



THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT

REGULAR AGENDA

FOR THE MEETING OF COUNCIL TO BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE VILLAGE OFFICE AT 6:00 PM ON MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2022

Please be advised that the HUB Online Network will record and broadcast or live stream today's Council meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

"Mayor and Council wish to acknowledge that the meeting today is held within the traditional territory of the Nlaka'pamux people."

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Motion to add or delete Agenda items

Motion to adopt the Agenda as presented or as amended

M/S

THAT, the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council held on Monday, April 11, 2022 be adopted as presented.

2. MINUTES

2.1	Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, 2022 <i>THAT, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, March 28, 2022 be adopted as presented.</i>	P. 1-4

3. DELEGATIONS

3.1		
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4. PUBLIC INPUT

All questions and comments will be addressed through the Chair and answered likewise. Please state your name and address prior to asking a question or commenting, no more than 2 minutes per question.

5. BYLAWS/POLICIES

5.1		
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6. STAFF REPORTS

REQUEST FOR DECISION		
6.1	CAO Report – Hot Tub Replacement – Contractor Quote <i>THAT, Council approves the Village to enter into a contract with Serenity Pools and Hardscapes for the installation of the Hot Tub and further that cost overruns be allocated from the Capital Reserve fund not to exceed \$110,000.</i>	P. 5-20



FOR INFORMATION		
6.2		

7. CORRESPONDENCE

FOR ACTION		
7.1	Clinton 155 th Annual May Ball – Dignitary Invitation <i>Motion Required</i>	P. 21
7.2	Nature Canada – Resolution in Support for World Ocean Day – June 8, 2022 <i>Motion Required</i>	P. 22-23
7.3	New Pathways to Gold Society – Resolution in Support of Government Funding for the society <i>Motion Required</i>	P. 24-26
7.4	NDIT Marketing Initiative Fund Application Ashcroft <i>Motion Required</i>	P. 27
FOR INFORMATION		
7.5	HARS Published Article	P. 28-36
7.6	Teck Highland Valley Copper Partnership – Teck and Royal Inland Hospital Announcement	P. 37
7.6	Community Futures Introduces a Free New Tool to help Businesses Plan for Disaster	P. 38
7.8	Gold Country Communities Society – April 2022 Highlights	P. 39-46
7.9	Liquor Control and Licensing Regulation (LCRB) – Policy Directive 22-05: Intention to Extend Temporary Expanded Service Area (TESA) Authorizations	P. 47
7.10	MLA Jackie Tegart - Letter in Support of the Village of Ashcroft's letter requesting review of BC's Wildfire and Forestry Practices and Response from Hon. Minister of Forests Katrine Conroy	P. 48-51
7.11	Flip Chart Information Correspondence	P. 52

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1	Task Manager and Motion Tracker	P. 53
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9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1		
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10. REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES, COTW, and COMMISSIONS

10.1		
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11. COUNCIL REPORTS

11.1	Mayor Roden – Report	P. 54-55
11.2	Councillor Anderson	
11.3	Councillor Anstett	
11.4	Councillor Davenport	
11.5	Councillor Tuohey	



12. RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED MEETING

Motion to move to a closed meeting to discuss an item under the Community Charter Section 90.1

12.1	<i>THAT, Council adjourns to a closed meeting under Section 90.1 (c) labour relations or other employee relations.</i>	
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13. RESOLUTIONS RELEASED FROM CLOSED MEETING

13.1		
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14. ADJOURNMENT



THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT

MINUTES

FOR THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE VILLAGE OFFICE
AT 6:00 PM ON MONDAY, MARCH 28, 2022

PRESENT: Mayor, Barbara Roden
Councillor, Marilyn Anderson
Councillor, Jonah Anstett
Councillor, Nadine Davenport
Councillor, Deb Tuohey

CAO, Daniela Dyck
CFO, Yogi Bhalla
DPW, Brian Bennewith

Media – 1
Public – 1

EXCUSED:

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Roden called the Regular meeting of Council for Monday March 28, 2022 to order at 6:00 pm.
“Mayor and Council wish to acknowledge that the meeting today is held within the traditional territory of the Nlaka’pamux people.”

