



WAIPAROUS VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

May 2017

2017 Tax Notices in the Mail on or before May 9, 2017

The tax rates have been set for 2017 and represent an increase in tax revenue of 4.61% (*actual tax increases will vary from property to property depending on assessment changes, construction*).

The school requisition from the Province went up \$2,068 from the previous year and the municipal taxes increased by \$4,377.

The municipal increase was due mainly from the following:

- Bylaw enforcement
- Increased snow plowing and sanding
- Municipal Election

The deadline date for paying 2017 taxes is **FRIDAY June 30, 2017**. Payments received after June 30th will be assessed a 10% penalty.

How to Pay Your Taxes

1. **By mail** - send cheque to the Village Office. (must be postmarked by Canada Post) on or before June 30th)
2. **Pay Online** at Telpay. - go to www.telpay.ca click *Telpay Online* -- click *Get Started* click *Sign Up* The Summer Village of Waiparous is payee account 0074421. *New account set up takes a few days to process. Service fees apply.*
3. **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.
4. **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 *Village Bank Account details they require is listed on the bottom of your tax notice*

NOTE: When paying online and by telpay make sure your payments are made at least 4 days PRIOR to tax deadline date to allow for processing time. When paying by mail, make sure your envelope is postmarked on or before June 30th.

NOTE: If you have not received your Tax Notice in the mail by May 26th, please contact the Village Office.

Annual Meeting & Picnic – July 22nd

The Village Annual Meeting will be held on **Saturday, July 22, 2017** at the Picnic Area located between Poplar Place and Willow Drive. The meeting will **commence at 10:30 am** to discuss the civic business of the Village from the past year. Find out what is happening in your community.

If there are any specific items you would like Council to address at the Annual Meeting, please submit in writing, by June 30th to allow Council ample time to review prior to the meeting. The meeting agenda will be posted on the website in early July

The **Annual Picnic** will commence immediately following the annual meeting. Tickets for the picnic will be available for purchase on the day of the event. Thank you to Sharon MacDonald and team for organizing the Annual Picnic event. Starting in June, Sharon MacDonald will be signing up volunteers to help with the usual roles for the picnic. More information to follow on the picnic....

Road Committee

Council has appointed members to the recently reactivated Highway 40 Road Committee. Committee members are: Shirley Begg; Brian Fleming, Jodi Grisdale, Susan Cooper-Parker and council rep Matt Sundal. The committee will be working closely with Council on issues related to Alberta Transportation's proposed bridge replacement inside the Summer Village.

Village Office: Box 19554 RPO South Cranston, Calgary, AB T3M 0V4 Phone: (403) 554-5515 Fax: (403) 206-7209
email: admin@waiparous.ca Village Website www.waiparous.ca

Mayor Larry Anderson (403) 809-9192 Deputy Mayor Dan Kingston (403) 932-7164
Councillor Matt Sundal (403) 850-7850

RCMP, Ambulance: 911 Forest Fires: 310-FIRE (3473) toll free -or- Telus Mobility cell phone dial #3473

SUMMER VILLAGE OF WAIPAROUS NOTICE OF NOMINATION DAY

Local Authorities Election Act
(Sections 12,26)

Notice is hereby given that Nomination Day for the Summer Village of Waiparous, in the Province of Alberta is **Saturday, July 22, 2017** and that nominations for the election of candidates for the following office will be received between the hours of **10:00 am and noon** at the Village Picnic Site, Willow Drive, Waiparous Alberta.

<u>Position</u>	<u>Number of Vacancies</u>
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Councillor	3
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Dated at the City of Calgary, in the Province of Alberta this 8th day of May AD 2017

Sherri Bureyko Returning Officer

Nomination forms may be obtained from the Returning Officer by contacting the Village Office:

- phone (403) 554-5515
- fax (403) 206-7209
- email admin@waiparous.ca
- download from waiparous.ca

NOTE: Council term is FOUR (4) years.

Qualification for Candidates

In order to qualify for nomination as a Councillor, a person is not required to be a resident of Waiparous but must be entitled to vote* in the election and have been a resident of Alberta for 12 consecutive months immediately preceding election day.

