

Spring 2022

Newsletter

Summer Village of Ghost Lake



Summer Village of
Ghost Lake

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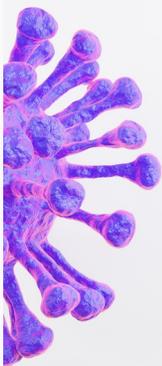


(825) 735-7224



Thank you!

Council and Administration would like to thank all the volunteers who participated in putting up the snow fences, plowing the village roads, helping with the burn pile, and participating in the Curling and Easter Egg Hunt organized by the Community Association.



COVID-19 UPDATE

Note: Rapid COVID-19 test kits are available for Ghost Lake Village residents in the Community Hall

Public health measures are being lifted in 3 steps as pressure on the health system eases. Most measures were lifted when Alberta entered Step 2 on March 1.

HIRING: Summer Position

The Village of Ghost Lake is hiring a student this summer to perform various duties related to digital communication and maintenance work such as cutting grass on Village property.

We are looking for someone with a background in Communication and Design. As a student, you will be given the opportunity to learn about municipal processes whilst also growing your skills within your educational background. To learn more, email admin@ghostlake.ca

2022 Property Tax Assessment Notices

If you have not received your Tax Notice in the mail, please contact the Village Office.

The 2022 Property Assessment notices were mailed out to property owners of the Summer Village of Ghost Lake on April 20th, 2022.

This year we are looking at a significant overall increase of around 5% in property values since our assessor worked to correct and modify important details regarding all of the properties. A more detailed explanation is given in the "Understanding your 2022 Property Assessment" document attached in your letter or down below.

If you have any questions, the Assessor, Christopher Snelgrove, is available to discuss your assessment with you. Please contact Benchmark Assessment Consultants at 1-800-633-9012 between 8 am – 4:30 pm Mon-Fri to discuss your assessment.



How to Pay Your Taxes

BY MAIL send a cheque to the Village Office. (must be postmarked by Canada Post) on or before ****

E-TRANSFER use property-taxes@ghostlake.ca when making an e-transfer, also include your tax roll number in the notes. We no longer require passwords for e-transfer payments.

Check with your bank for instructions and fees for e-transfers

PAY ONLINE at Telpay. - go to www.telpay.ca and follow these links... Telpay Online -> Get Started -> Sign Up the Summer Village of Ghost Lake is payee account 0074397 New account set up takes a few days to process. Service fees apply.

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.

TD CANADA TRUST CUSTOMERS set up 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.

Payment receipts will be emailed to email addresses on file. If you need to update your email address or need to request an additional payment receipt, please contact the Village Office

Please note taxes are due on JUNE 30, 2022. 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.

Dock Spaces Update

Villagers are reminded of the dock allocation policy

<https://ghostlake.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/Dock-Space-Allocation-Policy.pdf>

If you need a dock space for 2022 (and currently do not have one allocated) please contact the Village administrator to make sure your name is on the waiting list.

If you have a dock space and no longer require it, please contact the village administrator so that it can be allocated to someone on the waiting list

Please take the opportunity this spring to make sure your dock and the associated anchors are in good repair.

Please label your docks with your street address so that if there are any issues you can be contacted more readily



Rural Crime Watch

The Cochrane Foothills Protection Association (CFPA) is providing free memberships for 2022. Learn more by following this link: cfparcw.ca.

"The Cochrane Foothills Protective Association is a voluntary, community-operated registered charity that strives to promote crime prevention and awareness and serves as a Rural Crime Watch group within the Cochrane and West Airdrie (west of Highway 2) RCMP Detachment rural areas."



Avian Influenza

A subtype of Avian Influenza virus is spreading in Canada. Birds Canada published the following guidelines to help respond to these guidelines:

- Do not feed birds by hand.
- Do not touch sick or dead birds.
- Report sick or dead birds you find

Learn more about the evolving Avian Influenza outbreak by following this link: <https://www.birdscanada.org/help-respond-to-the-avian-influenza-outbreak-in-atlantic-canada/>

Golf Course Updates:

Representatives from administration and contractors met on site to discuss the Golf Course project. The contractors are aiming for project completion in Summer 2022, and have been working on preparing the site for the new changes.

