



Monthly Review

AUGUST 2023



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Summer is still upon us and Council met August 28th. Here are some highlights from that meeting:

- ⇒ Bylaw No. 845, Village of Ashcroft Notice of Enforcement was given three readings.
- ⇒ Council approved amending the Ashcroft Farmers and Artisans Co-op Farmers' Market request to close Railway Avenue between 6th and 8th Streets from 7:30 am to 1:00 pm to 7:00 am to 1:00 pm. Allowing for an additional half hour for vendors to set up.
- ⇒ Council has authorized Mayor Roden to meet with Rural Health Network to discuss Ashcroft's health concerns.
- ⇒ The Ashcroft HUB requested Council's support for donation items to be used as a door or other prizes and directed staff to coordinate a donation of swag or other items not to exceed a value of \$200.
- ⇒ Council Working Groups: Council supported the re-establishment of the Parks and Trails Master Plan working groups and has established a Community Speed Limit working group.

Village of Ashcroft

Mayor and Council:

Mayor:

Barbara Roden

Councillors:

Jonah Anstett

Jessica Clement

Nadine Davenport

Doreen Lambert

REMINDER: As per the March 27, 2023 Council Meeting, Council approved **ONLY** a spring clean up for yard waste. There will be **NO FALL YARD WASTE CLEAN UP**. Please haul your yard waste or make arrangements to have it hauled away to the Eco Depot. **THANK YOU!**

ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AAC)

The AAC met for a second time in August to establish committee direction and timelines to engage with the public, evaluate public property and operations from an accessibility perspective. The committee is tasked with developing a mechanism to receive feedback from community members in respect to removing barriers in how the Village provides access to services and access to public property. The AAC will be engaging with the community in different ways including hosting a survey, public meeting (tentative date is October 25, 2023), at community events, through social media and by mail.

Committee members are: Chair Marvene Layte, Co-Chair, Daniela Dyck, Councillor Jonah Anstett, Julie Ells, Gloria Mertens and Loraine Shwaluk. All committee members are happy to talk with you about accessibility concerns.

If you would like to share your thoughts or concerns please call the office at 250-453-9161 or email ea@ashcroftbc.ca.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Council will undertake Strategic Planning in the coming weeks to establish a plan to move the village forward over the course of 2023-2026. Strategic planning is the process by which leaders of an organization, such as a local government, determine what it intends to be in the future and how it will get there.

As Yogi Berra would say: "If you don't know where you are going – you might end up someplace else."

The process includes gathering feedback from: village staff - to gain an operations perspective, community – to gain priorities from residents and then Council will prioritize goals which will result in budget allocation to move strategic priorities forward. Priorities can include, park upgrades, purchase of equipment, infrastructure repairs/replacement, development of community plans, etc. All priorities will be considered through the lens of: 1. "What services does Ashcroft want and need?" and, 2. "What services is Ashcroft willing to pay for?"

Watch for more information and public meeting times as strategic planning gains momentum.



BYLAW UPDATE

As we move forward in our efforts to gain compliance to Ashcroft's current bylaws, Council is finalizing the Violation Fine schedule as a necessary tool to bring us to that goal. The Village Council will consider adoption of the Notice of Enforcement Bylaw #845 at the September 11th meeting. If adopted, the Violation Fine Schedule will be enacted, and tickets could be issued to non-compliant property owners as early as September 12th, 2023. As always, we prefer to achieve voluntary compliance rather than taking an enforcement position, but the new bylaw will certainly be a valuable enforcement tool. Let's all do our part to make our neighbourhoods safe, sightly and friendly for everyone.



2023 POOL SEASON

Even though we were short staffed we managed to have the pool open and many enjoyed it for cooling off during the hot summer days, we had many out of town visitors, and kids continued on with or started swim lessons. The addition of the hot tub was enjoyed by many whether it was to warm up on those chiller days or to sooth sore muscles after lane swim or Aqua fit.

We would also like to thank the lifeguards for their service and for always going the extra mile and we would like to wish head lifeguard Julia all the best as she moves on to the next chapter in her life.

2023 Council Meetings

Sept. 11 - COTW-5:00 pm
September 11 - 6:00 pm
September 25 - 6:00pm

Upcoming Events

Terry Fox Run
Sunday September 17, 2023 - 9AM—1PM

Pool - Closed
Arena - Closed
Museum - Open
Legacy Park - Open

BEAR SMART YOUR PROPERTY

It's that time of year when fruit trees have an overabundance of ripe fruit.

Tree fruit attracts bears to our backyards, increases potential interaction, bear habituation, and resulting human/wildlife conflict. Attracting bears to your yard can also result in opportunistic bears obtaining other human foods such as garbage and pet food. Domestic fruit trees are not a natural source of food for bears. They are acknowledged as a bear attractant, and bring bears into our community. However, a simple and effective solution still exists. Remove fruit as soon as it begins to ripen and bringing it indoors. Remember to keep garbage containers indoors – inside a locked shed, garage, or basement until pick up day. Dispose of garbage regularly – do not stockpile it or it will begin to smell and attract bears.



BILLBOARD UPDATE

After much ado the second billboard was finally installed on Hwy 1 at the end of July. This project began early last year but was fraught with delays due to the previous location being on Ministry of Transportation right of way and the second location being on leased land.

We reached out to Ashcroft Indian Band requesting permission to place the sign on IR2 land approximately 2km from the intersection of Hwy #1 and Cornwall Road and were given permission to install, thank you AIB! The sign looks amazing and we hope it will draw visitors not only to Ashcroft but also to AIB.



NATIONAL RAIL SAFETY WEEK IS COMING

SEPTEMBER 18 TO 24, 2023



BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY

Summer came and hasn't quite left yet, but our kiddos are back to school. With school being back in session, please respect School Zones and their 30km/hr restrictions and watch for children, walking and biking to and from their bus stops and school. Also, please note and keep a look out for the **new STOP** signs at the intersection of Government Street, Cariboo Road, Hollis Road and Tingley Street.

