



# Summer Village of Island Lake

May 2024 Newsletter

## Mayor's Message

Another winter has come and gone and the summer is now upon us!

We all can look forward to another summer at Island Lake and enjoying time with friends and family.

We have a few projects on the schedule for this year, including paving of Tranquille Drive and we also hope to receive final approvals to complete improvements on the boat launches.

We had great success with our kids summer programs over the last 4 years and will be continuing this program again this year, more information and scheduling will be made available shortly.

From myself, Deputy Mayor Fisher and Councilor Wasmuth, we thank you for the privilege of serving on Council, and all the best over the summer!!

*Mayor Chad Newton*

## **Administration Office Contact**

Your administration office is located at:  
4924 51Ave., Bruderheim, AB.

### **MAILING ADDRESS:**

Box 568

Bruderheim, AB. T0B 0S0

**PHONE:** 780-237-2204

**FAX:** 780-575-0057

**EMAIL:** [info@islandlake.ca](mailto:info@islandlake.ca)

**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)

Councilor, John Wasmuth

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

### **ADMINISTRATION:**

CAO, Phyllis Forsyth CLGM

Admin Asst., Les Forsyth

Development Officer, Matthew Ferris

Email: [PDsummervillage@outlook.com](mailto:PDsummervillage@outlook.com)

## **Property Taxes – Due September 30, 2024**

"This is certification under Sections 310(4) & 336(1) of the Municipal Government Act that 2024 Combined Assessment and Tax Notices were mailed to all property owners in the Summer Village of Island Lake on May 30, 2024."

P.Forsyth, CLGM

### **Annual Information Meeting**

Details of the August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 Summer Village AIM will be posted on the website as plans firm up.

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

### **Annual Island Lake Days**

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

## **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!!!**

**August 6<sup>th</sup> – Assessment Complaint Deadline**

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

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

**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!!**

### **Development Permits**

All development within the Summer Village requires permits. For any questions or concerns on Development, please contact the Development Officer, **Matthew Ferris** by email at [PDsummervillage@outlook.com](mailto:PDsummervillage@outlook.com)

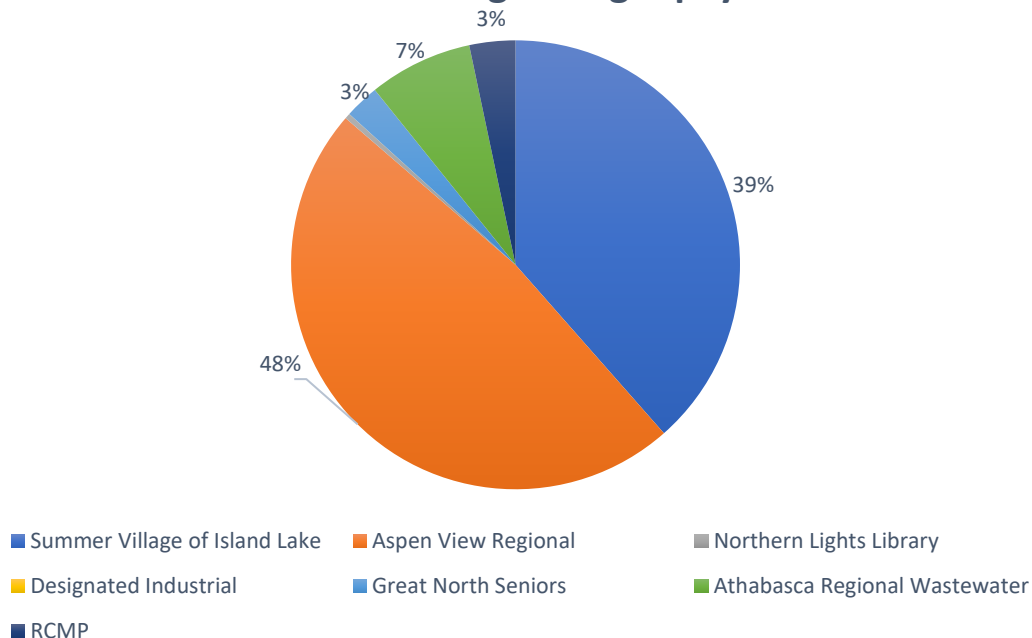
### **Property Taxes – Due September 30, 2024**

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 minimum municipal tax per property to be collected is set at \$740.00.

