



FROM: SUMMER VILLAGE OF JARVIS BAY COUNCIL

DATE: MAY 2024

As the summer season approaches, this newsletter from the Summer Village of Jarvis Bay will serve to update you on important matters affecting our community.

- **Updated Logo and Entrance Signs** – Council undertook the project of updating the logo for our community in 2023 and are proud of how it turned out. The intention was to preserve the feeling of the previous logo but to give it a more classic look with higher readability. With the original entrance signs removed, four new signs will be installed this spring.
- **2024 Municipal Budget Approved** – Council approved the 2024 Municipal Budget with a 1.18% increase over 2023. This small increase will help to offset the substantial decrease in Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) funding from the province and items currently being subsidized year over year by the municipality. In 2024, the Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF) will replace the longstanding MSI infrastructure program. Historically MSI delivered an average of \$1.1 billion per year for Alberta municipalities, LGFF is planned to start at only \$722 million. This represents a 36% cut in community infrastructure funding compared to the historical average.



Tax and utility notices will be mailed out in May, please ensure the Administration Office has your current contact information including a valid mailing address. The Summer Village of Jarvis Bay offers many payment options for residents:

- Enroll in the Tax Installment Plan (TIP)
 - In person via exact cash / debit / cheque / money order
 - Mail a cheque or deposit in the drop box on the exterior of the administration building
 - E-transfer or pay online: <http://www.sylvansummervillages.ca/finance-and-taxation3.html>
- **New No Parking Area** – In response to resident concerns regarding safety, speeding, parking, noise levels and the preservation of Petro Beach, there will be a new no parking area. “No Parking” signs will be installed from #1 Jarvis Bay Drive to #56 Jarvis Bay Drive and will be in effect between May 15th and September 15th to mirror the Town of Sylvan Lake program. Vehicles parked in the no parking zone could be tagged and towed at the owner’s expense. Parking will be available within the parking lot of Petro Beach according to day use hours.



- **Land Use By-Law** – The Summer Village of Jarvis Bay Council has made many amendments to this statutory document which is now over ten years old. At the December 2023 Council meeting a motion was made to contract Municipal Planning Services (MSP) for a Land Use By-Law re-write. This work will take place throughout 2024 with public consultation taking place when a draft is complete. Council continues to update important documents to ensure they remain current. To view any of the current By-Laws or Policies you can visit this link:

<http://www.sylvansummervillages.ca/bylaws--policies3.html>

- **Development Permit** – Please remember that no work is to commence on your property without first contacting the Administration Office for direction on whether a Development Permit is required for your project. It has been observed that some projects have been undertaken without a Development Permit and may not be in keeping with the Land Use By-Law. Instances of development requiring a permit include, but are not limited to, erecting a fence, building a shed or accessory building, driveway expansion and or paving, replacing a culvert, landscaping or tree removal, operating a home business including a tourist home rental property. Ensure that you know where your property line is and remember at no time shall a resident store personal items or commence work on municipal lands for any reason.
- **Community Peace Officer** – At the January Joint Services Committee meeting, a motion was made to include the position of a Community Peace Officer in the joint budget for all five Summer Villages. The current Bylaw Enforcement Officer is engaged in training and will be outfitted and ready to go in May. This position will be responsible for enforcement in all five of the Summer Villages and will have varying hours.
- **Dog Control** – The Administration Office has received some very serious complaints of dogs running at large whereby residents and visitors have felt threatened. Dogs must be kept controlled within their own yard or on a leash at all times when outside their property boundaries, waste material must be picked up and properly disposed of, please do not dispose of waste bags in forested areas or leave waste bags on the side of the municipal road for your neighbour to pick up. No dog is allowed to become a nuisance by way of barking or causing property damage and no dogs are allowed on Petro Beach at anytime. Be a good neighbour by keeping our community clean and keeping your dog and residents safe.
- **Emergency Preparedness** – FireSmart Canada has developed a free one-hour course for anyone looking to learn more about how they can help protect their homes and properties from wildfire events. To learn more, you can check out this link:

<https://firesmartcanada.ca/programs/firesmart-101/>

Emergencies can happen at any time without warning, it is important to be ready. Residents can protect themselves and their property by following the Burning and Firepit Bylaw, storing flammables in a fire safe locker, placing notification stickers of pets on your front door, knowing



your neighbours, and assembling an emergency kit with a minimum of 72 hours worth of supplies. For a list of emergency kit supplies you can check out this helpful link:

