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The Villager



April 17– 7:00 Summer Village Council Meeting at Silver Springs Golf Club. All residents are invited to attend at 1600 Varsity Estates Dr NW Calgary.

Thank You...

Lloyd Cumming for volunteering all these years to do the community well water testing and sitting on the Burnstick Lake Mgt Plan; and thank you to Hazel Higgins for agreeing to take the water testing job and Patricia Knight for taking a seat on the Burnstick Lake Management Plan.

Thank you Terry Irvine for his past work looking after the Fire Caddy and Al Clark and Russ Down who agreed to manage this going forward.

Thank you Doreen Sawchuk for looking after the “key management system” for the Community Centre all these years and Russ Down agreeing to take over this function.

Encroachment Policy— Ball Now In Residents’ Court

Thirty-one residents attended the February 13 Council meeting to discuss the proposed Encroachment Policy. Council began the meeting emphasising the point that they were looking forward to hearing comments and suggestions from residents. Mayor Diane noted, however, that status quo or “no-change” was not an option—that something had to be done to address the encroachment issue that is now over eighty and counting. Residents raised a number of questions and concerns; and there appeared to be an emerging consensus—that “private encroachments” off people’s private property (like fences, decks, fire pits and buildings) were one kind of encroachment and those developments on or near the waterfront (like decks, stairways, and benches) were another distinct kind of encroachment that perhaps should be treated differently. **Two things were decided at the meeting.** First, it was agreed by Council that development permits would be issued despite owners having one of the structures near or on the shoreline. This is provided that the owner of such structures follow whatever the ultimate encroachment policy is. The Bylaw would remain in effect, however, for all those residents who have encroachments over or near their property lines. That is, no development permit can be issued until subject encroachments are removed. **Secondly,** Council requested alternative proposals from residents regarding how encroachments might be dealt with. Some alternatives included the reserve being sold to residents as allowed in the Bylaw (if there is a 2/3 super-majority vote in favour). The property once sold, for market value, would allow the owners to deal with the encroachments as they determine. It is thought by several residents that this might allow for greater freedom for residents - not having to work within the constraints that the Village Council has per the Municipal Government Act and Public Lands Act. **It was agreed that any and all proposals should be received before the next Council meeting on April 17.** So please; let’s hear your solutions. **Please e-mail or mail to Rick before April 15th.**



Community Centre Freezes Up...

Council and residents heard at the Feb 13th meeting that the Community Centre had recently frozen up and thus created frozen and cracked water tanks associated with the fire caddy. Although the propane tank is usually only filled every 2-4 years; the propane ran out within one year this time causing the unexpected freezing. A gas fitter was called out immediately and leaks were fixed and the tank refilled with Harvey Barrer assisting. Al Clark and Russ Down volunteered to coordinate further action related to the restoration of the fire caddy. All residents are asked to keep an eye out for such happening in the future. If you see a problem, please let someone know and/or contact Al Clark, Russ Down, Irene Duns-muir or Rick Butler. **Looking for a deal on Propane.** At the recent Council meeting, residents agreed that we check with Propane companies to see if there is a better price that can be negotiated for residents by coordinating purchases or other means. Dean McKenzie is heading up this project and has developed the attached questionnaire. **Please fill it in and get back to Rick ASAP.**



