

# SUMMER VILLAGE OF SILVER SANDS

## Winter Newsletter

December 2019

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### HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The administration office will be **CLOSED** December 23, 2019-January 1, 2020. The office will reopen on January 2, 2020.

### REMINDER TO RESIDENTS

Do not push snow from a residential property onto roadways or ditches in the Summer Village.

### E-MAIL ADDRESSES

The Summer Village is in the process of collecting emails from all residents. If you would like to periodically receive notices and updates from the Summer Village, please provide us with your email address by calling the Summer Village Office or by emailing us the information.

### MONTHLY TAX PAYMENT PLAN

The Tax Payment Plan begins in January. If you would like to join, please contact the Summer Village Office for details.

## Mayor's Message

The high-water level this past year did reduce the amount and severity of algae blooms. During the fall, the lake level receded to a safe level.

With winter upon us now, there have been a few residents ice fishing. Enjoy and take care by being good stewards when ice fishing and remember to remove all materials you bring with you on site.

Also, a reminder that a healthier lake requires lessening the phosphorous loading by not releasing grey water from any of our Summer Village lots.

Council continues to work on a new bylaw to address recreational vehicles. We will have public open houses and invite your input at a spring meeting after the May long weekend.

We have purchased a low-mileage one-ton white truck with a dump box and a snow blade. This will enable Dan, our Public Works Supervisor, to reduce the hours needed to remove snow in our Summer Village.

A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Council to all of our residents.

*Bernie Poulin, Mayor*



## ***Fire Services/Insurance***

Did you know that the cost of fire suppression by the fire department is payable by the property owner? In our area we have seen the cost of fire suppression for a structure fire as high as \$28,000 and for a wildland (grass fire) as high as \$12,000.



Be sure to check your home insurance policy or talk to your insurance agent about what exactly your policy covers and how much it covers. Besides inquiring about your home structure fire insurance, we encourage you to inquire about wildland insurance (for a grass fire that happens but never reaches a structure).

ALSO, be aware that should the fire department be dispatched by 9-1-1 to your residence for any reason (house alarms including false alarms, campfire, downed utility line, etc.) you, as the property owner, will receive an invoice. The only exception is for medical response calls (assisting Alberta Health Services) – there is no charge for these calls.

## ***Public Works Equipment Update***

The Summer Village recently purchased a dump truck with a blade and is considering the purchase of a sanding attachment as well. The purchase of this equipment will aid in the maintenance of our municipal infrastructure and provide enhanced and more efficient municipal service delivery to Summer Village residents.

## ***Vandalism of Summer Village-Owned Equipment***

The Summer Village recently purchased a speed indicator sign in the amount of \$4,500 that was erected on Twp 540. The sign was purchased in order to keep pedestrian traffic safe and to serve as a reminder to those who speed along that roadway. Approximately five days after the sign was erected, the post was cut down and the unit smashed on the ground and is currently inoperable. This is no joke, this is vandalism and it is a criminal offence – if anyone has any information regarding this incident, please contact the Evansburg RCMP at 780-727-4446 or you can contact Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). A reminder that speed can kill and vandalism affects and costs us all!

## ***Land Use Bylaw Amendment Update – Recreational Vehicles and Temporary Living Accommodations***

In June of 2019, the Summer Village introduced Bylaw 294-2019 which was a bylaw to amend the Land Use Bylaw as it affects the use of recreational vehicles and temporary living accommodations within the residential districts. Specifically, the effect of Bylaw 294-2019 would have been to restrict the use of Recreational Vehicles and Temporary Living Accommodations to parcels where a permanent Single Detached Dwelling exists. Where a parcel does not have a permanent Single Detached Dwelling, no Recreational Vehicle or Temporary Living Accommodation may be placed upon it. A public hearing was held in September of 2019 and what we heard at the public hearing was a resounding majority of those in attendance did not support this bylaw. The existing Land Use Bylaw, however, does not support what residents are currently utilizing vacant land for throughout the Summer Village, and an amendment to the Land Use Bylaw is still required. Council would like feedback from all residents with respect to Recreational Vehicles in the Summer Village. Enclosed you will find a survey – please complete and return to the Summer Village. Public open houses with respect to the use and storage of recreational vehicles will be scheduled after the May 2020 long weekend when most of our residents will be back in the Summer Village.

