

# Summer Village of Birchcliff

## Spring 2022 Newsletter



Greetings from Council and Administration.

As most of you make plans to greet the summer, council would like to provide you with a few updates.

This newsletter provides an update on the recently adopted Mill Rate Bylaw, Sunbreaker Cove Boat Launch changes, Water Levels and Annual Information meeting.

### **Mill Rate Bylaw**

In April, Council approved the 2022 Mill Rate of 1.9205 which represents a 1.35% increase over last year. This will result in an annual tax increase equating to \$25.60 on a million-dollar property. Total property assessments for the village increased from \$170,348,450 in 2021 to \$182,185,680 in 2022. The increase in assessment growth was greater than the forecast and will generate an additional \$15,500 in revenue which will go into reserves.

### **Sunbreaker Cove Boat Launch Charges**

Starting May 1, 2022, visitors to the Sunbreaker Cove Boat Launch will be required to pay for parking. Lacombe County is launching a quick and easy payment system for parking through HotSpot Parking Inc. The additional user fees will help to ensure the operating and capital expenses of these amenities are more sustainable. With the increasing amount of people accessing the lake via the beach and boat launches, the paid parking program will assist with the maintenance and upkeep of this facility, while providing funds for future needs.

Paid parking will be required for anyone to park at the following rates:

- \$20/day to launch and park,
- \$10 to launch only,
- \$10 for additional vehicle parking only with no trailer

Find more details about the Paid Parking Program, including frequently asked questions and how-to videos, at <https://www.lacombecounty.com/index.php/hotspot-paid-parking-program>.

### **Lake Water Level**

A significant reduction in snowfall within the watershed this past winter has contributed to the year over year lake level being down 9 centimeters as of the end of April.

## **Annual Information Meeting**

This year the meeting will be held on July 23rd between 10 am and 12 noon at our new offices located at #2 Erickson Drive, Sylvan Lake. There will be a few formal updates from council but the conversation will be focused on our open spaces, shoreline restoration, and recycling program for 2023.

## **Emergency Contact Information**

Recently Council participated in a regional emergency planning exercise with Lacombe county and other summer villages around the lake to work through various emergency management scenarios. Our ability to communicate with residents is the largest key risk that we have at this point. Administration does not have a way to communicate with many of our residents should an emergency occur. You can reduce your risk and the risk to others by registering to receive email updates from the Summer Village at the bottom of the home page at <http://www.sylvansummervillages.ca/birchcliff.html>.

Council is committed to protecting our village values and improving community and quality of life while protecting the environment and your investment.

On behalf of Council and Administration enjoy the transition from spring to summer, keep safe and stay healthy.

**Roger Dufresne**  
403 404 6684

[roger.gj.dufresne@gmail.com](mailto:roger.gj.dufresne@gmail.com)