



# Summer Village of Island Lake

May 2022 Newsletter

## Mayor's Message

Another Winter has come & gone, and Spring is officially here as the ice is off the lake! Let's all hope that it will be a great summer! Though any time at the lake is always great!

This year we will be performing a few public works projects and continuing maintenance of our existing roads. In addition, we invite everyone to review the new land use bylaw 08-2021 as well the updated traffic control bylaw 01-2022.

We had great success with our kid's summer programs over the last 3 years and will be continuing this program again this year, more information and scheduling will be made available shortly.

There are many activities planned for this year including Island Lake Days and I encourage everyone to get out-and-about and enjoy what the season has to offer.

Wishing you all the best over the summer!

*Mayor Chad Newton*

## Administration Office Contact

Your administration office is located at 4808 - 51 Street, within the Town of Onoway

### **MAILING ADDRESS:**

Box 8  
Alberta Beach, T0E 0A0  
**PHONE:** 780-967-0271

**FAX:** 780-967-0431

### **EMAIL:**

[svislandlake@wildwillowenterprises.com](mailto:svislandlake@wildwillowenterprises.com)

**WEBSITE:** [www.islandlake.ca](http://www.islandlake.ca)

**FACEBOOK:** [www.facebook.com/svislandlake](http://www.facebook.com/svislandlake)

**COUNCIL:** Mayor, Chad Newton

[Chad.newton@islandlake.ca](mailto:Chad.newton@islandlake.ca)

Deputy Mayor, Alan Fisher

[Alan.fisher@islandlake.ca](mailto:Alan.fisher@islandlake.ca)

Councillor, John Wasmuth

[John.wasmuth@islandlake.ca](mailto:John.wasmuth@islandlake.ca)

### **ADMINISTRATION:**

CAO, Wendy Wildman  
Admin Asst., Diane Wannamaker

## **\*NEW!! Welcome Rick!!**

### **Development Permits**

All development within the Summer Village requires permits. For any questions or concerns on Development, please contact the Development Officer, **Rick Stuckenberg** @ 780-542-0445 or by email at [svilpermits@outlook.com](mailto:svilpermits@outlook.com)

## **Correct Mailing Address**

Are you new to the Summer Village? It is important that the Summer Village Administration Office has your current mailing address. Without your current mailing address, your tax notice may not be properly delivered and that could lead to delays & penalties.

## **PAYING AT BANK**

Please ensure when you pay your taxes via electronic funds transfer that you choose **Island Lake** and **NOT** Island Lake South.

***If Island Lake South charges us a fee to forward your tax payment, we will in turn be forwarding this fee on to you as a property owner.***

***Please look closely at the names when making your payment at the bank.***



## IMPORTANT DATES!!!

**September 30<sup>th</sup>** – Taxes Due

**October 1<sup>st</sup>** – 6% Penalty Current Year Taxes

**Assessment Complaint Deadline** – July 24<sup>th</sup>

**November 1<sup>st</sup>** – 6% Penalty Current Yr. Taxes

**December 1<sup>st</sup>** – 6% Penalty Current Year Taxes

**January 1<sup>st</sup>** – 18% Penalty Total Outstanding Taxes!!

### Annual Information Meeting

The 2022 Summer Village AIM is tentatively scheduled for **sometime in August**. Details on time and exact location to follow via the website

### Free Yard Debris Disposal Program

From May 20<sup>th</sup> to May 30<sup>th</sup>, fees for disposing of yard debris including grass, leaves, branches & wood will be waived at all Athabasca Regional Transfer Stations during normal summer hours!!

Join your neighbors & take advantage of this opportunity to clean up your yard and make your Community FIRESMART!!

