

SUMMER VILLAGE OF GRANDVIEW January Newsletter 2006



Message from Council

Web-Site

In response to your requests for better communication between Council and the ratepayers, a web site has been developed and is up and running! While constantly being updated, the web page address will be svgrandview.com and you can expect to see newsletters, upcoming events, maps, garbage schedules and other important information regarding Council and issues. Access it often. It is here for your use.

Sewer

A pilot project in Leduc County featuring an aqueduct water treatment system has been successfully performing since this past summer. If the system continues to perform well, Alberta Environment will endorse it as an alternative to traditional water treatment facilities. The result of the water treatment is clean, odourless, stream-quality water, which would be used for irrigation. The beauty of such a system, is that it allows us to keep the water within this basin.

Various councillors from the south side of the lake, attended a field trip and were impressed with how quiet and odourless the system was. We, along with Leduc County and Alberta Environment, are watching this very closely. This may be just what Grandview needs!

Hot Topics

There are a few very hot topics that are currently before council. For instance, we hear from some constituents who'd like us to take a hard line with all encroachments, whether it be a planted tree or a garage, while others would like to see future encroachments allowed simply by signing an agreement (provided these are not unsafe or unsightly). These seem to be such opposing views.

Another very controversial issue is gating the park area often referred to as the boat launch. The permanent residents of Grandview will be well aware of the media attention that has been given to this subject. Council meetings were attended by the media and county residents. Yes, Grandview is famous but unfortunately, not in a positive way. For those of you that went back to the cities last August, this may come as a surprise. Grandview's "boat launch" (which is actually park reserve) is marked on some of the area maps along with properly built boat launches and parking lots around the lake. No other Summer Village has their "boat launch" on the maps. Why? Because they are not proper facilities and not built in an area equipped to handle the ever-increasing traffic that will come with the proposed subdivisions south of us. There is, attached to this newsletter, another viewpoint to consider that speaks to other responsibilities of the councillors.

Unfortunately, as is often the case, the opinions of the majority, are never heard. Council would eagerly welcome any comments at anytime about these, or any other topics that interest you. We want to represent everyone and would like to hear from you before decisions are made. Please make a call, drop a note or contact us on our new website at www.svgrandview.com with your viewpoints.

Village Property

Council has agreed that no more trees will be cut from Village property or property maintained by the Village. If trees are determined to be hazardous and the vegetation surrounding them has not filled in enough to support a fallen tree, the trees will be topped or limbed as necessary. Trees, alive or fallen, are critical for the health of the shoreline and its inhabitants and no person may alter or remove live, dying or deadfall vegetation without approval from Council.

Animal Control Bylaw

Many of you have inquired about this new Bylaw. It is on the website for your viewing or you may contact the Summer Village Office for a copy.

Centennial Grant

The \$3000 grant money received as a gift from the province to celebrate the Centennial, has been spent. Most of the funds went towards two beautiful new park benches and a great many thanks goes out to Dennis Norton who has worked tirelessly as logistics foreman and installer. Frank Roth, our park maintenance man, worked along side. Take a walk down and enjoy the view from the bench.

Shoreline Restoration

While it may not appear to be so, the shoreline restoration project is well under way. Don Davidson has kindly agreed to be part of the committee and has spent a good deal of time at the shoreline hand picking the weeds that grow there. Some weeds, like nettle, need to stay until nature brings them back into balance. Others, like dandelions and thistle, are introduced weeds and unfortunately, grow vigorously, threatening to choke out newly planted seedlings of native plants. Next spring is a critical time to prepare the area for planting. While you are out enjoying the park, please take a moment to uproot any thistle you may see there. If you are raking leaves in the spring, please donate them to this project as we will need leaf mould to establish the new plants. We have at our service, a seasoned environmental horticulturalist who has kindly offered her expertise free of charge. If you have an interest in joining this committee, please contact the office. **It's a great opportunity to learn if you are considering naturalizing your own shoreline.**

The remainder of the Centennial Grant Money will be spent on the plants for this area. We will begin next year, starting with woody shrubs and some native grasses. As was pointed out to me by Bonnie Topp, (our environmental guest speaker at the A.I.M. last July), there are no songbirds in the park. Let's encourage them back again.

ICAP Grant

You may have noticed the new piece of playground equipment in the park. It is called the Super Nova and is quite unique to Canada. Grandview was able to cost share this through Federal and Provincial Grants.

Municipal Addressing

As most of you are aware, the issue surrounding Grandview's addressing has been debated. Some ratepayers have reasons they'd like to leave the addressing as is. Even though the addressing is confusing, some have beautiful address plates while others like their number for posterity. What is unanimous is that everyone wants to know that the emergency vehicles can find their home quickly. This council has inquired to each of the emergency services in the area. Each one has stated they don't much concern themselves with the numbering provided they are equipped with reliable maps and the signage is clear when they get there. .

The emergency services have now been given new maps and will continue to receive updated maps. New street names have been chosen, each one reflecting a tree, native to this area. We can now begin the process of registering the names. Watch for the new signage marking all the lake access streets, once everything is official.