*a person is entitled to vote if:

a) he (she) is eligible to vote under section 47 of the Local Authorities Election Act

Sec 47 states that:

- he (she) be at least 18 years of age,
- a Canadian Citizen and
- has resided in Alberta for 6 consecutive months immediately preceding election day and
- is a resident of the summer village on election day,

b) he (she) is 18, a Canadian citizen and is named on the certificate of title as the person who owns property within the summer village, or

c) he (she) is 18, a Canadian citizen and is the spouse or adult interdependent partner of a person referred to in clause (b).

The candidate must not be ineligible under provisions outlined in the Local Authorities Election Act.

(The above is being included as information only – for complete information on qualifications and ineligibility, please refer to the Local Authorities Elections Act R.S.A.)

Information on eligibility and duties of councillors can be found on the Municipal Affairs website. Election information is also available on the Village website.

Village Trail Development

During the last two years, Council has been working on plans for further enhancing the trail system in Waiparous. The goal of Council is to make the entire community interconnected and pedestrian friendly.

With the recent news from Alberta Transportation surrounding bridge replacement in Waiparous, Council has agreed to extend the timeline for completing the trail project. Work will continue with planning and design, but the Summer Village will not be undertaking trail development work this summer, as originally planned.

Internet Service in Waiparous

If you are concerned about the quality of high speed internet service in the Village, we would like to hear from you. Dan Kingston is heading up an ad-hoc committee to look into internet service and options for improvement in service. If you would like to participate on this ad-hoc committee, please contact Dan Kingston at (403) 932-7164 or dan.kingston@live.ca

Community wide Woodchipping - July 24

Last year's woodchipping project was again well received by residents. Council has agreed to offer the program once again this year. Residents are encouraged to clean up wood debris from their properties and have it ready for woodchipping. **The Village has hired a Commercial Operator to drive around the Village soon after July 23rd to chip your tree branches:**

- o that are up to 8.5 inches in diameter;
- o that can be lifted by hand, and
- o that are neatly stacked beside the road in the front of your property with butt ends of the branches all facing the road

This is a great opportunity to start (or expand) your own FireSmart Yard Plan and get rid of all that tree debris!!

If you would like to keep your wood chips, then securely tie a 2-3 foot length of florescent orange surveyor tape on one of the branches, clearly visible from the road, and the operators will then leave the woodchips in place for you.

Any piles that are not neatly stacked near the roads and/or branches that are too heavy for the operators to lift by hand will not be chipped and you will be responsible to haul it away.

Help Wanted Seasonal Labourer

The Village has an opening this summer for a seasonal labourer to cut grass and perform maintenance work on Village property. 4 days per week for 6 weeks. Anyone interested in this position is asked to submit a resume to the Village Office by **May 23rdth**. The competition is open to secondary and post secondary students returning to school in the fall.

Rate of pay: \$15.00 per hour.

Please note: this position is conditional upon the Summer Village obtaining committed supervisor coverage (see next article) If a sufficient number of volunteers are not signed up by May 23rd, this position will not be filled.

Supervisors for Seasonal Labourer

The Village requires a supervisor for each day the employee works pursuant to the STEP and Work Alone regulations. Council is hoping a volunteer (or several volunteers – minimum 1 week each) come forward to offer their time. We require volunteers to attend a group safety/orientation meeting held on or before the employee's first day of work and to be available on the days scheduled to supervise to meet each morning with the employee to go over job duties for the day, confirm the call in safety times for the day, initial the timesheet at end of day and be readily available in the Village throughout the day while the employee is working.

If you are interested in **volunteering** your time to help out this year, please contact the Village Office 403-554-5515 or admin@ghostlake.ca and let us know which week(s) in July and/or Aug you are available to volunteer.

The program cannot proceed without supervisors, so please contact the Village Office by May 23rd if you are able to assist.

Community Standards

Earlier this year Council asked residents to participate in an online questionnaire regarding Community Standards.