<https://www.getprepared.gc.ca/cnt/kts/bsc-kt-en.aspx>

- **Fire Service Agreement Requires Civic Address Signage** – Jarvis Bay has a Fire Service Agreement with the Town of Sylvan Lake. A key provision of this agreement is that all structures in Jarvis Bay must have a permanent civic address sign affixed (with a minimum of 6” or 15.24cm tall letters) in a colour that contrasts with the colour of the dwelling.
- **Smoke and Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detector Reminder** – Council and the Sylvan Lake Fire Department wish to remind residents that you should have suitably placed Smoke and Carbon Monoxide detectors installed in your dwellings. These should be tested and have any batteries changed regularly. These devices have a maximum service time which is governed by federal regulations. All units sold in the past 5 years have a maximum service time displayed on the label (usually 5 to 10 years). These units must also issue an audible alarm when their maximum service time has been reached. Service time is measured from when power is first applied, either through hard wiring or the installation of batteries.
- **Septic Pump Life Span Risk Reminder** – The wastewater (sewer) system is now in its 25th year of operation. The normal life expectancy of residential septic pumps is 10 years. Your property could be at risk if you operate a pump beyond its life expectancy. Copies of the engineering specifications for attachment to the wastewater system are available, on request, from the Administration Office (403) 887-2822 or by email to: info@sylvansummervillages.ca

These specifications call for septic pumps to be capable of 40 litres per minute with a head pressure of 70 Psi (480 kPa). An independent study of our wastewater system, by Stantec Engineering, confirmed that the use of undersized septic pumps could result in operational issues. Please note that our entire wastewater line is now inspected and flushed annually.
- **Highway #20 Functional Planning Study** – In the summer of 2023 AECOM was retained by Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors as engineering consultants to complete a functional planning study for the future twinning of Highway #20 between Highway #11 (at the south end of Sylvan Lake) and Highway #12 (just west of Bentley). The purpose of the study is to complete highway alignment and cross section planning for future twinning. In October of 2023 Council met with AECOM to ensure details about the Summer Village were communicated to include in the planning documents. To accommodate the future Highway #20 twinning there will be additional right-of-way required. The details of this extra right-of-way (ex: from which side(s) of the highway the extra land will be needed, and by how much) will be one of the key outcomes that will be addressed at a later stage in this study.



- **Keep Local Elections Local** – *(Background)* Premier Danielle Smith’s mandate letter to Minister of Municipal Affairs Ric McIver instructed him to collaborate with Minister of Justice Mickey Amery to review the Local Authorities Election Act (LAEA) and make recommendations for any necessary amendments to “strengthen public trust in and the integrity of our municipal election laws”. At Alberta Municipalities Spring Municipal Leaders Caucus in March 2024, Premier Smith and Municipal Affairs Minister McIver told Alberta Municipalities members that the provincial government intends to introduce political parties at the municipal level, possible during this current session of the Legislature. The Government of Alberta stated that the main motivator for introducing political parties at the municipal level is to ensure transparency and good governance, especially when it come to raising funds.

(Concerns) Seventy per cent (70%) of Albertans have said they do not want the divisiveness of political parties disrupting their communities. Municipal elected officials need to continue to work on local challenges and not focus on the interests of their parties. Another concern is that introducing political parties at the municipal level could result in money from other regions being used to influence elections in local municipalities.

The current non-partisan system encourages councillors to collaborate to find solutions for their community. Garbage collection is not a partisan issue. The cost to rent the hockey rink is not a partisan issue.

The Government of Alberta has twice consulted the public on the topic and both times the results aligned with the Alberta Municipalities commissioned survey. Albertans don’t want political parties in municipal elections. Albertans want to vote for candidates, not labels. To read further on this topic and find out how to have your voice heard visit this link:

<https://www.abmunis.ca/advocacy-resources/keep-local-elections-local>

- **Sign Up for Email Notifications** – Signing up for weekly email notifications will keep you up to date on pertinent information within your municipality. Please visit the following link to sign up: <http://www.sylvansummervillages.ca/jarvis-bay.html>

Best Regards,

Mayor Julie Maplethorpe

Summer Village of Jarvis Bay