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Motion to adopt the Agenda as presented or as amended

M/S Anstett / Anderson

THAT, the Agenda for the Regular Meeting of Council held on Monday March 28, 2022 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED – Unanimous – R-2022-70

2. MINUTES

2.1	Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, March 14, 2022 M/S Tuohey / Davenport <i>THAT, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, March 14, 2022 be adopted as presented.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2022-71
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3. DELEGATIONS

3.1		
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4. PUBLIC INPUT

All questions and comments will be addressed through the Chair and answered likewise. Please state your name and address prior to asking a question or commenting, no more than 2 minutes per question.



Gloria Mertens – TNRD Area I

- 2.1 – Question regarding Election Officials Disclosure statement
- 2:1 – Easter Scavenger Hunt – Question in regards to Village promotion of the event
- 10.1 – Transit Financials – Question regarding public access to the Transit Financials
- 6:1 – Question in regards to the promotion of the Transit program
- 6:1 – Question in regards to transit service expansion
- 6.2 – BBQ suggestion to have an alternative
- 7.2 – Comment in regards to the Terrace resolution urging Council support
- 7.4 – Comments in regards to milk container recycling
- 7.7 – Questions in regards to the TNRD Fire Services Delivery project
- 10.2 – Question in regards to the Data Governance Policy re: Asset Management
- 10:2 – Clarification in regards to the shared service HUB
- 11.1 – Mayor Report - Clarification re Hospital board resolution
- 11.1 – Suggestion to communicate speed control enforcement with the RCMP

5. BYLAWS/POLICIES

5.1		
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6. STAFF REPORTS

REQUEST FOR DECISION		
6.1	CAO Report – Transit Meeting – For Information M/S Anstett / Anderson <i>THAT, the Transit Meeting CAO report be received and filed.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2022-72
6.2	CAO Report – Community BBQ M/S Anderson / Davenport <i>THAT, Council directs staff to coordinate the Annual Thank You BBQ for Saturday, May 21, 2022,</i> M/S Roden/Anderson Amendment <i>THAT, Council agrees to amend the Community BBQ motion to include a budget of up to \$5000 be allocated to the event.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2022-74 CARRIED Unanimous R-2022-73
FOR INFORMATION		
6.3		

7. CORRESPONDENCE

FOR ACTION		
7.1	Community Futures Sun Country – Press Release: New Leadership replacing Debra Arnott M/S Anderson / Anstett <i>THAT, Council sends a letter of congratulations to Linsie Lachapelle on her appointment as General Manager of Community Futures.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2022-75
7.2	City of Terrace – Resolution for all UBCM Members – NCLGA Resolution – BC Prosecution Service and the Public Interest	

	M/S Roden / Davenport <i>THAT, the City of Terrace Resolution to NCLGA - BC Prosecution Service and the Public Interest be received for information.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2022-76
7.3	UBCM 2022 Membership M/S Tuohey / Anstett <i>THAT, Council approves the renewal of the UBCM annual membership dues for 2022 in the amount of \$1152.38</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2022-77
FOR INFORMATION		
7.4	District of Elkford – Milk Container Recycling in British Columbia	
7.5	TNRD – Press Release: Residents Reminded to Access Wildfire Debris Removal Program	
7.6	Village of Pouce Coupe – Support for BC Wildfires Petition	
7.7	Jason Tomlin, Manager of Fire Protection Services – Fire Service Delivery Project	
7.8	Information Correspondence Flip Chart	
	M/S Anderson / Anstett <i>THAT, the Information Correspondence items listed above be received and filed.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2022-78

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1	Task Manager M/S Tuohey / Anstett <i>THAT, the Task Manager and Motion Tracker be received and filed.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2022-79
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9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1		
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10. REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES, COTW, and COMMISSIONS

10.1	Transit Meeting Minutes – March 16, 2022 M/S Roden / Anstett <i>THAT, the Minutes for the March 16, 2022 Para Transit Meeting be received for information.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2022-80
10.2	Storm Drainage / Run Off – Asset Management WG Notes – March 18, 2022 M/S Anstett / Anderson <i>THAT, the Minutes for the Storm Drainage/Run Off Study Working Group meeting be received and filed.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2022-81

