

The Resort Village of Big Shell  
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**Councillors:**  
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[www.rvbigshell.ca](http://www.rvbigshell.ca)

**The Place for Fun,  
Families and Friends**

April 2017



Spring is here and we are all ready for some fun lake times at Big Shell.

To all the villagers, welcome back and a big thank-you for your continuing help and cooperation making the Resort Village of Big Shell a great place to spend leisure time.

### **Volunteers**

The number of volunteers in and around our Village just keeps growing! This newsletter is dedicated to all those who pitched in over the fall and winter to make our Resort a place we can all be proud of – through financial contributions, working on the hall renovation, keeping the roads clear, repairing equipment, donations of building materials and gifts, by organizing events for Village residents and by providing their time and expertise to get projects done.

We want to thank everyone for your generosity and your commitment. We have many individuals to thank, but don't want to leave anyone out, so we hope that if you were involved, you accept this as a sincere thank you from your Mayor and Council.

We know that time is precious and appreciate that you choose to be involved on behalf of your Village neighbors.

### **Join us on Facebook**

We've setup a Facebook Page that we can use to update followers on events, reminders and village goings on. It gives us a way to reach a larger audience and we hope you'll go to the page and click on Like....find us at [Resort Village of Big Shell](#).

### **Rising Recycling and Garbage Costs**

The price of garbage and recycle pickup at the Resort Village increased by 12% as of January 2017. Last year we spent approximately \$3200.00 to empty garbage and recycle.

Garbage removal and recycling is a necessary cost that all of our taxes pay for. But there are things we can do to make sure we minimize those costs.

+Don't dump building materials, furniture, metal garbage, appliances or other items in the garbage bins. Only bagged household garbage should go in the blue garbage bins.

+Put cardboard boxes in the recycle bin, not the garbage bin, and before you do make sure they are flattened.

+Metals can be disposed of at B&N Metals on Quebec Ave in Saskatoon

+Trees, reeds and shrubs can be disposed of at the Resort Village dump near the entrance to the village.

### **Improvements to the Village Hall**

With funds from the Recreation fund, the Resort Village and a grant from the Provincial program, Community Spaces and Places, a small group of Volunteers is working to put an indoor bathroom, running water, and natural gas heating into the hall. This will make it a building that can be used during four seasons, and also make it much easier to use with an indoor bathroom.

At this time, any resident of the Resort Village is welcome to book the Hall at no cost. For more information contact Fran Wilkie at 306-427-4433.

Condolences to Jim Vandale and his family on the passing of his wife Bonnie. Bonnie made and donated afghans for the Resort Village fundraisers.

Condolences to the friends and family of Henry Doell, a former resident and councilor of the Resort Village.

### **Other News from the Village Council**

+ The Resort Village of Big Shell Annual General Meeting (AGM) is scheduled for May 20<sup>th</sup> at 10am at the Community Hall.

+ A Community Garden is being created for the Village. Garden spots are available and if you want to put your green thumb to work and take a space, call John Woytowich at 306-290-8538.

+ The majority of the Village bylaws are now posted on the Resort Village Website. The remaining will be posted shortly at

[www.rvbigshell.ca](http://www.rvbigshell.ca).

+Council extends a thanks to those residents that were providing used oil for road repairs. At this time Council no longer needs the used oil.

### **Annual Fish Derby**

The Big Shell Annual Catch and Release Fish Derby is planned for June 30<sup>th</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Last year, registration and raffle draws brought in \$1200.00 for the Recreation Fund and lots of fun was had by all.

Registration and weigh in at the Wilkies on Pelican Road. Donations of prizes are welcome.

### **Community Yard Sales**

Our annual community yard sale is again scheduled for the May Long Weekend. It will be held on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> from 9 am to 3 pm. Please notify Deb Hogg at 306-427-2160 or Fran Wilkie at 306-427-4433 if you are going to participate.

### **ATVs, Dirt Bikes and Sleds**

When operating ATVs, dirt bikes, and sleds, please do so with care and attention. In discussions with local land owners and farmers, we have heard their concerns regarding damage and economic impacts - fences being cut for access to fields, damage to crops and hay fields caused by indiscriminate operation of recreational vehicles, and farm gates being left open with the potential for animal release. Human safety is also a concern due to unknown conditions in the fields, including location of rocks, dips, and low visibility fences. PLEASE RESPECT PRIVATE PROPERTY. Stay on trails and don't ride your vehicles across crops or hay or through swamps and sloughs that provide nesting habitat for water fowl. Please respect no trespassing signs, and please operate your vehicles safely and with respect for the owners and for their property.

### **Potlucks**

Potluck dinners are held once a month, usually on the third Saturday of the month at the Village Hall. Happy hour starts at 5:30 and dinner at 6:30. We would love to see you there - everyone is welcome. Bring your own beverages, plates and cutlery and a dish to share. We hope you'll join us.

### **Feeding Deer in the Village**

We hope you've had the opportunity to observe the beautiful deer that come into the village, mostly in winter when it's tougher to find food, and sometimes in the summer as well.

Many of us enjoy feeding the deer and seeing them running through the bush to get their bit of feed. Over the winter, a beautiful buck died in the village. SERM picked him up and after an autopsy the cause of death was determined to be "grain overfeeding". Bucks and sometimes does are dominant in their herd and when they are feeding, they will eat all they want before moving on to let others eat. Unfortunately, with several feeding spots, it's easy to eat more than their stomach can digest, since grain isn't a natural food for them.

If you have been feeding the deer through the winter, and wish to continue to do that next winter, feed only small amounts, and scatter the feed rather than pile it. It means that more deer will get a little, rather than one dominant deer getting it all. There is lots of information available online regarding the type of food to feed deer and also on grain overfeeding of deer. The type of food is as important as the amount.

### **Newsletter**

If you have an item you would like included in the next Newsletter (published about three times a year), please contact Deb Hogg at [debatrvbs@gmail.com](mailto:debatrvbs@gmail.com) or call 306-427-2160. Work is underway to update the RV contact list. With rising postal costs, we encourage you to receive your Newsletter via email. Please contact Tara Bueckert at 306-427-2188 or [villagebigshell@gmail.com](mailto:villagebigshell@gmail.com) or go to the "Contacts" page on the web site, fill out the form with your request, name and email address, and we'll add you to the list.

**Don't forget to check the big yellow message board  
Or our Facebook Page at Resort Village of Big Shell  
Or The Village Website at [www.rvbigshell.ca](http://www.rvbigshell.ca)  
for upcoming events.**