## ***Flowering Rush Update from Bernie Poulin, Chair of the ACP Grant***

Lac Ste. Anne County, Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation, LILSA and the Summer Villages of West Cove, South View and Silver Sands applied for and received a grant of \$198,500 under the Alberta Community Partnership program to collaborate on developing an action plan on flowering rush over the next three years. The group hired a consultant to work with a crew of 3 students for the summer as well as working with a crew from Alexis. All of Lake Isle, the Sturgeon River and the west basin of Lac Ste. Anne was mapped to locate flowering rush. No flowering rush was found in Lac Ste. Anne to date. Our crews removed 1.45 tonnes of flowering rush from Lake Isle and 12 truckloads of flowering rush was cut with the mechanical harvester. High water levels were a challenge this year, but our crews persevered. We will continue to monitor and remove flowering rush next year.



## Summer Village of Silver Sands

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December 18, 2019

## INTRODUCTION

Historically, the direction for development within the Summer Village of Silver Sands has been to provide for stick-built dwellings and modular homes. The use of Recreation Vehicles and Temporary Living Accommodations was limited to those lots which had been developed with a dwelling.

In 2015, with the adoption of Land Use Bylaw 256-2015, the use of a single Recreational Vehicle was added as a use upon a vacant lot.

In 2019, the Summer Village introduced Bylaw 294-2019 which was a bylaw to amend the Land Use Bylaw as it affects the use of recreational vehicles and temporary living accommodations within the residential districts. Specifically, the effect of Bylaw 294-2019 would have been to restrict the use of Recreational Vehicles and Temporary Living Accommodations to lots where a permanent Single Detached Dwelling exists; where a lot does not have a permanent Single Detached Dwelling, no Recreational Vehicle or Temporary Living Accommodation may be placed upon it. A public hearing was held in September of 2019 and what we heard at the public hearing was a resounding majority of those in attendance did not support this bylaw and it was defeated.

Council is now seeking public input in order to get a better understanding of the residents' desire on how the community should be developed in the future.

## SURVEY PURPOSE

The purpose of this survey is to gather feedback from the community with respect to future development within the community. The specific area of interest is the use of Recreational Vehicles.

The Summer Village of Silver Sands Land Use Bylaw 256-2015, Section 4.18 RECREATIONAL VEHICLES AND TEMPORARY LIVING ACCOMMODATIONS reads as follows:

- (1) A maximum of one (1) Recreation vehicle, holiday trailer, motor home, camper or tent trailer may be situated and occupied on a residential parcel provided that it:
  - (a) is located within a required parking stall or on the site in a manner satisfactory to the Development Officer, and
  - (b) is occupied for no longer than 90 days during a calendar year where on-site access to an approved sewage collection system is present; and
- (2) At no time are recreation vehicles to be used as a permanent place of residence.
- (3) Notwithstanding the foregoing, a recreation vehicle may be maintained on a site during periods of dwelling construction for a maximum of one (1) year, where approved by the Development Authority.
- (4) A maximum of one (1) unoccupied recreational vehicle may be kept on a developed parcel for storage purposes where the same is kept in a neat and tidy condition and in a location that respects the privacy and appearance of neighbouring properties.
- (5) At no time may a person store any derelict recreation vehicle on a property. Dereliction may be assessed by inoperability, immobility, excessive rust, decay or damage, fluid leaks, abandonment, lack of registration, or any or all of these.