### Property Taxes – Due September 30, 2022

The Summer Village collects revenue annually to meet the projected costs of providing services to the community. These revenues are received through grants and through municipal property taxes. Other amounts collected on your annual tax bill are ***collected on behalf of the Greater North Seniors Foundation and the Alberta School Foundation Fund.***

The tax penalty structure for 2022 remains the same as 2021; 6% on the first day of October, 6% on the first day of November, 6% on the first day of December. Any taxes which are not paid on or before the 31<sup>st</sup> day of December of the current year is subject to a penalty of 18% on the first day of January. Council approved the 2022 Operating and Capital Budget with a 5% mill rate increase collected from the previous year. Every \$2,555 increase in expenses results in a one percent increase in taxes. The amount downloaded from the Province for policing costs this year amounts to \$10,068. This accounts for a 1.3% of the tax increase in 2022. The minimum municipal tax per property to be collected is set at \$705.

**Assessment:** Property Assessment services are contracted to Municipal Assessment Services Group.

**What is a Property Assessment?** Each year, the Assessor will inspect certain properties within the Municipality. The Assessment is the estimated market value of your property from the prior year, which is used to calculate your property taxes for the current year. The market determines the value of your property; and that value is the basis for the assessment. It is then used to calculate your property taxes. Assessors are bound by strict guidelines for assessment and will be ensuring everything possible is taken into consideration for the future.

**What if I Disagree with My Assessment?** You are encouraged to talk to an assessor if you have concerns about the assessment as it relates to your property value. Remember, you can only make a complaint against your **assessed** value, not your tax dollars or rates, and you **MUST** have grounds for your complaint. Please also keep in mind that the assessor does not set the rates in the municipality, and therefore, cannot answer questions about property taxation, nor can they answer questions about the amount of services you receive. New legislation allows you 60 days from the date of your assessment notice to make an assessment complaint. **The assessment complaint deadline is July 25<sup>th</sup>.** There is a fee of \$50.00 that must accompany a completed assessment complaint form, which is available on the website or by contacting the office at (780)967-0271. Prior to completing the assessment complaint form, please contact the Assessor to first discuss the matter of your assessment (not your tax dollars), Ray Crews (780)939-3310.



## **Dock Permits – Check Island Lake Website for Further Details**

Provincial Requirements – there are requirements in place for placing a seasonal dock/boat lift in the lake. The regulations changed in April, 2021 and the new “Disturbance Standard for Temporary Seasonal Docks & Other Mooring Structures for Personal Recreational Purposes” was created to set the maximum acceptable footprint for temporary seasonal docks, temporary seasonal boat lifts and associated mooring structures for personal recreational purposes on the beds and shores of Alberta’s recreational lakes and rivers that are public land owned by the Crown. The disturbance standard creates a general permission for most waterfront, semi-waterfront and municipal dock owners and eliminates the need for residents to apply for an authorization to the Province **IF** they abide by the standards. **PLEASE NOTE** that notification for approval still must be made to the Municipality if the seasonal dock/boat lift is off of municipal property. Please refer to the following website for further information:

<https://open.alberta.ca/publications/user-guide-for-dock-permits>

### **Summer Village of Island Lake**

#### **Public Works - Spring Update**

It has been a long winter and I am sure that everyone is glad to see the snow be replaced by green grass! The following information outlines the work completed during the winter and the proposed upcoming projects for the summer.

##### **Winter Work Completed:**

Large amounts of freezing rain made road maintenance in November a challenge. This was followed up with periods of heavy snow through the months of January, February and March. Our grading and sanding contractors did their best to keep the roads clear and safe for travel.

##### **Spring Work Completed:**

The heavy snow loads resulted in significant runoff in some areas of the village. Clearing and piling snow in critical areas allowed for culverts to be steamed preventing any significant erosion or sedimentation issues. Steaming and pumping at the bridge was also required to help manage water levels in the creek.

