

MISTUSINNE COUNCIL UPDATE #34 – AUGUST, 2015

In this newsletter we have chosen to address the **QUESTIONS** that have been directed to Council during this current season.

1. VILLAGE OFFICE HOURS

The Administrative Assistant, **Leeanne**, is at the village office on **Fridays (noon to 7:30 pm)**. The Office Assistant, **Aline**, is at the office and Recycling Centre on **Saturday and Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to noon**. Aline will accept your recycling and can hand out building permit application packages. She can also accept payment for boat passes, golf passes and your tax payment (with the official receipt to follow by mail).

2. DISCOUNTS ON PROPERTY TAXES

Take note of the discounted amounts at the bottom of the enclosed tax notice. To receive your discount, payment **MUST** be RECEIVED by the last day of the month. If you are mailing a cheque, make sure you mail it well in advance of month-end. (You can still post-date the cheque to month end if you like.) If you are coming in to the office to pay, come on a **Friday between noon and 7:30 pm** or on **one of following two additional days: Saturday, August 22 from noon to 3:00 pm or Saturday, August 29 from noon to 3:00 pm**. Another payment option is an e-transfer; a quick and secure method of making your payments. It's easy to set up through your financial institution - set up the Resort Village of Mistusinne as a recipient using mistusinne@sasktel.net as our email address. Just be sure to let us know in a separate email, the answer to your security question and what it is that you are paying! Remember taxes, lagoon, and irrigation water fees are all due. Also, all administration is handled through the Mistusinne office. Please do not call or stop in at the Elbow town office.

3. BOAT DOCK AND SWIM PLATFORMS

The lake is unusually shallow this year. A lot of water has been diverted through the Qu'Appelle channel to service the Moose Jaw and Regina water shortfall. Less water than usual has come from the mountain snow pack.

Unless the boat dock is anchored to the cement launch pads, it has, in the past, been carried away by heavy winds. It must be situated alongside the launch pads. For the swim platforms, you will note that the anchor ropes are tied to the holding jug markers – and there is simply not enough water to use the platforms at either location. Unless an unusual amount of run-off is received, we unable to use either the dock or the swim platforms this summer.

4. LIABILITY FOR GOLF CARTS

In order for any village to pass a bylaw about golf carts, that bylaw must first be sanctioned by SGI who only approve the operation of golf carts in a village if they are going to and from the golf course. Hence, our village council has chosen not to establish a golf cart bylaw.

However, golf cart on our streets must still conform to the Traffic Safety Act section 113.1(4) which states that the operator of a golf cart on a highway or street "must hold a valid driver's license and the owner of the golf cart must have insurance against liability for the owner and anyone operating the cart under the owner's consent".

Our lawyer has advised us that **"golf cart owners are liable for all damages and injuries if the golf cart is operated by an unlicensed driver."** PARENTS ARE URGED TO GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO RESTRICTING UNDER-AGE CHILDREN FROM OPERATING GOLF CARTS ON VILLAGE STREETS.

5. RECYCLING

Paper, cardboard, and plastics from our Recycling Building are transported to the Outlook Recycling Centre (for an annual access fee.) Note – **The Outlook Recycling Centre is no longer accepting glass.**

Refundable recycling (drink bottles and cans, tetra packs, wine and booze bottle) are taken to the Davidson Sarcan and the cash is donated to the Playground Fund which nets more than \$1,000 annually from resident donations.

6. THE MISTUSINNE ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

The 15th Annual Mistusinne Charity Golf Tournament and Pot Luck Supper will be held on **Saturday August 15, 2015** with tee off at 9:00 am. Please come out and golf. Preregister by calling the Village office (306) 854-4637 or in person at the Village office on Fridays (noon to 7:00 pm). Proceeds will go to the Elbow Volunteer Fire Department and the Elbow First Responders. If you wish to donate prizes please call Lloyd at (306) 861-0122.

7. REPORTING DANGEROUS OUTDOOR FIRES OR FIREWORKS IN THE VILLAGE

To report concerns about fire hazards, drop in at the office or phone (854-4637) and leave a message stating the nature your complaint along with the date, time and address of the occurrence. All formal complaints will be addressed without revealing the name of the complainant – some by a letter from the Office, others after consideration by Council. Fireworks are only permitted on the beach (other than by special permit.)

WELCOME to:
Brian Summers,
newly elected
Councillor.