Carraig Ridge Well

As of May 2022, The Summer Village has not withdrawn their Statement of Concern and outlined the following points based on their review of the Carraig Ridge report:

- There are consultants looking at data and reinterpreting the previous studies done
- The subsequent analysis includes a selection of the testing that was done and potentially presents it outside of the context of the original reports.

The Summer Village has also requested reports on previous studies conducted to better address concerns.

More info is posted on the Village website.



**Keep Alberta
RCMP**

The Province of Alberta is looking at options to improve Alberta's place in Canada as part of a "Fair Deal Panel Review".

The Summer Village of Ghost Lake, along with several other municipalities has declared its support to keep the Alberta RCMP as the region's main policing force.

Learn more here:
www.keepalbertarcmp.ca



Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) for 2022 has been scheduled for **June 25th, 2022 at 10 am**. The meeting will take place in the Ghost Lake Village Community Hall.

Responsible Pet Ownership

- Clean up after your pets!
- Keep them active
- Obey local ordinances such as leash requirements and noise control
- Make sure your pet is properly identified (e.x. tags)

Meet Your New Administration Team!

Mustafa Hashimi Chief Administrative Officer

Mustafa Hashimi was raised in Calgary and attended post-secondary in his hometown. He studied Engineering, Urban Planning and Business and embarked upon a career path in Municipal Engineering, encompassing experiences across both the private and public sector that has paved the way for his specialization in revitalization and redevelopment projects. Mustafa has worked on multiple revitalization projects ranging from 8 million to 20 million dollars. He has taken on various roles in these projects ranging from Project Manager to Director-in-Charge. As his experience grew, so did his passion for community revitalization and helping bridge the gap between historic architecture and modern streetscape, while ensuring that the municipal infrastructure meets the needs of the communities in the present and the future.

Mustafa Hashimi has worked for a variety of local governments including the City of Calgary, Rocky View County, Town of Strathmore, and the Town of Crossfield. He believes that community collaboration and fostering a culture of resilience are important aspects underpinning the welfare of our communities.



Sam Lokman

Finance Manager

On January 31st, 2022, Council hired Sam Lokman as the Finance Manager for the Summer Village of Ghost Lake.

Sam Lokman grew up in Calgary, Alberta, and obtained his Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of Calgary. His experience comprises diverse roles in professional services consulting and business development for SaaS technology companies. Sam is very passionate about the local communities and municipalities which make up Southern Alberta and ensuring their long-term sustainability and hopes to help in his contributions as the Finance Manager.



Hassan Saeed

Planning & Development Technologist

Hassan Saeed is a Pakistani-Canadian student at the University of Calgary, pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Urban Studies with a minor in Architectural Studies. Hassan cultivated his passion for environmental design, community development, and revitalization through his studies and extracurricular roles such as VP of Design for the Urban Calgary Students' Association and student member of the Federation of Calgary Communities (FCC) Urban Planning Committee. Hassan has and is currently working with local communities to develop tactical urbanism and community revitalization projects. He hopes to pursue a Master's in Planning and Development.



And Finally...

A message from our Chief Administrative Officer

Hello, Villagers of the Summer Village of Ghost Lake! I would like to start by extending my warmest greetings to all of you and provide you all with a quick update regarding what the Administration has been working on in the past six months. It has been a busy time for Administration as we continue to work diligently to perform our duties and ensure that we continue to beautify the Summer Village. Over the course of the past six months, Administration has been working on backlog that had accumulated over previous years. Backlog items included completing Financial Audits for 2020 and 2021, making the appropriate changes to our assessment process to ensure that we are following the legislative process, and updating bylaws to meet Municipal affairs requirements as part of the MAP Audit. While there has been a lot of work done to ensure we meet legislative standards and that we are in good standings with Municipal Affairs, a lot still needs to be completed over the next six months to ensure that we follow all the recommendations made in the Assessment and MAP Audit. We have also been busy working on the 2022 budget which is now available online for any villager that wishes to view it. Lastly, we have been successful in securing a grant which will provide the Village with five trash/recycling bins to utilize for your routine recycling purposes.

The above comprise just a few of the items that we have been working on and I wanted to share this information with all of you to enhance transparency into our processes in the background. On behalf of the Administration, we would like to thank everyone in the community for the warm welcome and we look forward to meeting you in person.

- Mustafa Hashimi, CAO