##### **Planned Summer Work:**

We are hoping to complete a number of projects within the village this summer:

1. Implementing some of the recommendations made in the WSP Engineering Speed Study and Safety Review. The Summer Village is planning on painting dividing lines on key portions of Spruce Drive, installing digital speed signs and constructing pullouts for parking in high traffic areas.
2. Road improvements at Tranquil Drive service road and Elk Avenue Cul de Sac. We will be completing drainage assessments and improvements on the portions of Tranquil Drive (along residences). We are hopeful that this portion of the road can also be paved. We are also hoping to complete drainage and paving of the cul de sac on Elk Avenue. Final quotes cannot be provided in advance due to the current volatility in oil process.
3. Installation of “No Wake” buoys. These Buoys are planned to be placed in four locations to help encourage boaters to slow down. Slowing down through these areas not only increases safety but also lowers the disturbance to the lake bottom in shallow areas.
4. We are also planning to complete some small gravel and drainage improvement projects throughout the village.

Please feel free to call me with any questions or concerns.

Deputy Mayor, Alan Fisher

780-689-1210

### Message from Councillor Wasmuth

Hope you all had a happy and healthy Winter. After a long cold Winter, we are all looking forward to a warm summer of relaxation and recreation activities at the lake.

There are some recent Bylaws posted on the [www.islandlake.ca](http://www.islandlake.ca) website that will likely impact your use of roads and property within the Summer Village of Island Lake:

#### Bylaw 08-2021 – Land Use Bylaw

This Bylaw came into effect August 17, 2021. If you are planning any type of development or change in use of your property, I urge you to review this Bylaw to determine any steps required prior to proceeding with your development. One major requirement is that the placement or parking of any type of Recreation Vehicle on private property requires application for a Development Permit that, among other things, identifies the pad site and RV placement.

#### Bylaw 01-2022 – Control of Vehicle, Animal and Pedestrian Traffic

This Bylaw came into effect March 15, 2022. I urge all residents to review this Bylaw as it states what the roads and roadway rights of way within the Summer Village can and cannot be used for. ***For example, parking of any Recreation Vehicles or any type of Trailer, or any portion thereof, within the road right of way is prohibited under Subsection 4.14 of this Bylaw.*** Subsection 4.1 allows the parking of passenger vehicles (cars, SUVs, vans and light duty trucks) along a roadway in the Summer Village provided at least two wheels (passenger side) are not on the travel lane of the roadway. The intent is to prevent the blocking of the travel lanes to normal traffic as well as emergency vehicles.

Awareness of the provisions in the Summer Village Island Lake Bylaws and passing these on to any invitees or visitors to your Summer Village will help all residents enjoy the Village and all it has to offer.

Thanks,

Councillor John Wasmuth

### Do you have a pet?

Please ensure your pet is on a leash at all times & take responsibility for your pet's waste and pick it up.



### Canada Day Celebration!!

Check our website and our Facebook page for further information on this year's Canada Day Celebration.

Thank you to the Department of Canadian Heritage for helping to fund the event.

Funded by the Government of Canada

Canada

### Annual Island Lake Days

*(Updates will be posted to facebook and the website)*

Just a reminder for residents and their guests that maximum speed in the Summer Village of Island Lake in ideal conditions is **30km/h and 20km/h in alleys**. Non ideal conditions would include but not be limited to visibility, road conditions, weather, blind corners, pedestrians, trailer towing and many other conditions.

Please follow speed limits and use respect when operating **ALL** vehicles within the Village.

**You can never control the consequences if you speed.**





## **Fires can happen!** **ARE YOU COVERED??**



### **Will your insurance cover these costs?** **What does your policy say?**

**DID YOU KNOW** that *in certain circumstances*, the cost of fire suppression by the fire department is payable by the property owner?? In Island Lake, the fire department is funded jointly by the six Summer Villages around Baptiste and Island Lake. Annually, each municipality is invoiced for their share of fire protection based on the previous years' expenditures. The cost of fire suppression charges are forwarded to the residents' insurance company for cost recovery. With regard to wildland fires, if a fire originates on an individuals' property in the Summer Village, and spreads to adjacent property outside of the Summer Village, there is a strong likelihood that cost recovery will be pursued either by Ag and Forestry or Athabasca County. 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. In addition to inquiring about your home structure fire insurance, it is recommended that you inquire about wildland insurance.