Council was very pleased to see that 39 residents took the time to respond to the questionnaire. Following are summarized results of the questionnaire:

What is the overall appearance of properties at the Summer Village:

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Public Lands:	45%	47%	8%	
Private Lands:	22%	64%	11%	3%

64% of respondents did not feel there is a need further regulate untidy and unsightly conditions on private properties. Of the 35% that did feel there is a need to regulate untidy and unsightly properties almost all of them specified “*loose garbage*” and “*objects that are wrecked, abandoned, damaged or dismantled*” as needing to be regulated.

40% of respondents felt there is a need to regulate nuisances, with dog issues ie. barking, running at large, and not picking up after their dog as the most frequently named issue.

When respondents were asked how to address community standards, 28% said as a bylaw, 31% as guidelines that are optional to conform and 18% felt there was no need to regulate community standards. 23% responded with comments

Many of the concerns noted by residents are currently located in the Land Use Bylaw. Council will leave those provisions in the Land Use Bylaw, however if violations continue, a community standards bylaw may be required, which can be readily enforced by a Bylaw Officer and imposes fines on violations.

Provisions in the Land Use Bylaw include the prohibited storage of unregistered derelict vehicles and a requirement for garbage to be kept in weatherproof and animal proof containers and screened from adjacent sites and roads. **Loose garbage is not only unsightly in a community but is a safety hazard.** Garbage attracts wildlife and with wildlife comes the potential danger of people and pet encounters with bears and cougars.

Dog issues are addressed in the current Dog Control Bylaw. It is hoped that **residents can continue to maintain a “neighbor talking to neighbor” process when dealing with dog issues.** Many times the dog owner doesn't even realize their dog is creating a nuisance. A conversation with your neighbor can help bring awareness and hopefully rectify the issue. (see article below for dog bylaw provisions)

Bylaw Enforcement Officer

The Summer Village is making arrangements to secure the services of a Bylaw Enforcement Officer.

Council is hopeful that residents will continue to talk to their neighbor about issues and that they can be resolved through communication. There are times, however, that a bylaw infraction or situation would only lend itself to a very negative or possibly dangerous confrontation. In those cases, a bylaw officer may be required. The officer will be engaged on an "as-needed" basis. The officer will be called upon by administration in the event bylaw violations cannot be rectified with a courtesy letter or when the situation warrants immediate action.

Please note: in order to respond to complaints, residents will need to submit complaints in writing, including their names so that the officer can fully investigate the nature of the complaint. *Complaint forms can be downloaded from the Village website.*

Note: Bylaw Enforcement has a cost not only to the violator but to the public through increased taxes. Just because a complaint is filed, doesn't mean it will be escalated to the bylaw officer. Complaints will be assessed on a case by case basis to determine if a warning letter should be sent or if the case should be forwarded to the Bylaw Officer for further investigation. At this time, Bylaw Officer intervention is for extreme cases only.

Building or Reno Plans?

When planning for any new construction or renovations in the Village, please check if any development or safety code permits are required.

Review the Land Use Bylaw located on our website www.waiparous.ca or contact the development officer at Planning Protocol 2 Inc. to see if a development permit is required. Call 403-230-5522 or email rod@planningprotocol2.com

With regards to Building, Gas, Electrical, Plumbing and Sewage permits, these are managed through an Alberta Municipal Affairs' accredited agency. For more information on safety codes permits, check out the following website:

<http://www.safetycodes.ab.ca/Public/Pages/CodesPermits.aspx>

Volunteers Needed....

Subdivision and Development Appeal Board - the Village has a three (3) person board comprised of Village residents that hear appeals on both Development Permits and Subdivision Applications. Currently there is one (1) vacancy on the Board. The Province is developing a training program for board members, which will be available in the near future.

Bylaw Enforcement Committee – the Village has one (1) position open for a resident of the Summer Village to serve on the Bylaw Enforcement Committee. This committee hears appeals from decisions of the Bylaw Enforcement Officer.

For more information on either of these appointed positions, please contact the Village Office.

Bylaw Bits.....

