



Summer Village of Island Lake

May 2025 Newsletter

Mayor's Message

As winter fades and the ice melts away, spring gives way to the warmth of summer!

We are all eagerly anticipating another wonderful season at Island Lake, filled with quality time with friends and family. As we dive into the summer months, let's remember to prioritize safety, be considerate of our neighbors, and take pride in maintaining the beautiful facilities we enjoy. Together, we can continue to make this community a welcoming place for all!

Our summer programs have been a tremendous success over the past 6 years, and we're thrilled to keep that momentum going this year. More details and scheduling information will be shared soon.

On behalf of myself, Deputy Mayor Wasmuth and Councilor Fisher, thank you for the opportunity to serve on Council.

Here's to a fantastic summer ahead!
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

EMAIL: info@islandlake.ca

WEBSITE: www.islandlake.ca

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/svislandlake

COUNCIL: Mayor, Chad Newton

Chad.newton@islandlake.ca

Deputy Mayor, John Wasmuth

John.wasmuth@islandlake.ca

Councilor, Alan Fisher

Alan.fisher@islandlake.ca

ADMINISTRATION:

CAO, Phyllis Forsyth CLGM
Admin Asst., Les Forsyth

Development Officer, Paul Hanlan
Email: info@islandlake.ca

Property Taxes – Due September 30, 2025

"This is certification under Sections 310(4) & 336(1) of the Municipal Government Act that 2025 Combined Assessment and Tax Notices were mailed to all property owners in the Summer Village of Island Lake on May 29, 2025."

P.Forsyth, CLGM

Annual Information Meeting

Details of the July 26, 2025 Summer Village AIM will be posted on the website as plans firm up.
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 you have paid via telephone or internet banking, please let us know, often we do not know what the payment is for or who it is from, we do receive notification for all e-transfers.

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.

IMPORTANT DATES!!!

August 6th – Assessment Complaint Deadline

September 30th – Taxes Due

October 1st – 6% Penalty Current Year Taxes

November 1st – 6% Penalty Current Yr. Taxes

December 1st – 6% Penalty Current Year Taxes

January 1st – 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, **Paul Hanlan** by email at info@islandlake.ca

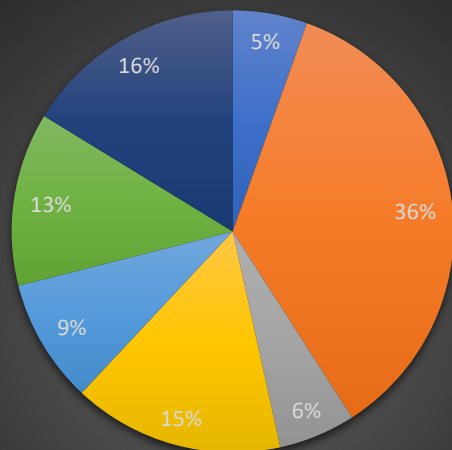
Property Taxes – Due September 30, 2025

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.

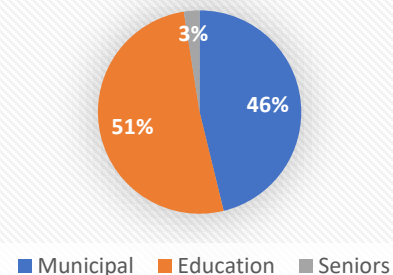
The 2025 Tax rate has dropped this means any increase to a tax bill comes from the increase in value to that property, or provincial education tax.

2025 Operating Budget



■ Council ■ Administration
■ Planning ■ Public Works
■ Protective Service ■ Solid Waste

Tax Billing



Have you considered paying your taxes on a monthly basis.

Please contact Les at info@islandlake.ca to join the TIPPS program.

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 5, 2025.** 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 Deputy Mayor Wasmuth

Your Council and Administration made strides on various initiatives and changes over the past year and there are a couple of large initiatives to be decided later this year.