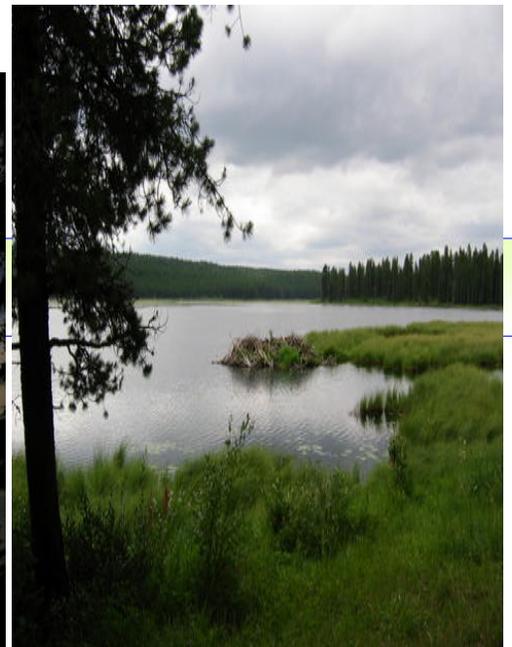
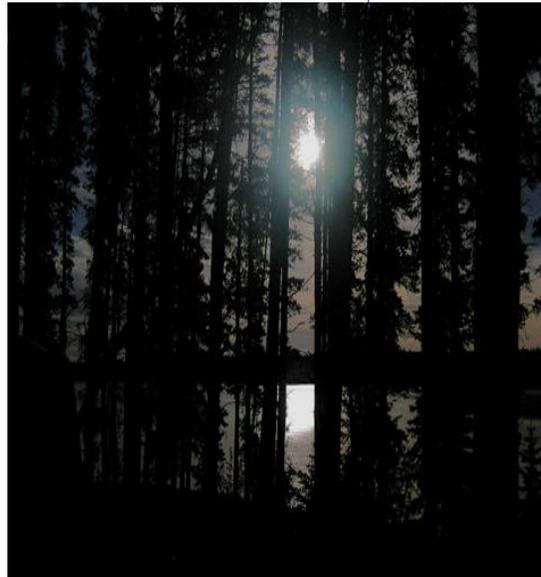
Photo Credit: Adolf Becker

Confirming our Committees...

Many Burnstick Lake residents have taken on many volunteer jobs. We have recently had some misunderstanding about who is on and not on various committees. So, here is our up-to-date list. **We would appreciate residents advising us of other committees, jobs or appointments they are aware of.** Here is our list: **Development Appeal Board:** This quasi-judicial committee has the final word on appeals to development officer decisions. Members are: Peter Jess, Mayor Diane Auld. **Capital Planning Advisory Committee:** This Committee advises Council with respect to capital plans, budgets and project timing and implementation regarding drainage, roads, pathways & fire/emergency response project. Current members are: Dean McKenzie Glen Gray, Gordon Bussey, and Councillor Irene Dunsmuir. **Community Well Water Test Coordinator**—Hazel Higgins. **Community Centre & Fire Caddy and associated Emergency preparation:** Al Clark and Russ Down. **Burnstick Lake Public Advisory Committee:** Monitors and reviews implementation of the Plan—Patricia Knight and Diane Auld. **Community Centre Key System coordinator:** Hazel Higgins. **Waste Recycling Facility Review Committee:** A facility proposed for the west of the Pengali property will be scrutinized by members of this committee—Harold Esche, Lloyd Bellows and George Dunsmuir. **Cell Phone Tower Promoter:** Harold Esche and Doug Lindblom. **Propane Call for Proposals:** Dean McKenzie

Did you know?

! There were 55 encroachments identified in the November survey and 26 more reported for a total of 81 encroachments in the Village. Residents have responded to 45 of these encroachments. We would appreciate the rest of the Village responding so we can begin to get a handle on this issue and—with the help of residents—preserve the reserve. Council also requests proposals from residents regarding their ideas for solutions. Please e-mail or mail by April 15th.



Photos credits for the fourth time Al Clark. Please leaned us your pics for next Villager

I Sunde Forest Products have advised the Village that they will be continuing the road construction in the South Burnstick Lake compartment, east of Burnstick Lake Road near Twp 34, Rge 05 W5M. Their map will be available at the April 17th Council Meeting.

Property Assessments are in the mail...

Property Assessment Notices have been sent to all residents. The average value of improvements have increased by approximately 30-40% over 2006. Despite this, individual taxes will remain stable because assessment increases have gone up consistently across the board; unless of course one had a major improvement to their cottage. In this situation, one's assessment and taxes will go up proportionately higher than the average.