8. VOLES

You can contact the maintenance department by leaving a message at the maintenance office (**854-2068**). They will call back to make an appointment for you to pick up a rodent trap at the office and will instruct you in its use.

9. NUISANCE BYLAW

Bylaw 05-05 addresses the issues of: *junked vehicles, dilapidated buildings, overgrown grass or weeds, open excavations, refrigerators or freezers stored outdoors, hazardous trees, and improperly stacked lumber or firewood that could harbour rodents*. Concerned neighbours may choose to make a formal complaint (see #7 above). Where the resulting formal letters from Council does not result in the required action from the cottage owner, Council can issue an **ORDER TO REMEDY** against the cottage owner (failure to comply with an Order to Remedy can result in direct action, at the cottage owner's expense).

10. BARRICADES ON GREEN SPACE

Some barricades have been erected in an attempt to minimize travel and preserve the grass on the green space. Council tries to discourage cottage owners from regular traffic to the back of their lots across the green spaces. Back entry to lots is meant for **occasional use** (like removing your boat in the spring, replacing it in the fall, and otherwise storing it in your front driveway or in the village storage yard).

11. ATVs ON GREEN SPACES OR ON THE BEACH

Council forbids non-licensed motorized vehicles from the green spaces and from the beaches (from April 1st to October 31st). Complaints about these violations can be reported as described in #7 above.

12. WHETHER THE VILLAGE SHOULD SPRAY FOR DANDELIONS

We realize that the dandelions were particularly unsightly during this early spring. The dry conditions prevented the dandelions in the ditches from growing tall enough to be caught by our mower blades. Once we were able to mow them, we have been able to keep the **ditches** tidy. Our policy in the **open green spaces** is to allow the natural grasses to grow taller and go to seed in order to out-compete the dandelions. This has been fairly successful in those green spaces where cottage owners refrain from mowing.

Ratepayers have requested that the Village spray the ditches and green spaces. Our concern regarding spraying is the **danger of polluting our shallow groundwater in our wells**. The herbicide expert who spoke at our July council meeting stated that established lawns have a thick thatch that would probably protect the groundwater. However, he expressed concern that spraying on thinly covered sandy areas like the ditches might pollute the groundwater. As per his suggestion, we are arranging for further scientific testing and advice about this matter. We will keep you updated.

13. GARBAGE SURVEILLANCE

Ratepayers are asked to take care of their own construction waste (by taking it home or having it removed by the contractor). Old furniture can be taken to the Elbow Transfer Site (Sat.10:00 am to 2:00 pm & Mon 4:00 to 7:00 pm, for a fee). **The Loraas bins are meant only for bagged household garbage**. Some residents abuse this rule by:

- Putting old lumber, shingles, or furniture into the Loraas bin (or beside the bin).
- Throwing their garbage up on the roof of the Loraas bin for someone else to remove.
- Putting whole cardboard boxes into the Loraas bin. Boxes should at least be folded to conserve expensive space and preferably be taken to the recycling center.

THANK YOU to:

Randy and Perry who donated the sod for the Tee boxes on holes #4 and #8.

Craig, Marilyn, David, Alice, Ronelda, Paulette and all the other volunteers who once again hosted a fabulous Family Fun Canada Day.

Harry for putting in the 911 call and the volunteers who showed up in time to save the cottage on Chekepak!

Bruce who twice climbed up on top of the Loraas bin to clean off the wormy garbage thrown up there by some of our residents.

The Canada 150 Foundation who have approved our grant proposal to develop a park area between the Sask Tel building & the maintenance area. We have just learned that we qualified to receive the full \$10,100 matching grant.

All those folks who take plastic bags on walks along the beach and on the green space, to pick up other people's refuse.

Ronelda, Linda and Emily who recently renewed the flower bed at the Village entrance.

The students who are doing a great job on the beds of new trees and shrubs.

GIVE US YOUR OPINION – It has been suggested that we **install a surveillance camera above the Loraas bins** to catch these violators of our garbage rule and then send them an invoice for costs of the extra service (as is done at the Elbow Transfer Site). **We would like your input.** (1 vote per SITE). Please phone **306-854-4637** and **leave a message** stating **"This is (name) from (lot #). We vote YES or we vote NO (for a camera)"**. Or email your vote to mistusinne@sasktel.net. Please phone or email by Aug. 29th.