The 2024 Tax rate has dropped to 2.070652; this means any increase to a tax bill comes from the increase in value to that property.

### **What the Summer Village Budget pays for in 2024**



**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 August 6, 2024.** 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)237-2204. Prior to completing the assessment complaint form, please contact the Assessor to first discuss the matter of your assessment (not your tax dollars), Justin Goudreau (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>

### **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 and penalties.

## Message from Councillor Wasmuth

Although this Spring has been cool with slower vegetative growth, we are all looking forward to the warmer days of summer. Spring also started out very dry, however some generous rains have enabled Council to lift Fire Bans/Fire Restrictions so we can enjoy open flame fires, but please use caution and respect neighbors and other Village residents.

In September 2023, we brought on our new Chief Administrative Officer, Phyllis Forsyth, and a new Administrative Assistant, Les Forsyth. Les provides personal administrative service by travelling to SVIL once a week during the Summer and approximately every two weeks during the balance of the year. Our Development Officer is Mathew Ferris. Please contact them regarding any administration or development requirements.

In the fall of 2023 Associated Engineering carried out an Island Lake Regional Water Extension Feasibility Study funded mainly by Provincial grant moneys to study the feasibility of providing potable water to truck fill sites at Island Lake and Baptiste Lake as well as several developments within Athabasca County. The project is supported by Athabasca County, Aspen Regional Water Commission and several summer villages around Baptiste Lake and Island Lake. In November a grant funding submission was made to the Provincial Water for Life program.

During the past year Council passed the following bylaws:

01-2023	Tax Installment Plan
03-2023	Fees & Charges Bylaw
04-2023	Reserves and Parks Bylaw
05-2023	Animal Control Bylaw
01-2024	Enforcement Officer Bylaw
02-2024	2024 Taxation Bylaw

Please consult our website at [www.islandlake.ca](http://www.islandlake.ca) to review these and previous bylaws. The Council and Administration continue to be in contact with the Athabasca RCMP regarding crime prevention and control within our Summer Village.

MCS Net completed installation of fiber optics cable to a tower (pole) by the ball diamond and now provides wi-fi service via gig-air within our community. Carol and I have subscribed to the service and find the speeds much faster and more reliable. Great for streaming NHL playoffs!

At our May 21<sup>st</sup> Council Meeting, we passed the 2024 Taxation Bylaw which slightly reduces the Mill Rate, from 2023, for 2024 Property Taxes. Thus, provided your Tax Assessment did not increase from 2023 your taxes would actually be slightly lower for the 2024 Taxation Year.

I look forward to seeing you all at the lake this year and wish you all an enjoyable summer.

John Wasmuth - SVIL Councilor

## 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

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.**



## **Summer Village of Island Lake**

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

The recent rain has helped lower the fire hazard and has helped turn everything green! The following outlines a few of the public works' projects that have been completed, as well as a few notes on projects that are scheduled for the upcoming summer:

#### **Projects:**

- Last summer we completed the paving of Tranquille Drive and added additional gravel at some of the soft spots in the alleys.
- We have received the approval for the boat launch repairs from the Federal Government and are now waiting for the provincial government to complete the review. We are hopeful that we will have the approval by the time the Restricted Activity Period ends (July 15) so that we can complete the work.

#### **Maintenance:**

- Mowing of the ditches and reserves was completed throughout the summer last year and is scheduled to be completed again this year.
- Frost is continuing to create soft spots on the roads at some locations. Repairs to cold-mix will be scheduled where necessary
- A significant reduction in snowfall greatly reduced the amount of winter maintenance that was required.
- The bridge on Lakeshore Drive has had the deck (three layers) replaced.
- We had our second annual spring cleanup for the Village in early May. This helped get the parks, ball diamond, boat launches and reserves in good shape for the start of the summer season. The speed bumps and docks have also been installed. Many thanks to those who were able to come and help!! We will be completing some additional cleanup and maintenance around the public areas later this spring.

I hope you have a great summer and get plenty of time to enjoy the lake!!