## QUESTIONS

### **VACANT LOT (a lot not developed with a dwelling)**

*(please circle answer)*

- 1. Do you believe that Recreational Vehicles should be allowed as a temporary or permanent place of residence upon a vacant lot?:**
  - a) Yes temporary**
  - b) Yes permanent**
  - c) Yes, both temporary & permanent**
  - d) No**

**If yes, how many Recreational Vehicles should be allowed to be maintained and occupied upon a vacant lot?:**

**1 / 2 / 3 / Unlimited**

**If yes, how long should the Recreational Vehicle be allowed to be occupied upon a vacant lot?:**

**a) Year Round (12 months)**

**b) Half of the year (6 months - April through September)**

**c) Only during the summer months (3 months – June through August)**

**2. Do you believe that Recreational Vehicles should be allowed to be placed upon a vacant lot for the purpose of storage of the vehicle?:**

**Yes / No**

**If yes, how many Recreational Vehicles should be allowed to be placed upon a vacant lot for the purpose of storage of the vehicle?:**

**1 / 2 / 3 / Unlimited**

**If yes, how long should the Recreational Vehicle be allowed to be placed upon the lot for the purpose of storage of the vehicle?:**

**a) Year Round (12 months)**

**b) Half of the year (6 months - April through September)**

**c) Only during the summer months (3 months – June through August)**

**3. Do you believe that additional accessory buildings / uses (in addition to Recreational Vehicles) should be allowed on a temporary or permanent basis upon a vacant lot?:**

- a) Yes, on a temporary basis
- b) Yes, on a permanent basis
- c) Yes, both temporary & permanent
- d) No

**If yes, what types of accessory buildings / uses should be allowed (ie: Screen Room, Deck, Shed, Site Services such as water supply and septic disposal etc.):?** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**DEVELOPED LOT (a lot developed with a dwelling)**

*(please circle answer)*

**4. Do you believe that Recreational Vehicles should be allowed as a temporary or permanent place of residence upon a developed lot?:**

- a) Yes, temporary
- b) Yes, permanent
- c) Yes, both temporary & permanent
- d) No

**If yes, how many Recreational Vehicles should be allowed to be maintained and occupied upon a developed lot?:**

**1 / 2 / 3 / Unlimited**

**If yes, how long should the Recreational Vehicle be allowed to be occupied upon a developed lot?:**

- a) Year Round (12 months)
- b) Half of the year (6 months - April through September)
- c) Only during the summer months (3 months – June through August)

**5. Do you believe that Recreational Vehicles should be allowed to be placed upon a developed lot for the purpose of storage of the vehicle?:**

Yes / No

**If yes, how many Recreational Vehicles should be allowed to be placed upon a developed lot for the purpose of storage of the vehicle?:**

1 / 2 / 3 / Unlimited

**If yes, how long should the Recreational Vehicle be allowed to be placed upon a developed lot for the purpose of storage of the vehicle?:**

- a) Year Round (12 months)
- b) Half of the year (6 months - April through September)
- c) Only during the summer months (3 months – June through August)

**6. Do you believe that there should be different rules/regulations for the use and storage of Recreational Vehicles on a vacant lakefront lots as opposed to vacant back lots?:**

Yes / No

## GENERAL COMMENTS

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**Council would like to thank you for taking the time to fill out this survey. Please return by February 24, 2020 as follows:**

**By mail:**

**Box 8,  
Alberta Beach, AB  
T0E 0A0**

**By email:**

**[administration@wildwillowenterprises.com](mailto:administration@wildwillowenterprises.com)**

**By fax:**

**780-967-0431**

**By dropping off at the office (drop-off slot available after hours):**

**4808-51 Street  
Onoway, AB**

**By dropping off at the Summer Village Shop (drop-off box available):**

**1 Centennial Way  
Silver Sands, AB**

**This survey is also available as an on-line survey and can be completed and submitted electronically at:**

**[www.summervillageofsilversands.com/surveys.html](http://www.summervillageofsilversands.com/surveys.html)**

**If you require additional hard copies of this survey, please email the administration office at [administration@wildwillowenterprises.com](mailto:administration@wildwillowenterprises.com).**