

Summer Village of White Sands
October 2018 Newsletter

Greetings all from your Council. I hope you all had a great summer. It appears Fall was short lived with the arrival of snow the second week in September. Our farming friends are in our thoughts and we hope things will improve. Just a few points from Council:

- The lake level is down 15 cm or about 6 inches since spring. Although they are supposed to pump next spring if it is down another 6 cm or 2.5 inches, that will not happen because of the danger of introducing Prussian Carp from the Red Deer River and of course the cost for power to operate the pumps.
- Council is planning on constructing fire roads in some of our reserves to allow access for a first response unit and to run water hoses. The Stettler Fire Department is assisting us with the plan. A map is attached.
- If you put a dock or a lift in the lake, it is classified as private property on public lands and it is for the owner's use and not for public use. This according to a Government Public Lands employee.
- Mooring and docking is on the agenda for our October Summer Village conference. We hope it is finally going to be ready to go for legislation. Regardless, Council is going to register all docks and lifts that White Sands' ratepayers put in front of our Village. No one from outside the Village will be permitted to put a dock or lift in along our lake frontage. A small cost will be involved for signage and administration. Details will follow later.
- Thanks to all the folks who worked on and are still working hard on our Paradise Shores development issues and concerns. Council would not be able to do it without you.
- We are no longer issuing keys to beach access gates. We had incidents where people were harrowing grass that holds our sand, cutting trees on the beach, taking vehicles down to the beach, launching water craft etc. It is unfortunate that the actions of a few require a change in rules for all. If you need access, please contact our maintenance man or council. To avoid inconvenience to yourself and others, please **allow a few days notice**. Allan 403-742-6886, Lorne 403-742-0210, Bill 403-742-2095, Carl 403-742-1463.
- With consultations with the Fire Department, the Ambulance folks, and the RCMP, Council has implemented "No Parking" on one side of some streets and most cul-de-sacs to allow for emergency vehicle access. A map is attached.
- Because of the extremely dry conditions this summer, a fire started by hot ashes took out two sheds. Thanks to the quick action of local neighbours and then the arrival of the Fire Department two houses were saved from major damage. Many thanks to all who helped. The volunteer based Fire Department from Stettler was on the scene in 30 minutes, an excellent response time.
- Unbelievably the very next day, on the same street someone illegally set off fireworks near a lot covered with fir trees and on the beach in front of the hall. Sparks were flying everywhere any one of which could have started another fire or burned someone's boat cover. We are asking our ratepayers to help us stop this by reporting to your Council if you witness someone setting off fireworks including the time, date, location and any other details you are aware of. These offenders will be charged. This is a serious situation.
- The internet at the hot spot at the hall has become a problem with folks interrupting private functions such as weddings and anniversaries with their presence sometimes right in the middle of the celebration and with non-resident folks being reported using it. Council has decided to discontinue it next spring and is currently looking for an alternate location. Do we need the service? Please provide your feedback to Administrator Graham Scott at gscott@stettler.net or to Mayor Lorne at kathyandlorne@yahoo.ca.

- Recreational, boat and utility trailers, unregistered vehicles etc. are not permitted to be parked or used for camping on our roads or on Municipal Reserves. All have to be on private property. Thank you for your cooperation.
- Kudos go out to our ratepayers for treating our shoreline responsibility by not leaving boat lifts and docks etc., sitting on shore this summer. Our lakefront lease is up in a few years and Environment and Parks monitors the shore line. We would not want to put that lease in jeopardy.
- 2019 spring newsletter will be the last newsletter we will be mailing out. After that we will be using just email & website. Please contact Administrator Graham Scott at 403-742-8305 if you do not have an email address and he will make sure you still can get a mailed copy.

That's it for now. Have a safe winter, a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and we will see you in the spring.

Lorne Thurston, the Ol' Gray Mayor
For the Summer Village of White Sands Council

Hall Society News

Mission Statement:

Through the efforts of volunteers and in consultation with the Summer Village of White Sands Council, enhance the community and offer social activities to residents and land owners of White Sands.

Above is the Mission Statement adopted by the Hall Society membership at the July 7, 2018 annual general meeting. Volunteers make what we do happen. I would like to send out a special "thank you" to all the volunteers that come forward. We have people organizing social events, sorting and counting cans and bottles that are donated, and assisting with projects around the community.

Your can and bottle donations are where we raise funds to enhance the community and hold social events. A big "thank you" to you for your donations.

Our most recent and newest venture will be a "take it or leave it" shed. It is located next to the bottle and can shed. Starting next spring you can leave your useable items for recycle and take items others have left. More information will be sent out next spring after we have a working group formed.

Our next social event will be the Christmas supper and party on Saturday December 15, 2018. If you would like to organize a kids' Christmas party please contact Fraser at 403-741-9484.

If you haven't already, I encourage you to sign up on the Hall Society email list. This is our method of communication for news, meetings and events. You can do this by contacting Judy Peelar at djpeelar@gmail.com or 403-740-3199.

The meeting minutes and happenings of the Hall Society are on the White Sands web site. I encourage you to take a look.

Have a great fall and winter.

Fraser Denton

