



Summer Village of Poplar Bay

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Spring 2022 Newsletter

COUNCIL MESSAGE

The last couple years have presented all of us with many challenges with the effects of the Pandemic reaching across our communities. With the recent changes and evolution of the Provincial Government Covid guidance it appears we may be coming out of the darkest of these challenges and the spring is looking much brighter for many of us. We believe that this Spring/Summer our Summer Village residents will be able to return to a more normal tight knit community where we can mix and mingle with our neighbors in a more relaxed calm atmosphere. Over the last few months there have been several reports of unlawful activities throughout our village including break and enters, theft and vandalism. We would ask everyone to be vigilant and to report any suspicious activities or vehicles to the RCMP as soon as possible. This will help protect our neighbors and our own properties in the future.

We hope that over the summer each of our residents will have the opportunity to make full use of their lake lots and all our community amenities to create many new family and friend's memories.

WASTEWATER UPDATE

The Wastewater System continues to operate well. So far this winter, there has only been one call out for our system operator.

The 2022 Maintenance program will include inspection and servicing of air relief valves, exercising system and cc valves, and a sample inspection of the wear and tear on pump grinder blades. The Summer Village will also be looking at the air relief valve manholes to select the process for sealing the manholes to prevent leaking.

Also, in compliance with the Wastewater Utility Bylaw, properties that were identified as having holding tanks that were in a fair to poor condition will be inspected this year at homeowner cost. Residents with tanks requiring inspection will be notified later this spring.

Our system operator THS Septic and Civil Solutions is ready to answer any questions or respond to any concerns you may have. Please contact them as follows:

During Business hours 403-844-2559

After Hours Emergency 403-844-9233

E-mail thskayela@gmail.com

An emergency is a spill or release of wastewater outside the system and must be reported immediately. Other concerns such as high-level alarms can be reported to THS at any time.

Please remember your grinder pump will provide years of service if you follow some simple rules. The only materials permitted to be discharged into the wastewater system are: human waste and toilet paper; greywater from showers, sinks, tubs and dishwashers; conventional food wastes as processed through an in-sink garbage disposal unit and laundry machine washing discharge.

Many items are not allowed to enter toilets or drains. Prohibited items include:

“flushable” baby wipes	dental floss	gravel	socks, rags or cloth
feminine products	pantyhose	bones	paint or paint thinner
diapers	plastics / latex	glass	metal
condoms	grease or cooking oil	sand	cat litter
egg shells	seafood shells	grout	cleaning wipes

Sump pump discharge, rainwater and other surface water are not permitted to enter the wastewater system. In addition, Schedule D-1 and D-2 in the Municipal Wastewater Utility Bylaw #253 set out chemical, oil, flammable materials and other restrictions.

NOTE: The cost of repair to the grinder pump caused by prohibited materials in the tank will be the responsibility of the property owner.

HE (HIGH EFFICIENCY) FURNANCES

Friendly Reminder: HE (High Efficiency) furnaces can freeze lines between the wastewater tank and the dwelling, please consider installing a condensate pump if you have a HE furnace to help resolve this potential issue.

POPLAR BAY ANNUAL INFORMATION MEETING

Date selected is June 11, 2022 at the Poplar Bay Recreation Centre, please check the website for further details closer to the AIM.

Council encourages any residents who have any questions or items they would like covered at the Poplar Bay AIM to please send an email to your Mayor, Fraser @ hubbardf@shaw.ca or call 403-612-5272 with suggestions.

NEW SOLID WASTE PROGRAM

GFL will be offering Poplar Bay residents a new solid waste and recycle program. Residents will be receiving a new garbage bin to replace bins they are currently using. Recycling will also now be an option bi-weekly for the months of May to October. Stay tuned to the website www.poplarbay.ca for the solid waste and recycle collection schedule.

POPLAR BAY LAND USE BYLAW

Council will be engaging with Municipal Planning Service (MPS) to review and revise the Land Use Bylaw; more information to come regarding this soon.

ROADS AND DRAINAGE

Last fall we undertook a large program to repair sections of our roads, as well as to improve drainage through a ditch recontouring and culvert replacement program. The total cost of the program was \$463,218.00 with most of the work completed late in the fall. The final inspections and any repair or modifications will be completed this spring after the spring runoff has finished. Any future road work will be affected by the funding changes that are highlighted in section Capital Grant Program Update in this newsletter.

CAPITAL GRANT PROGRAM UPDATE FROM PROVINCE

As part of Budget 2021, the government had to make difficult decisions to keep spending under control while supporting local governments. There will be limited resources given out for roads, and seeking alternate funding will need to be an option moving forward.

MSI Capital

For both 2022 and 2023, every municipality and Metis Settlement is estimated to receive 40.6 per cent of what they received in 2021. This reduction is equivalent to the year over year change in the MSI capital budget from \$1.196 billion to \$485 million, and ensures the reduced budget will impact every local government equally.

MSI Operating

To provide stability in operating funding, MSI operating allocations will be frozen at the 2021 level for both 2022 and 2023. Every municipality and Metis Settlement will receive the same amount of operating funding for the next two years as they received this year.