Dog Control Bylaw

- Dogs must be on a leash at all times when off the dog owner's property. Leashes shall not be greater than 2 metres in length
- Dogs shall not attack, threaten or create a reasonable apprehension of a threat to a person or domestic animal
- Dogs shall not chase motor vehicles, bicycles or a person walking or running
- Dogs shall not bark, howl or disturb the quiet of other persons.
- Dogs shall not defecate on public property unless it is immediately removed by the dog owner
- No person shall harbor and care for more than TWO dogs for a period in excess of five days in duration except puppies under the age of 9 weeks. (*this exception does not constitute permission to operate a dog kennel*)

Ghost Waiparous Trails

A couple of reminders...

- There is no recreational use of ATVs allowed in the Back 40 at any time. The only exception to the rule is persons that have difficulty walking distances and who that hold a valid Alberta Parking Placard for Persons with Disabilities. Those individuals may use an off highway vehicle on Eau Claire Trail via the trailhead. The placard must be clearly displayed when using the off highway vehicle in the Back 40.
- Dogs must be on a leash at all times in the Back 40.

Coexisting with Wildlife

Spring marks the end of hibernation for bears and increased activity of wildlife with their young. Take the time to check in on your activities to ensure you are not enticing bears and other predatory wildlife into your yard.

- Store your garbage in bear proof containers or buildings. It's not just the food in the garbage that acts as an attractant to bears. Anything a bear associates with food, a mate or a cub in distress is considered an attractant including human and pet food, empty drink containers, cosmetics, disposable diapers.
- Pick up berries and fruit that may have fallen on the ground last fall.
- Consider indoor composting (worms or electric composters)
- Take in your bird feeders for the summer.
- Store pet food indoors and bring pet food dishes in overnight.
- Never leave food out for wildlife
- Plant non-fruit bearing trees and shrubs when landscaping

Waiparous.ca

Don't forget to check the Village Website for bylaws, FireSmart info, current news, and updates.

Also check out the GIS interactive mapping on the website. A new Ortho photo was taken this year and will be uploaded mid summer.

Stop the Spread

How You Can Stop Spreading Whirling Disease in Alberta

Everyone, including anglers, boaters and recreational water users can help stop the spread of whirling disease.

This disease is not harmful to humans or other mammals but can have significant effects on some fish populations. It can be transmitted from infected locations to other water bodies:

- through equipment used for swimming, paddling, boating, water pumping, and fishing
- through infected fish and fish parts

The movement of fish, mud and water can potentially spread whirling disease.

Best Practices for Stopping the Spread

Please follow these best practices:

- Never move live or dead fish, or fish parts from one water body to another (this is illegal in Alberta).
- Use fish cleaning stations where available or put fish parts in the garbage. Never dispose of fish, or any fish parts, in your kitchen garbage.

- It is illegal to use live fish as bait. The use of worms or leeches as bait should be avoided as well.

Before moving a boat or any equipment (ie hip waders, life jackets, kayaks, etc.) between water bodies, be sure to:

Clean

- Clean and inspect watercraft, trailers, and all equipment that has been in contact with water. This includes boats, motors, boots, waders, bait buckets, and swimming floats.
- Remove all mud, sand, and plant materials before leaving the shore.
- Rinse, scrub, or pressure wash your boat and equipment away from storm drains, ditches or waterways. Use hot water if possible (90°C or hotter).

Drain

- Before leaving the shoreline, drain water from watercraft and equipment onto dry land.
- Remember to "Pull the Plug" because it is illegal to transport watercraft with the drain plug still in place.

Dry

- Dry the watercraft and/or equipment completely between trips and allow the wet areas to air dry. Allow for a minimum of 24 hours of drying time before entering new waters.
- Leave compartments open on boats and equipment, and sponge out standing water.

Get to know your neighbours

The faces in the village have changed quite a bit over the past few years and many residents do not know their neighbours.

There are great advantages in getting to know your neighbours:

- Ensuring a safer community by keeping an eye out for one another;
- Helping each other in times of emergency or extreme weather events,
- Letting each other know when damages have occurred to their property ie. broken windows, fallen trees.

Exchange phone numbers and email addresses with your neighbours and help look out for each other. This is especially helpful for part time residents who are not at their cabin regularly.

Check out the Land Tenure map mailed with your tax notice. Do you know your neighbours?