## **Forest & Resource Improvement** **Association of Alberta (FRIAA)**

### **Advice from FireSmart Canada – WAYS TO REDUCE YOUR RISK:**

- Download the FireSmart Begins at Home app & undertake a structure ignition-zone assessment
- Raking and removing pine needles & dry leaves within a minimum of 1.5 meters of a home's foundation. As time permits, continue up to a 10 meter distance around the home. Dispose of collected debris in appropriate trash receptacles
- Cleaning pine needles from roofs and gutters
- Getting out your measuring tape and seeing how close wood piles are located to the home. If closed than 10 meters, relocating and moving the pile at least 10 meters from structures
- Mowing grass to a height of 10 centimeters or less
- Removing items stored under decks and porches and relocating them to a storage shed, garage, or basement. Gasoline cans and portable propane tanks should never be stored indoors and should be located away from the home.

**For additional information, visit**  
**[www.firesmartcanada.ca](http://www.firesmartcanada.ca)**

## **Use of Municipal Reserve Areas & Enforcement**

The municipal reserve areas throughout the Summer Village are intended to provide active or passive park and recreation areas and are intended to provide walking trails and enjoyment of the natural plant and wildlife for residents and their guests.

The reserve areas are **not** to be "annexed" into properties adjacent to them, to be cleared unless Council determines that areas need to be cleared of dangerous undergrowth or decay, to be used for the purpose of placing buildings or structures or extra storage of material or disposal of refuse without written authorization from Council, to be used for the storage of boat lifts or boat docks and are not for camping or recreational fires of any kind.

**Please move or remove any items you may have on the Summer Village municipal reserve areas to your own property. Everyone's cooperation in this matter is essential to the preservation of these precious lands.**

# NO WAKE ZONES!!!!

The Summer Village of Island Lake boasts a beautiful lake for residents and visitors to enjoy. Treating it with care means it will be there for future generations to enjoy. There are many things you can do to reduce your recreational impacts to the lake.

**Did you know that when you disturb the bottom of a lake with wake from your boat, it can lead to growth of blue-green algae?**

There are shallow areas in the lake that are less than 10 feet in depth. When in shallow water, the wake from your boat's propeller can disturb the sediment at the bottom of the lake. This sediment contains nutrients (phosphorous) that helps promote the growth of blue-green algae bacteria plumes. The presence of this algae reduces the potential for enjoyment and overall health of the lake. Stirring up the bottom also affects fish spawning areas, and their food chain.

Transport Canada regulations include provisions for operators to reduce their speed to under 10km/h within **30 meters** of the shoreline. Accelerating gradually when launching your boat to prevent a large wake from forming, is another way to BE WAKE SMART.

When recreational boating (tubing, wake boarding, skiing), please take these activities into deeper waters (20 feet deep or more) where the chances of stirring up the bottom is less likely.

Large wakes near shorelines can be destructive and dangerous. They increase shoreline erosion, disturb wildlife and fish, and cause destruction to aquatic plants.

They have also been known to damage piers, rafts, and moored watercraft. They can be very hazardous to inexperienced swimmers using flotation devices. **Be courteous to others and consider what effect your wake is having.**

The Summer Village of Island Lake is on a beautiful lake for all to enjoy. Keeping the ecosystems that support them healthy is a role we can all play. Treating it with care each time you visit means that it will be there for future generations to enjoy.



## **PLEASE REMEMBER!!!**

**When parking your vehicles and storing your belonging, keep everything entirely on your private property and not on the municipal reserves, right-of-ways or the Village roads. Please refer to Bylaw 01-2022, Section 4.1.**