

Impacts of COVID-19 and Village Operations:

As warmer weather arrives, and everyone seems to be getting more and more restless with social distancing and isolation please remember as you are out and about Dr. Bonnie Henry's plea of "FEW FACES IN BIG SPACES".

British Columbia is certainly "flattening the curve" and here in Ashcroft we have been very fortunate not to have had a significant outbreak of COVID19. At the Village we are still practicing social distancing and taking every precaution to ensure wellbeing of staff and the public; however, we look forward to the day when the public is able to come in to the office. We are closely monitoring all provincial orders and news briefings, as changes are implemented we will follow the direction of the Province. At this time, Village facilities including the Pool, Playgrounds, Museum and RV Park remain closed, when provincial restrictions are lifted, we will revisit current closures and implement changes as directed by the Province.

Council continues to meet ensuring that the ongoing business of the Village moves forward, staff is meeting deadlines for reporting and other requirements, and actively working on projects such as the new lift station project, hot tub replacement, pool roof repairs, Curling Rink repairs and most recently completed a minor interior facelift to the Ashcroft Hall.

We recognize that many residents may be experiencing anxiety in regard to all the lifestyle changes caused by COVID-19, there are many supports available to help you cope. Are you aware of the HUB's helpline? If you need help to pick up your mail, groceries, need someone to talk to, spiritual support, etc. **call 250-457-3422**. Someone is there to assist you.

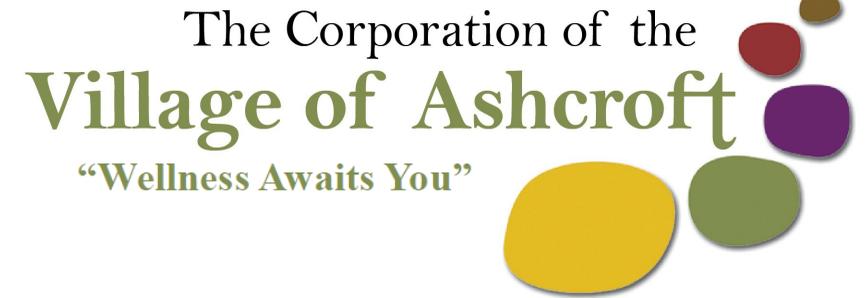
For links to current COVID-19 information and links to services visit the Village of Ashcroft Website: www.ashcroftbc.ca click the "news" link at the bottom of the home page

Water Treatment Plant—Freshet Impacts:

This is our first freshet (spring run off) with water being supplied by the new Water Treatment Plant (WTP) and we are so excited that no water boil advisories or alerts have had to be issued. Not that there haven't been hurdles to overcome as the public works staff learns to manage the system with higher than average turbidity levels. There have been many sleepless nights for on-call staff dealing with alarms and ensuring that safe potable water is distributed to your homes and businesses. This season will teach us the changes that may be necessary to make the WTP more efficient and problem solve issues, next spring won't nearly be as much of a learning curve for PW staff as it was for this year. That said, **thank you** Public Works for your dedication and perseverance to problem solve and provide quality water to the residents and businesses of Ashcroft.

Your Mayor and Council:

Mayor: Barbara Roden; Councillors: Marilyn Anderson—Jonah Anstett—Nadine Davenport—Deb Tuohy
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May 2020 Newsletter



*"The Deep Roots Never Doubt
Spring Will Come."*

Marty Rubin

Community Update

Mayor Roden 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 past community events:

- Council approved a \$500 Grant in Aid to WRAPS.
- Council adopted Council Procedures Bylaw No. 834, 2020.
- Council received the Housing Needs Assessment report as presented.
- Council received the WSP Whistle Cessation Report for the CN crossing at Old Cariboo Rd. as presented.
- Council rescinded the 2020 Budget and approved the amended budget that has a 0% municipal tax increase..
- Council approved to host the TOWN HALL meeting virtually with the assistance of HON.

Did you know, you can watch Council meetings online? The HUB Online Network streams Council meetings on YouTube!

Operation Lifesaver

Being a community with not just one but two Rail lines running through our community and the recent pedestrian incident, Council would like to reiterate the need for caution when crossing rail lines. Please cross only at "crossings" do not trespass on CP or CN lines it is a federal offence and extremely dangerous to cross rail lines. Operation Lifesaver, a not for profit works through **Look.Listen.Live**. Community Safety Partnership Program, with municipalities to install rail safety decals at railway crossing, to remind pedestrians, cyclists and drivers to exercise caution around tracks and trains. Council will be extending an invitation to the organization to visit Ashcroft and host a public information session. Please keep rail safety in mind when you are near or crossing tracks.

Weed Control

Council has clearly heard the concerns of some residents regarding the continued use of pesticides in the Village. Please be aware that at this time, we are moving forward with continued weed control. Extensive research has been completed and the products being sprayed will not leach into your yards or gardens, the pesticide penetrates the plant foliage, roots and may leach into the ground, however it dissipates and does not leach any further than the initial sprayed area.

This will be an ongoing process as weather cooperates and staff scheduling is not conflicting. We will do our best to post warnings while weed control is underway, so that the public could avoid the area until the spray has dissipated.

Upcoming Community Events and Notices

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**

May 4—Public Works summer schedule begins 7:00 am—3:30 pm

May 11—Council Meeting—4:30 pm

May 25—Council Meeting—7:00 pm

May 25—Committee of the Whole—6:00 pm—CANCELLED

Regularly scheduled Council meetings are closed to the public until further notice. Recorded meetings can be accessed on the HUB Online Network.

Happy Mother's Day to all the Mom's in Ashcroft. May your day be filled with joy, health, peace and above all the love of your family!

VILLAGE OFFICE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Staff are in the office to assist you by telephone or email. If you wish to drop off utility payments, a drop box is set out at the top of the stairs beside the office entrance.

Phone: 250-453-9161

Email: admin@ashcroftbc.ca

TNRD BUILDING INSPECTOR

The TNRD Building Inspector is not attending the office at this time. Please call the TNRD office directly at: 1-877-377-8673 if you have any questions regarding inspections. Building permit application can be made online.

VILLAGE PAYMENTS

Recently a "mail box" was installed at the Village office front entrance door. If you wish, you can drop payments into the mail box and be assured that we will receive it. **Tax notices will be mailed out later in May.**

2020 COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE—CHANGE

Council meetings are closed to the public due to social distancing, agenda's will be posted to the website by Friday afternoon no later than 3:30 pm. If you would like to comment or ask questions, please email them to : cao@ashcroftbc.ca or call: 250-453-9161 by 3:00 pm the day of the Council meeting. Please note, questions to Council should be in regard to agenda items only. If you have other questions, please feel free to contact the office

Copies of the Village of Ashcroft Council meetings for 2020 are available at the Village office during regular office hours or can be viewed on our website at www.ashcroftbc.ca/council_meeting_schedule