 Calls

Lands abutting the Summer Village are not located in a 911 calling district. If you are near the water or outside the Summer Village, depending on the tower your cell phone is connecting to, you may end up in a non 911 calling area. If that occurs DO NOT HANG UP.....Wait for the Operator to come on the line and they will connect your call with the 911 dispatch.

Road Resurfacing

The road resurfacing project was delayed until spring 2017 due to the early onset of wet weather in the fall. Work will commence late spring/early summer.

Property Civic Address Signs

Civic Address signage is a crucial element for efficient emergency response. It is in the best interest of each property owner and resident to have a standardized civic address sign clearly displayed on the front of their property. The signs will help emergency response personnel, such as fire, ambulance and police find a property at Ghost Lake Village quickly.

The Summer Village has adopted a standard civic address sign that will be required to place on each property. The initial signs are being provided to each property owner FREE of charge. Ideally Council would like to see all signs up by June 30th, but will not start enforcing until after September 4, 2017

- Signs must be erected at the FRONT of the property,
- between 1 metre and 2 metres above ground level (measured from bottom of the sign),
- Clearly visible from the road (no trees, shrubs, ornaments obstructing sign) and
- at least 1 metre from the side property boundary. (ie, do not install on the edge of your property or the responder may confuse it with your neighbour's property)

Civic Address signs will be available for pickup at the Annual Meeting and at the Regatta.

Fire Prevention & First Response Committee News

Volunteers needed for the Committee:

- to **work** on our Fire Prevention Plan
- to **learn** how we can respond in a fire event
- to **assist** with fire emergency call-outs
- to **maintain** our equipment

For more information contact: Bill Bauer 715 GLV wfbauerghost@gmail.com or Fred Smith
410GLV fred@feedsmithconsulting.com

Get to know your neighbour

The faces in the village have changed quite a bit over the past few years and many residents do not know their neighbours.

There are great advantages in getting to know your neighbours:

- Ensuring a safer community by keeping an eye out for one another;
- Helping each other in times of emergency or extreme weather events,
- Letting each other know when damages have occurred to their property ie. broken windows, fallen trees.

Exchange phone numbers and email addresses with your neighbours and help look out for each other. This is especially helpful for part time residents who are not at their cabin regularly.

Check out the Land Tenure map included with your tax notice. Do you know your neighbours?

Stop the Spread

How You Can Stop Spreading Whirling Disease in Alberta

Everyone, including anglers, boaters and recreational water users can help stop the spread of whirling disease.

This disease is not harmful to humans or other mammals but can have significant effects on some fish populations. It can be transmitted from infected locations to other water bodies:

- through equipment used for swimming, paddling, boating, water pumping, and fishing
- through infected fish and fish parts

The movement of fish, mud and water can potentially spread whirling disease.

Best Practices for Stopping the Spread

Please follow these best practices:

- Never move live or dead fish, or fish parts from one water body to another (this is illegal in Alberta).
- Use fish cleaning stations where available or put fish parts in the garbage. Never dispose of fish, or any fish parts, in your kitchen garbage.
- It is illegal to use live fish as bait. The use of worms or leeches as bait should be avoided as well.

Before moving a boat or any equipment (ie hip waders, life jackets, kayaks, etc.) between water bodies, be sure to:

Clean

- Clean and inspect watercraft, trailers, and all equipment that has been in contact with water. This includes boats, motors, boots, waders, bait buckets, and swimming floats.
- Remove all mud, sand, and plant materials before leaving the shore.
- Rinse, scrub, or pressure wash your boat and equipment away from storm drains, ditches or waterways. Use hot water if possible (90°C or hotter).

Drain

- Before leaving the shoreline, drain water from watercraft and equipment onto dry land.
- Remember to "Pull the Plug" because it is illegal to transport watercraft with the drain plug still in place.

Dry

- Dry the watercraft and/or equipment completely between trips and allow the wet areas to air dry. Allow for a minimum of 24 hours of drying time before entering new waters.
- Leave compartments open on boats and equipment, and sponge out standing water.

Reminders:

False Alarms

If you have a security monitoring system and a Fire Department is called out – costs associated with responding to a false alarm will be billed back to the property owner.

Landlords

Please ensure that your tenants are aware of the Village rules and regulations. Also ask them to register with the Village Office, their phone numbers for the Emergency Broadcast Service and their emails to receive Village news.

Fire Insurance

Reminder - if there is a fire on your property and fire trucks are called in to respond to the fire, Council may forward the cost of fire fighting to you. Please check with your fire insurance provider to determine if you have adequate coverage. Cost of fire fighting can add up to

thousands of dollars – please make sure you are adequately protected.

Development in the Village – Plan Ahead

Are you thinking of making improvements to your place? Most improvements will require a development permit and/or a building permit.

For development permits please contact Rod at Planning Protocol at (403) 230-5522. If you happen to commence development without the appropriate permits you could be faced with double permit fees or the expense of removing the development if it does not meet land use specifications or building code regulations. **For more information on applying for building, gas, plumbing, sewage and electrical permits,** check out the following website:

<http://www.safetycodes.ab.ca/Public/Pages/CodesPermits.aspx>

Off Road Vehicles

Please note that off highway vehicles (including ATV's) are not permitted on public lands except

- for the sole purpose of servicing a boat in the lake or launching a boat or
- removing a boat from the lake,
- solely for gaining access to or leaving the frozen waters of the lake by way of the boat launch or
- when working with a Village sanctioned work crew on a project.

NOTE: Go-carts and golf carts are not allowed on Village roads at any time, pursuant to Provincial regulations

Burn Pile

Please place your trees and branches on the burn pile *not* in the garbage bins or in the compost pile. No construction debris and definitely no nails or spikes (many of your fellow neighbours that have volunteered to look after the Burn Pile have had to repair tires because of nails and spikes found in the debris.)

Also, do not place ashes in the burn pile. If not completely cooled, the ashes can cause an unexpected fire putting your home and your neighbour's home at risk.

Be sure that all ashes have thoroughly cooled before you dispose of them. A suggestion is to place ashes in a lidded metal container to prevent a possible fire and provide a sturdy place to store them. Ashes make good fertilizer in gardens, flowerbeds, etc.

Compost Pile

When disposing of grass clippings or leaves, please place them on top of the existing compost pile instead of beside it to avoid making the compost area larger than needed.

Recycling

Residents can place the following items in the Recycle Bin:

Paper and Cardboard (*please breakdown boxes to make room for more items*)

- Cardboard boxes (cereal boxes, pizza boxes, tissue boxes, paper towel tubes and toilet paper tubes)
- Catalogues and magazines
- Newspapers and flyers
 - paper
 - letters
 - envelopes/window envelopes
 - greeting cards
 - brochures
 - non-foil gift wrap
 - paper bags
- Shredded paper (in a tied transparent plastic bag)
- Telephone books and paperback books
- Soup and beverage cartons (for example: Tetra Pak® packages)

Plastic jugs, bottles, packaging and food containers

- Clean plastic jugs, bottles, packaging and food containers/lids with the recycling symbol 1-7 (*cups, food containers or packaging made of foam cannot be recycled*)
- Plastic bags, plastic wrap, bubble wrap
 - Bundle all plastic bags, plastic wrap and bubble wrap into one plastic bag and tie closed.

Glass – bottles and jars

- Must be bagged and tie closed

The bin CANNOT accept wood, styrofoam, metal, organics or glass at this time