In addition to the Public Works developments reported on by Councilor Fisher, the following initiatives were instituted in 2024:

- Continued full year monitoring by Rural Bylaw Enforcement (Noted reduced break-ins during the winter and currently dealing with some dogs running at large).
- The 2024 Annual Information Meeting (AIM) was held on August 3rd, 2024 at the Athabasca Regional Multiplex. Administration is currently seeking a date that the South Village Hall is available for the 2025 AIM.
- Worked with Alberta Transportation to gain approval and passed Golf Cart Bylaw 05-2024 to allow the legal use of golf carts on designated roads within SVIL.
- A total of 13 Development Permits were issued in 2024 with the majority of these for garage/shed upgrades or replacements. A few new homes/cottages are under construction.
- Our existing Development Officer (DO) took a full time position with the M.D. of Greenview. SVIL Administration contracted Paul Hanlon to assume the services of DO for the Summer Village of Island Lake.
- There will be significant improvements to the Ball Diamond this year due to the efforts of the Island Lake Historical & Recreation Society with grant funding provided by the Alberta Government and the Summer Village.

There are two major initiatives coming before your Council in 2025 for final decisions.

1. The proposed Aspen Regional Waterline West Lakes Extension. This is a proposed waterline from Athabasca (Aspen Regional Water Commission) to two proposed truck fills along Highway 2, one east of Baptiste Lake and one South of Island Lake. The probable cost estimate is \$16.6 Million, of which the Province has committed to cover 90% of the cost with Athabasca County and 6 Summer Villages (SV) to cover the balance. With SVIL being the largest SV, our share is estimated to be about \$416,000.
2. The potential annexation of Shank Estates. Shank Estates abuts the SVIL on the south and is bounded by the SVIL on the north and northeast, Spruce Drive on the southeast and Highway Avenue (Hwy 2) on the southwest. The SVIL has commissioned Nichols Applied Management Inc. to complete a Fiscal Impact Assessment (FIA) to enable decision making regarding this potential annexation. This assessment report is expected to be delivered by June 30, 2025 and will subsequently be posted on the SVIL website. This FIA is being carried out to assess the economic feasibility assuming the SVIL were to proceed with annexation of Shank Estates.

As these two outstanding initiatives will shape the future of the SVIL, I urge all residents/owners to become informed regarding their merits and express their views, both positive and negative, in written communication to Council and/or Administration. Email addresses are on the SVIL website.

I wish all residents of the Summer Village a safe and enjoyable summer at the Lake and a rewarding 2025.

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.

Complaints and violations regarding Summer Village Bylaws can be made by filling out and submitting the Complaint Form on our website. Your complaint will be actioned by Council, Administration or forwarded to Enforcement personnel, as required.

Summer Village of Island Lake

Public Works - Spring Update 2025

Spring must be here as the ice is gone, there are a few boats on the water and the beavers are starting to plug up the culverts! The Village infrastructure survived the winter in relatively good shape. The late snow and cold spell resulted in the requirement for additional road and culvert maintenance, however, our dedicated contractors were able to provide very efficient service to minimize the impact.

The following details some of the projects completed last year and outlines our plans for the summer:

Projects:

- Last summer the bridge between Lakeshore Drive S and Lakeshore Drive N was re-decked. We had hoped that just the upper deck would require replacement however all 3 layers showed significant signs of decay so they were all replaced.
- Final approval was received from the Federal and Provincial governments allowing us to proceed with the maintenance of both boat launches. Sediment control devices were installed so that gravel aprons could be installed around the edges of the pads.
- Dead and dying trees were removed from the Reserve across from the blue park on Lakeshore Drive S.
- The stairs leading to the public beach on Lakeshore Drive were replaced.

2025 Projects

- This summer we are planning on completing repairs on the soft/rough section on Lakeshore Drive N just past the bridge. We are hoping to have this completed in the early summer after the frost is out.
- We are also planning on completing repairs and re-application of cold mix at the approaches onto the bridge.
- We have also prioritized areas for crack-sealing – we are hoping to have this completed by mid-summer.

