

Assent Voting and By-Election

When the Alternative Approval Process failed on June 13th, 2016 for the borrowing of \$4.128 million dollars for the proposed Water Treatment Plant, Council intended to hold an assent vote (also sometimes known as a referendum) to seek elector approval. This had to be done within 80 days, as per legislation, which would have set a date for August 27th, 2016 at the latest. Subsequently, the Village received a resignation from a Councillor on June 16th. In order to meet necessary statutory notifications, the earliest a by-election could be held would be September 10th, 2016. The two processes could not be held together.

The province presented an option that requires Council to defeat Bylaw No. 803, and do three readings of a virtually identical bylaw, which will then be forwarded to the Province for approval. This bylaw **WILL NOT** be going to an Alternative Approval Process, but instead will be going **DIRECTLY** to the assent voting (referendum).

By proceeding with the above, the by-election and the assent vote (referendum) will be held on the same day, estimated to be in mid-September.

This option will save the residents from having to arrange a time to vote twice within a three week span, will allow the vote to be held in September rather than August (a notoriously high travel time) and allows the Village to save approximately \$6,000-\$8,000 in voting expenses.

This will look like:

- Special Meeting done on June 29th to do first three readings of new bylaw
- Sending of Bylaw to Province for approval
- Approval of Bylaw received from Province
- Proceeding with an assent and by-election voting with a date in Mid-September

ALL notices related to the voting processes will be placed within the weekly Ashcroft newspaper, as well as updated on our website.

Your Mayor and Council:

Mayor: Jack Jeyes

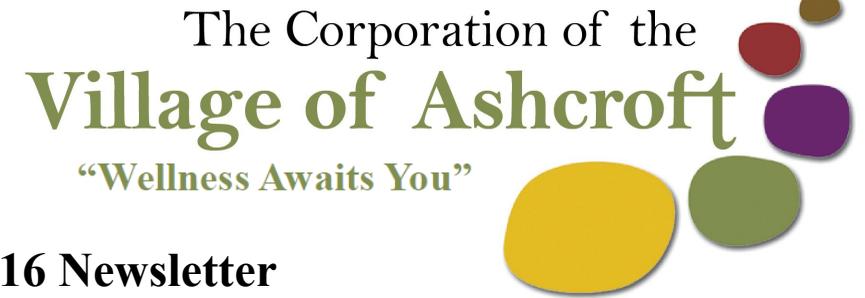
Councillors:

Doreen Lambert—Barbara Roden—Alfie Trill

Village of Ashcroft (www.ashcroftbc.ca)

PO Box 129, 601 Bancroft Street, Ashcroft, BC V0K 1A0

Phone: (250) 453-9161 Fax: (250) 453-9664 Email: admin@ashcroftbc.ca



June 2016 Newsletter



The Council encourages you to check out the Museum, Pool, Parks and many other recreational activities the Village offers

Community Update

Mayor Jeyes and Council would like to take a few minutes of your time to tell you about a number of things they have been working on as well as some community events:

- Proclamation: The Council proclaims September “Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.”
- Council provided a resolution of support for a grant application to the Canada 150 Infrastructure program. The application focuses on upgrades to the Drylands Arena.
- COO Terri Hadwin presented on Gold Country Communities Society’s latest accomplishments and future goals.
- Council adopted Bylaw No. 807, Officers and Employees Bylaw, 2016.
- Desert Sand Community School PAC presented to Council and requested a marked walking area on Ranch Road as well as to set aside funding to construct a sidewalk along the road. Council has instructed staff to prepare a report.
- The Village of Ashcroft 2015 Annual Report was adopted by Council. The report outlines Village objectives and successes, permissive tax exemptions, and other Village information. A copy of the report is available at www.ashcroftbc.ca/annual_reports
- The Alternative Approval Process for Bylaw No. 803 which proposed long-term borrowing for the proposed Water Treatment Plant had more than 10% of electors fill out forms in opposition. This means that long-term borrowing related to this process will go to an assent vote, held most likely in September.
- Just a reminder that property taxes are due by 4:00 pm on July 15th, 2016 otherwise they will be subject to a 10% late penalty. The Village Office will remain open over the noon hour from July 4 to July 15 to accommodate those that need the lunch hour to pay their taxes. Post marks are not acceptable to meet the submission date.
- There will be a Committee of the Whole meeting at 6:00 pm and a Regular meeting of Council at 7:00 pm on July 25th, 2016.



Upcoming Community Events



July 1 * CORRECTED* Canada Day celebrations at the Ashcroft Heritage Park.

July 14 Public Meeting regarding the proposed Water Treatment Plant from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. More information will be provided in a mail drop to Ashcroft post office boxes when it is available.

July 15 Last day to pay 2016 Property Taxes before incurring a 10% penalty.

July 16 Kids TRYathlon Race

July 16 Make Children First Festival and Elvis Performance

July 18 Communities in Bloom will be celebrating its 10th anniversary at Heritage Park at 7:00 pm. Enjoy some refreshments and cake, welcome the CIB judges and see the unveiling of three beautiful pieces of mosaic artwork.

July 18-20 Communities In Bloom Judges will be in Ashcroft for their evaluation.

Did you know... Around the Village

Thanks to the generosity of the **South Cariboo Elizabeth Fry Society**, Public Swimming on Saturdays will be FREE to the public! So if you are feeling like taking a dip on Saturdays, feel free to come on down!

The South Cariboo Elizabeth Fry Society provides many services to the community including the food bank, parenting programs, support workers, ‘Breaking Barriers to Employment’ program as well as many others. Check out their Facebook page ‘South Cariboo Elizabeth Fry Society’ and remember to thank them for such a generous donation.

The **Ashcroft Museum** will start its summer hours on July 9th. This means that the Museum will be open 7 days a week, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Come down and check out some interesting history of Ashcroft and its surrounding area, or check out the monthly Museum Newsletter at www.ashcroftbc.ca/museum_corner

The Village of Ashcroft will be hosting a Public Meeting on July 14th at 7:00 pm on the **proposed Water Treatment Plant**. There will be more information provided as a mail drop closer to July 14th, but the Council encourages everyone to come out and join the discussion on it.

The Village of Ashcroft experienced a **decline in water use** in the Village for May, compared to average consumption for May 2012-2015. Overall, there was a reduction of water use per capita of 426 litres/day throughout May. Thank you to all our residents who realize the value of this precious commodity.