Municipal Sustainability Initiative - Capital Grants from Alberta Provincial Government								
2022 and 2023 are the estimated allocations to Municipalities provided October 28, 2021 for the 2022 and 2023 based on estimates Provincial Budget								
	Actual MSI Capital Grant Funding						Estimated MSI Capital Grant Funding	
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Argentia Beach	105,692	102,273	114,728	80,218	95,256	107,292	43,509	43,509
Crystal Springs	105,427	102,935	111,114	79,453	93,873	107,190	43,468	43,468
Golden Days	134,275	130,523	156,247	94,692	120,497	140,638	57,031	57,031
Grandview	117,755	112,359	130,861	85,440	104,104	119,727	48,552	48,552
Ma-Me-O Beach	118,735	114,705	133,025	85,568	106,332	123,284	49,994	49,994
Norris Beach	86,460	83,441	86,527	70,554	79,824	86,089	34,911	34,911
Poplar Bay	115,091	111,572	131,278	84,877	104,218	121,098	49,107	49,107

PIGEON LAKE WATERSHED ASSOCIATION UPDATE

Lake Log Project

Help PLWA document environmental changes and events at Pigeon Lake. We are collecting photos, videos, and written accounts to create a living lake log. Records and accounts from municipalities and residents would be appreciated. <https://www.plwa.ca/lake-log-about>

Clean Runoff Property Assessment Program

In 2021, PLWA launched a clean runoff property assessment program. PLWA staff met with residents to identify opportunities to better slow and filter stormwater runoff from their property. We are now working with these residents to enhance the eco function of over 15 acres of land around Pigeon Lake. Please contact PLWA for a Clean Runoff assessment and learn how you can help protect the lake: <https://www.plwa.ca/naturalize-your-lot/assessing-your-lot>

Save the Date – PLWA AGM July 23, 2022

The Pigeon Lake Watershed Association's Board of Directors invites all Pigeon Lake Community members to attend our annual meeting. Join us to learn about research, stewardship, and community initiatives to protect the health of the lake and Watershed.

<https://www.plwa.ca/events/agm-ckb54>

BOAT MOORING DISTURBANCE STANDARD

Last Spring, Alberta Environment and Parks created a new Boat Mooring Disturbance Standard for temporary seasonal docks and other mooring structures. If you are placing a structure on municipal land, you will require approval from the Summer Village of Poplar Bay. To do this please call the office @ 780-586-2494 or email information@svofficepl.com

The disturbance standard came into effect on April 19, 2021. You can learn more by visiting

<https://www.alberta.ca/mooring-standards-engagement.aspx>

FIREWORKS

Council is looking for some input from our residents regarding the use for Fireworks within our Municipal Boundaries. Council has been approached by many suggesting a Ban on Fireworks and as a result we have decided to ask residents to provide us with their thoughts around the creation of a Fireworks use Bylaw for our Village. We ask that anyone who would like to provide input to us please send an email to information@svofficepl.com or to provide your thoughts directly to one of your councilors.

ROAD WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS AND SPEED ENFORCEMENT

Council is currently working with several of our neighboring communities to create a more unified and collaborative approach to enforcing our current road bylaws around weight restrictions and speeding. This will result in our community being better equipped to enforce speeding infractions through policing as well as better protect our roads from overweight loads.

We are looking to have RCMP, Alberta Sheriffs and Peace Officers to have regular radar enforcement activities along our roads, these would be radar stops not photo and as a result a citation and demerit points would be issued which will affect your vehicle insurance costs. Alberta is one of only a few provinces where fines increase for each km/hr over the limit, and there is no minimum overage. There is a belief that no tickets are issued at less than 10km/hr over the posted limit. This is however not correct as tickets can be issued for any overage that is recorded. It is likely there would be a zero tolerance on our roads, which would mean any vehicle traveling over 30km/hr in summer would be stopped and a citation issued.

In Alberta the following is the enforcement guide:

1-15km/hr over limit = 2 demerit points, \$78 to \$120 based on speed over

16-30km/hr over limit = 3 demerit points, \$140 to \$239 based on speed over

Speeding is an ongoing concern for many of our residents as speeding affects the safety of our people, children, and pets. We would encourage all our residents to closely observe the limits and to please ensure anyone coming to visit you is aware of the speed limits.

DORIS MCALLISTER - BYLAW OFFICER

Doris McAllister is on board to assist Poplar Bay residents with bylaw questions and concerns, including parking, noise, animal control, use of fertilizer and herbicides, etc. Doris can be reached at 1-780-719-6447.

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE POPLAR BAY NEWSLETTER ONLINE

If you would like to receive the newsletter updates via email, please subscribe to the Poplar Bay website, please see the steps below:

- Step 1 – please visit the website <https://poplarbay.ca/>
- Step 2 – On the home page, please click the 'Subscribe' icon
- Step 3 – Once you have clicked subscribe, you then enter the email address in which you wish to receive newsletters to
- Step 4 – You are done! Leave the rest to us and we will send you the newsletter updates via email

POPLAR BAY COUNCIL

Mayor Fraser Hubbard
403-612-5272

Deputy Mayor Brian Meaney
780-242-8172

Councilor Gary Carew
780-910-7310