*Al Fisher*

*Deputy Mayor / Public Works*

## **PLEASE REMEMBER!!!**

**When parking your vehicles and storing your belonging, keep everything entirely on your private property and not on the municipal reserves, rights-of-way or the Village roads. Please refer to **Bylaw 04-2023, Section 4 (h)**.**

## **Feral Cats in the Summer Village**

The Summer Village of Island Lake is seeing an increase in the number of feral cats in recent years. There are a number of preventative measures that can be taken to alleviate the impacts these animals have on your pets and personal property:

- **Remove food sources** – Feral cats will stay in any area where food is accessible. Avoid feeding your pets outside and cover trash securely to deny access to an easy meal.
- **Remove shelter** – Board up accesses to sheds, garages, under decks, etc. to avoid providing shelter.
- **Use commercial or natural repellants** – Cats have very keen senses of smell and taste. Commercial products use unpleasant odors or tastes as deterrents. Natural repellants to sprinkle on flowerbeds or gardens include moth balls, ground mustard, cayenne pepper, citrus peels, and coffee grounds. Remember to reapply repellants after heavy rains.
- **Work with neighbors** – A feral cat's territory usually extends well beyond a single yard. Talk to neighbors about the problems with feral cats and encourage them to take similar steps to discourage unwelcome visitors. Neighbors that work together generally have fewer problems with feral cats.

**Important** – Lack of immunization, parasite control, adequate nutrition and hygiene put feral cats at risk of many life-threatening problems, which, in turn, make them a prime source of transmission of parasites and contagious diseases to your pets and local wildlife.

## **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 closer than 10 meters, relocate 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 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.**



# WAKE ZONE, MOTOR NOISE & OTHER WATER ISSUES

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 or sea-doo, it can lead to growth of blue-green algae?**

Transport Canada regulations include provisions for operators to reduce their speed to under 10km/h within **30 meters** of the shoreline. When slowing down for no-wake zones, throttle back to idle for about 10 seconds. Wait for the bow to drop and your boat or watercraft to level out before proceeding at the regulated speed. Keep an eye on your wake until clear of the no-wake zone.

**Transport Canada's proposed Wakesurfing Vessel Operating Restrictions Regulations *provide Municipalities with a process for restricting boating activities in certain or all parts of a body of water.*** We all love watersports and boating, but some activities like wakesurfing need to be restricted in certain areas. Amended regulations will enable Municipalities across Canada to protect specific areas from the impacts of excessive wakes without restricting other tow sports. More on this to come!!

**Regulations on excessive boat motor noise are coming: Transport Canada has made it clear that they are actively engaged in creating decibel regulations for both watercraft manufactures and operators. Regulations are expected to come into force by 2025. In the meantime, the Decibel Coalition is meeting with law enforcement agencies across Canada and the U.S. to learn and share best practices for enforcement of new decibel regulations. Stay tuned!!**

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.

**Be courteous to others and consider what effect your wake, watercraft noise levels, wakeboarding etc. is having.**

<http://www.boatinglicensealberta.com/everything-you-need-to-know/>

<https://canadianvesselregistry.ca/know-more-about-alberta-boating-regulations/>

# Athabasca Transfer Site

## 40yd DUMP TRAILER BINS 1 and 2

### Dump'n Go

- Customers may use at their own risk.
- All Loads Must be weighed and charged by the Metric Tonne.

**Mixed Construction and Renovation Waste**     **\$140.00/t**

*(can be accepted at Boyle Landfill \$80.00/t – Regional \$100/t)*

**Asphalt Shingles**     **\$ 90.00/t**

*(can be accepted at Boyle or Regional Landfill \$45.00/t)*

**Mixed Unsorted Loads**     **\$180.00/t**

*(household waste accepted at Regional Landfill \$80.00/t – first 500kgs free for residents)*

*(construction waste accepted at Boyle Landfill \$80.00/t or by load assessment)*

- **NO Rock, Concrete, Asphalt, Trees/Stumps, Dirt, Treated Wood**



**\*\*Inform Users to Dump into the voids of the bin.**

**\*\*\*If Bin Full have them ask to have another bin opened.**