Maintenance:

- Mowing of the ditches and reserves was completed throughout the summer last year and is scheduled to be completed again this year
- As suggested at the annual meeting last year, we organized a spring clean-up for the village. This helped get the parks, ball diamond, boat launches and reserves in good shape for the start of the summer season.
- We are planning to install speed bumps again this summer. They are scheduled to be installed on Lakeshore Drive S (2), Lakeshore Drive N (1), Beaver Ave (1) and Spruce Drive (1) in similar locations to last year.

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

Al Fisher

PLEASE REMEMBER!!!

When parking your vehicles and storing your belongings, 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).**

BALL DIAMOND UPGRADES

The Island Lake Historical and Improvement Society are pleased to report on the current progress on the ball diamond upgrades. Phase one of the project involved building of new bleachers. TGB Welding from Morinville was hired to build the new bleachers, and spectators will find them significantly more accessible. The bleachers were completed in early March and will be delivered by Remote Wirelines, thanks to Lawrence L'Hirondelle, before ball season.

The second phase of the project will be a complete rebuild of our current dugouts, making them significantly larger, more accessible, and covered to make the experience for players much more enjoyable. Choosing local was a priority on this project, and Polarscapes out of Athabasca has been engaged due to their recent success completing similar work on the new Athabasca ball diamonds.

We are also happy to report that Dave James, who was an integral part of the initial building of the ball diamond several decades ago, will be heading up the renewal of the shale and infield. From a player perspective this will enhance the player experience.

Some additional work will involve leveling the outfield and adding some safety features to the fencing in the outfield which will be confirmed in the coming weeks.

The Island Lake Historical and Improvement Society includes the following members: Ron Thompson, Brendan Hobal, Neil Comeau, Keeling Hedstrom, Robbie McIntosh, Chad Perrott, and Bob Taylor. This group, as always, is incredibly appreciative of the support we have received from The Summer Village as well as the entire community for your ongoing support of the events and improvements we are undertaking.

All the best,
Jamie McIntosh

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

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 used for 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 nor 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 on 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/>

GOLF CARTS IN THE SUMMER VILLAGE OF ISLAND LAKE

Pilot Project (Golf Cart) Bylaw 05-2024

The Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors signed a Ministerial Order on June 14, 2024, creating the Pilot Project (Golf Cart) Regulation under the Alberta Traffic Safety Act. As such, the Pilot Project (Golf Cart) Regulation authorizes participating municipalities, like the Summer Village of Island Lake, to pass bylaws that permit registered users to legally operate golf carts on designated public roads.

The Summer Village Council and Administration has been working with Traffic Safety Services of Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors to meet the approval requirements and, at the April 15, 2025 Council meeting, the Pilot Project (Golf Cart) Bylaw 05-2024, passed second and third readings and was brought into force.

Highlights of the new Pilot Project (Golf Cart) Bylaw 05-2024:

- Operators must be a minimum of 14 years of age and must possess, at minimum, an Alberta Learners Driving Permit.
- Owners must provide proof of Liability Insurance with minimum \$2 Million coverage.
- All golf carts must be registered with the Summer Village of Island Lake. There will be a \$50.00 annual registration fee. Once fees, proof of insurance and other registration requirements are met, you will be issued a 'cart specific' registration card that must be carried on the golf cart whenever it is being driven.
- Operators must carry and produce Municipal registration upon request of any Bylaw, Peace or Police Officer.
- Operators must immediately report to the Summer Village Administration, any collision resulting in injury, death or property damage of any amount or severity.
- Operation of golf carts is only permitted on roads identified in Bylaw 05-2024.
- Towing of vehicles or other equipment is not allowed.
- The number of passengers is limited to the number of seats provided by the manufacturer.
- Golf carts may NOT be operated at night.
- Unless specified in the regulation or Bylaw 05-2024, golf carts are subject to all other rules, terms and conditions as if they were a motor vehicle – and they must be operated as such.

HOW TO REGISTER YOUR GOLF CART

Step 1: Fill out and submit the online Golf Cart Registration Form

Step 2: Complete your payment (pay by cheque or e-transfer).

Step 3: Email any supporting documents to info@islandlake.ca

Step 4: Once you receive your registration card, ensure it is carried with your golf cart.