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## FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTEPAD

*May 2010*

Phone: 780-892-2699 / Fax: 780-892-2669 / Website: wabamun.ca

### Special points of interest:

- Message from the Mayor
- Waterfront Development Plan
- 2010 Budget
- New Peace Officer
- New Fire By-Law Prohibiting the Sale & Use of Fireworks
- Chipper Unit & Bucket Truck
- Organics



### FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

TransAlta has given us a legacy, gifting the waterfront properties east of the outlet canal and the opportunity to purchase other properties within our boundaries and also a grant of \$50,000.00. Signage identifying TransAlta's legacy will be established. The Village has a bright, sustainable future thanks to TransAlta, its roots and legacy. The slogan "Village on the Lake" will change the face of the Village from a company town to a recreation viable community. The landscape is changing, but the future is positive. Meetings with Provincial Ministers, Provincial agencies, developers and our planner have been held with more to come.

Meetings are ongoing with West Inter Lake District Regional Water Commission (WILD), Minister Rob Renner (Environment and Deputy House Leader), Minister Ted Morton

(Finance and Enterprise), Minister Ron Liepert (Energy), MLA Fred Lindsay and MLA George VanderBurg. WILD made a presentation to the Ministers for a 3-year phase plan for water to Wabamun. Wabamun will be the first to receive regional water, hopefully within the set time frame.

Thanks to our MLA Fred Lindsay for his support and presentation, on our behalf, to the Ministers regarding our concerns for regional water and the waterfront development project.

Just a reminder, the Village recycle program is in place including organic pick up. Check your calendar, which was handed out in the January water bill. Please refer to the back for additional information regarding recyclables and organics.

Grant W. Kulak  
Mayor

### WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Council will be reviewing the final draft of the Waterfront Area Structure Plan. Once the document is approved by Council, it will be forwarded to the Capital Region Planning Board for final approval. The Village will then hold another Public Hearing to review the Area Structure Plan, the Land Use By-Law and Municipal Development Plan. The Wabamun residents will have an opportunity to express their concerns or support for the changes in the documents.

The Village's Waterfront Plan has received tremendous support from TransAlta Utilities who

gifted part of the waterfront lands to the Village as well as a \$50,000.00 grant towards improving the boat launch boat staging area in the water. The Village's Waterfront Plan also made the front page of the business section in the Edmonton Journal. We have a long way to go, but we are very encouraged by the progress to date. I want to thank Ralph Leriger and Clark Williams from TransAlta for their ongoing support and their contributions towards the future sustainability of our community.

## 2010 BUDGET

The Village Council approved the 2010 Budget in April. This year's budget includes \$2,208,298.00 in capital works. Tenders have already been approved to replace the water and sewer connections on 51 Avenue from 50th Street to 53rd Street. Construction will be commencing in May; and once all the services are replaced, the entire area will be paved, probably in August. The overall operating budget was approved in the amount of \$2,968,228.00. This year's overall tax levy increases, including the school tax and other requisitions, was set at just under 5% for both residential and non-residential properties.

The Council also increased the organic waste pickup service fees by \$2.00 per month to recover the disposal fees and the additional month of service. Third and final readings of the Water and Sewer By-Laws will take place on May 18th, which include an additional flat fee of \$5.50 per month per residential home.

The utility rates and the tax rates continue to be one of the lowest in the Province. As an example, an average residence in Wabamun will pay \$35.50 per month for water and sewer combined. If you lived in Stony Plain, you would pay \$89.96 per month and \$96.75 per month in Spruce Grove.

## NEW PEACE OFFICER

The Village of Wabamun is pleased to announce the hiring of Jason Welin as an additional new Peace Officer. In the interest of focusing on community policing programs and an increased Peace Officer presence in the Village of Wabamun, an additional Officer was hired. The addition of the second officer will double-up our patrol hours and allow for coverage during vacation and court time. Jason is also a member of our Volunteer Fire Department, which will enhance our overall service to the community.

## NEW FIRE BY-LAW PROHIBITING THE SALE AND USE OF FIREWORKS





Many communities around Wabamun have been experiencing issues with the improper use of fireworks. Most of the communities in the area, including Parkland County, have passed similar Fire By-Laws, which will only allow for the sale and discharge, by permit only, of fireworks for New Year's, Canada Day and Labour Day. Spark arresters or screens having a mesh size not larger than 13 mm are also required for all approved fire pits. The fine for discharging fireworks without a permit ranges from \$250.00 to \$2,000.00.

## CHIPPER UNIT AND BUCKET TRUCK

The Village was successful in obtaining a grant to purchase a used tree chipper unit and bucket truck. Branches will be accepted behind the Public Works yard for chipping, and the chips will be available free of charge. Please do not bring branches larger than 8" in diameter. We would also ask that the tree trunks be cut up for firewood and not dropped off with the branches and trimmings. The expenses over and above the grant for the truck and chipper was shared with the Summer Village of Seba Beach and reduced our cost to a mere \$1,900.00. This service, we hope, will replace the large bin that we used to rent for spring and fall clean up.

## ORGANICS

Just a reminder that Organics started up again on Tuesday, May 4th and will continue until October 19th. If anyone requires additional garbage/blue bag/organic calendars or information regarding recycling and organic waste carts, copies are available at the Village Office.

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| <br><b>Office Hours</b>  | <br><b>Council Meetings</b>   | <br><b>Water Bill Payments</b>  | <br><b>CLUB NEWS</b>   | <br>Doors open at 5:00 p.m.<br>Bonanza pre-call starts at 6:00 p.m. followed by 2 Earlybirds.<br>Regular games start at 7:00 pm<br>Satellite Bingo, 2 Bonanzas.                               |
| <p><b>Monday to Friday</b><br/>8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.<br/>(Closed for lunch from 12:00 - 12:30 p.m.)<br/>Drop Box Available to right of Office door</p> | <p><b>First &amp; Third Tuesday of Each Month - 8:30 A.M.</b><br/><b>CIVIC CENTRE</b><br/>- Council Chambers -<br/><b>5217 - 52 Street</b><br/>(Only one meeting per month/July &amp; August - Dates are posted at Civic Centre)</p> | <p>Water bills can be paid by Auto Debit (forms at the Village Office) or at the Village Office using Debit, Visa, MC, cash or cheque, Monday to Friday 8:00 a.m to 12:00 Noon &amp; 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. or be put in the drop box to the right of the door or at the Wabamun Credit Union or through Telpay.</p> | <p>To find out about community events and programs that are being offered for kids and adults, pick up a copy of the Club News. Available at the Village Office. Please note that submissions are due by the second last Friday of each month.</p> | <p><b>WABAMUN LIONS BINGO</b></p> <p><b>Added \$500.00 Bonanza</b><br/>1st Thursday of:<br/>January, March, May, July, September &amp; November</p> <p><b>THURSDAYS</b><br/>JUBILEE HALL</p>  |