

Summer Village of White Sands

May 2020 Newsletter

We hope that you are all keeping out of harm's way during these difficult times. Just a few items for you:

- The ice went off the lake on Sunday, May 3rd. Later that same day we saw a kayak go by our place, then a motor boat later in the week.
- We have entered into a dispute mechanism within the Buffalo Lake South Shore Inter-municipal Development Plan regarding the development formerly known as Paradise Shores. We have gone through the first three of five stages. The last two are mediation, then finally going to the Municipal Government Board if mediation fails. I cannot give details as the meetings are closed.
- I have been trying to get some government direction regarding beach openings, docks and lifts, etc. It has been very confusing as each department seems to have a different answer. However, they are all trying their best to look after all Albertans. As a small municipality, our concerns about our lake recreation definitely fall into the minority. I can tell you that the boat launch will be open and docks and lifts can go in. The Mooring and Docking Legislation has been put in place as of about two weeks ago. However, wording and actual rules are not completed yet. The beach is supposed to be open to no more than 15 people at a time but I have no idea how that could be managed. Also all beach outhouses are to be closed so you will have to use your own facilities. This may seem like a hassle but when Kathy and I bought our cabin in 1982, there were no outhouses, no hall, no shop and only 1 dumpster. We will get by. Public distancing is a must, no gatherings of more than 15 people and only family members who live together are to be on the same boat. This also applies to docks and beach activities. At this point all Village summer activities have been cancelled and the play grounds and Take it or Leave it shed remained closed. I will keep you posted if this changes.
- If you want the Village to pick up your brush pile, it must be no more than 3' in diameter and 6' long, trunks and branches in the same direction, not near signs, fences etc. and at an angle which the grapple hooks on the tractor bucket can grab it. If these requirements aren't met, you may have to deal with your own brush pile or rearrange it so it complies. If you have questions, please call Lorne.

I want to commend our White Sanders for the excellent job you have been doing to stop this virus. I realize that there is a small percentage who are complacent and a few who are still in denial. To them I would say imagine what things might have been like if the 80 or 90% of folks who have been compliant had instead chosen to ignore the rules set down by our government. To them I would also say "You are Welcome! I am happy to have made and will continue to make the sacrifices required to help keep you and your family safe."

All the very best to all of you from your Council.

If you have any questions or concerns, please phone Lorne at 403-742-0210 or email thurston.lorne@gmail.com.

The Ol' Gray Councillor Lorne Thurston
For the Summer Village of White Sands Council