Land Use Bylaw

The Land Use Bylaw Committee has worked very hard to incorporate some needed changes to our bylaw to update it. A public hearing was held November 19th, 2005 where Council received some very good feedback. Changes are being incorporated and will be reviewed and read at upcoming regular council meetings prior to being passed.

***We would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous and
Happy New Year!
Leslie, Dwight and Dennis***

News from the Summer Village Office

Administration

The Summer Village Office is located in Ma-Me-O Beach along Highway 13A. The administration team is Peter Irwin, Linda Eliasson, and a new addition to our team is Colleen McGinnis. We welcome Colleen to our group.

Each year the Summer Village Office hires summer help in the office. Office duties include contact with ratepayers either on the phone or in person, accepting tax payments, dealing with other municipalities, agencies, and emergency services, photocopying, faxing, filing, and some word processing. If you are interested in this position please inquire at the Summer Village Office by the end of April, 2006

Ambulance

The Paramedic Ambulance Service operates out of the Summer Village of Ma-Me-O Beach...It may be moving in with the Fire Services building when the complex is complete. It offers 24 hour a day service. The ambulance number remains – 911.

Fire Services

The County of Wetaskiwin administers fire services from their County of Wetaskiwin office. The Emergency Services Centre is currently being built and located west of the Village on Pigeon Lake (VPL) on Highway 13.

Fire Fighting

CHECK YOUR INSURANCE POLICY! It is always a good time to check to make sure you have adequate insurance coverage in case of fire on your property. A fire call to your property involves user fees from the fire department. Different companies cover different amounts for fire fighting costs and have different deductibles, so please check and make sure your coverage is sufficient and you do not get a bad surprise.

Pigeon Lake Constable Service (PLCS) – Phone 780-586-3882

Patrol Constables Rod McLaughlin and Lorna Radke (who also does double duty as the Office Manager). Senior Constable Ron Smith manages the constable service. The constable service provides preventative patrols and issues road permits if over 75% of a load. During the winter months they provide a significant number of on-site property checks. A word of Caution, Do not leave Quads and Snowmobiles in your yards unattended. They are easy prey and thieves can make them disappear in less than 5 minutes!

Council Meetings

You are more than welcome to attend Council meetings. The dates of these meetings are posted at the Summer Village Office located in Ma-Me-O Beach. If you wish to make a presentation to Council please advise the Village Office in advance in order for you to be placed on the agenda.

Garbage Removal & Large Waste Bins

Regular household garbage is picked up in the Summer Village on Wednesdays, now it is every other week until May 3rd, 2006 and then we are back to weekly pick-up until November 1st, 2006. GARBAGE CANS WITH SECURE LIDS MUST BE USED IN THE SUMMER VILLAGE. (A copy of the 2006 Canadian Waste Garbage Schedule is attached for your information). If your garbage is not picked up it will be tagged and a reason will be listed on the bag as to why it was not accepted.

Please also note the following residential garbage pickup restrictions:

1. Bags or garbage cans will not be picked up if the weight exceeds 50 pounds.
2. Branches or twigs are to be bundled in 3-foot lengths.
3. Household wastes only, (i.e. no appliances, chemicals or hazardous waste).

Development Permits

Development Permits are required for any Development in Grandview.

A Development means:

- *an excavation or stockpile and the creation of either of them*
- *a building or an addition to or replacement or repair of a building and the construction or placing of any of them in, on, or under land*
- *a change in the use of land or of a building, or an act done in relation to land or a building that results in or is likely to result in a change in the intensity of use of the land or building*
- *a change in the intensity of use of land or of a building, or an act done in relation to land or a building that results in or is likely to result in a change in the intensity of use of the land or building*

Please request a copy of the current Land Use Bylaw before beginning any work in the Summer Village.

The following is a list of permits that are required: Development permit (through the Summer Village Office), building, electrical, plumbing and gas permits (MUST be taken out with Permit Pro @ 1-800-282-6145 or @ 403-343-2777).

Family and Community Support Services

The Summer Villages of Crystal Springs, Grandview, Ma-Me-O Beach, Norris Beach and Poplar Bay continue to offer subsidized Homemaker services to senior village residents who demonstrate financial need living permanently in the summer village.

The homemaker services include:

- ✓ help with housework (light housekeeping duties), and respite care
- ✓ seasonal cleaning (windows, walls, moving furniture,...)
- ✓ meal preparation – for those recovering from a hospital visit

Please contact the Ma-Me-O Beach Office at (780) 586-2251 for more information on obtaining these services or if you are interested in providing Homemaker duties.

Are You Moving? - Change of Mailing Address Required

Please notify the office if you are changing your mailing address. If an emergency should arise, we have to be able to contact you. Please contact the Summer Village Office. We encourage you to provide your e-mail address to the office as well. Be assured this information is only used as a means to contact you.

***The Summer Village Office wishes you a happy New Year.
Peter, Linda, and Colleen***

