

July-August 2007

The Villager

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rickbutler@pathcom.ca
403-932-3866

Important Dates...

August 4th—Annual Pancake Breakfast

August 4th— First Summer Village Council Meeting of the newly elected Council 11:00 a.m.—Noon.

Thank You...

Thanks to Councillors **Greg Pek** and **Fraser Spears** for their three years of hard work as Councillor for the Village Council.. Their good work will be more formally acknowledged at the August 4th Council meeting.

Thanks to Al Clark for his beautiful photos in this Villager. (bottom and next page)



New Village Council Acclaimed

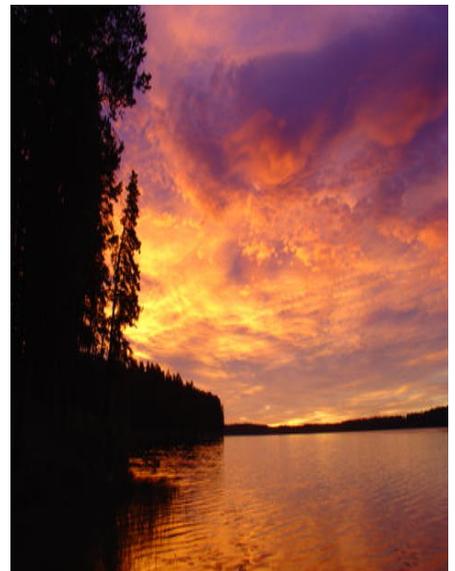
Two new councillors will be joining Diane Auld on the Summer Village's new Council. Irene Dunsmuir, Poplar Close, and Harold Esche, Fir Close were acclaimed along with Diane when village nominations closed June 30. Irene recently moved from "occasional" to "permanent" resident of the Village and has been very helpful in the Poplar Close drainage project. Harold has been the chair of the Capital Planning Advisory Committee and has been a great asset to that group's work.

The first Council meeting will be held right after the August 4th Pancake Breakfast at the Village. Agenda items will include selection of Mayor, approval for the Poplar Close Drainage project to proceed, direction on other capital projects including the environmental reserve, and other matters. Coordinates for the new Councillors are: Irene Dunsmuir, PO Box 1096, Caroline, Alberta T0M 0M0 (phone—403-722-2905); Harold Esche esche@ucalgary.ca (phone— 403-220-4465

Annual Community Meeting Gets Some Good News

The June 30 Annual Community meeting heard about many completed projects in Mayor Diane Auld's annual "State of the Village" address. Tree-planting, the walkway bridge and first-aider training were a few of the initiatives outlined. Capital Planning Committee Chair, Harold Esche, reported on plans and priorities. It was noted that the Poplar Close drainage project may require less (Provincial) dollars than required thanks to a bid from Rick Montgomery in the range of \$15,000-\$20,000.

Rick Butler raised a few questions for the new Council to consider. These included confirmation of the priorities as identified up to now, whether or not the Village wanted to consider expediting projects through loans from its own capital reserve (up to \$22,000) while Provincial grants came in at a slower pace than the projects; and whether the Village wanted to seek additional funds (over and above the \$200,000 secured to date). Unlike funds to date, these additional funds would require a portion of Village dollars. **Residents are encouraged to talk to Councillors about these issues.**



Reserve Draft Report—just received

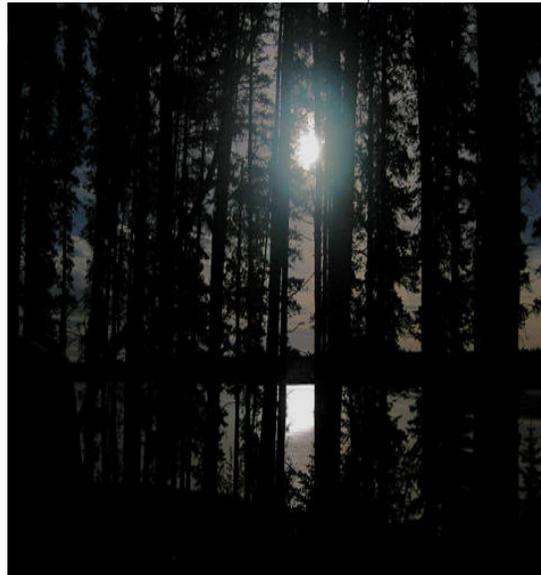
Here is an excerpt from a just-received draft report that will be coming to Village Council August 4th (thanks to a recent grant from the Province). Residents are encouraged to express their opinions to Village Councillors....

Environmental reserves (ERs) have a unique status in Alberta... Provincial legislation intends that ERs remain undeveloped, or at the very least, that they be available for public use as parkland. Private use of these lands under any circumstances appears to be contrary to their very purpose. One could therefore argue that a municipality has an obligation to actively manage these

lands to ensure that they are conserved, that private landowners do not enter onto the lands to alter the natural landscape or to construct any private works, and that they are not co-opted for any private use. Municipal best practices with respect to encroachments in environmental reserves should therefore be mindful of these considerations....

...Some of the encroachments onto ER land are longstanding and they have not been acknowledged by the municipality up to the last few years. The Summer Village may want to give consideration to a foundational policy similar to Jasper (Alberta) that creates a two-track process; one that addresses encroachments that pre-exist a formal policy and another that deals with encroachments that are created after the policy is established.

... The Summer Village was given title to environmental reserve lands from the Province. The Province conveyed the land but required that the reserves be protected from inappropriate development. Any development of the lands requires support by ballot from 2/3 of Village residents.



Photos credits in this edition: Al Clark

Did you know?

! All Village property Taxes payments were received by the deadline of Friday June 29th. Congratulations again to all residents for this great record.

! The Association of Summer Village's has produced a **Lake Stewardship Reference Guide**. The entire guide can be found on the Association's web site at www.albertasummervillages.org.