11. COUNCIL REPORTS

11.1	Mayor Roden M/S Anderson / Davenport <i>THAT, the Mayor Roden's Council Report be received and filed. Mayor Roden provided an additional verbal update in regards to the new tower named in honour of Phil and Jenny Gaglardi whose family donated \$15M</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2022-82
11.2	Councillor Anderson	
11.3	Councillor Anstett	



11.4	Councillor Davenport	
11.5	Councillor Tuohey	

12. RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED MEETING

Motion to move to a closed meeting to discuss an item under the Community Charter Section 90.1

12.1		
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13. RESOLUTIONS RELEASED FROM CLOSED MEETING

13.1		
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14. ADJOURNMENT

M/S Roden / Anstett

THAT, the Regular Meeting of Council for Monday, March 28, 2022 be adjourned at 6:32 pm.

CARRIED – Unanimous – R-2022-83

Certified to be a true copy of the
Minutes for the Regular Meeting of
Council held Monday, March 28, 2022

Daniela Dyck
Chief Administrative Officer

Barbara Roden
Mayor

STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL – OPEN MEETING

MEETING DATE: April 11, 2022
FROM: Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer
SUBJECT: Hot Tub Replacement – Contractor Quote

Purpose

Request Council approval of the quote received from Serenity Pool and Hardscapes for the installation of the Hot Tub, and request approval of the project cost increase.

Recommendation

That, Council approves the Village to enter into a contract with Serenity Pools and Hardscapes for the installation of the Hot Tub and further that cost overruns be allocated from the Capital Reserve fund not to exceed \$110,000.

Alternatives

Discussion

As per Ashcroft's Procurement Policy, administration requested quotes from qualified contractors to submit a proposal for the installation of the hot tub. Two requests were sent to local contractors the others were regional. One qualified contractor responded with a quote estimate of \$226,012.50 which does not include the required electrical installation.

The original budget totalled \$177,000 of which \$126,000 was grant funded. The inflated costs are due to supply chain issues, inflation and travel costs. The new estimated cost is approximately \$110,00 in excess of the project budget this includes the required electrical and previous work completed to remove the old hot tub.

The Village is in a good financial position and the shortfall can be recovered from the Capital Reserve account. If approved by Council, project start date will be determined with the contractor at the site meeting. We understand that the Serenity Pools and Hardscapes is able to begin work immediately.

Strategic/Municipal Objectives

Hot Tub Installation

Legislative Authority

Financial Implications

Up to \$287,000 of which \$126,00 is grant funded.

Attachment Listing

Contractor Quote

Prepared by:



Daniela Dyck,
Chief Administrative Officer



Brian Bennewith,
Director of Public Works



Yoginder Bhalla,
Chief Financial Officer



Quotation & Scope of Work

Village of Ashcroft

Date: April 1, 2022

Attention: Brian Bennewith
Village of Ashcroft
Director of Public Works

Project: Hot Tub Installation
Village of Ashcroft
P.O.Box 129
Ashcroft, B.C.
V0K 1A0



Welcome to

*S*erenity
*SP*ools
*A*nd
*H*ardscapes Inc.

We are a family owned business with approximately 40+ years experience in the Waterpark and Hotel Waterpark industry. Doug has managed major projects all over the world. After many years traveling the world we decided to take our experience and develop our own company. We have been incorporated since 2005

3682 Yorkton Rd. West Kelowna B.C. V4T 2T7 Ph: 250.864.3684

Email: Info@Spah.ca Web: WWW.Spah.ca





Doug McGenn
President



Kimberley McGenn
Vice President

TOWNEPLACE SPASH PARK MEDICINE HAT, AB.

Supply and Installation of the swimming pool, Spa, Train Slide, Turtle Spray Feature, Gizmos & Gadgets Spray Feature, Cyclone Waterslide into a runout as well as all associated ground works, plumbing, mechanical and concrete.



3682 Yorkton Rd. West Kelowna B.C. V4T 2T7 Ph: 250.864.3684

Email: Info@Spah.Ca Web: WWW.Spah.Ca

Hampton Inn St. Paul, AB.

- Installation Multi-Coloured Waterslide
- Coping Stones per Brand Standards
- Monolithic poured Leisure Pool



Pool & Waterslide St Paul Hampton Inn



Design & Engineering
Waterslide Supply & Installation
Supply & Install Swimming Pool
Supply & Install Mechanical Systems



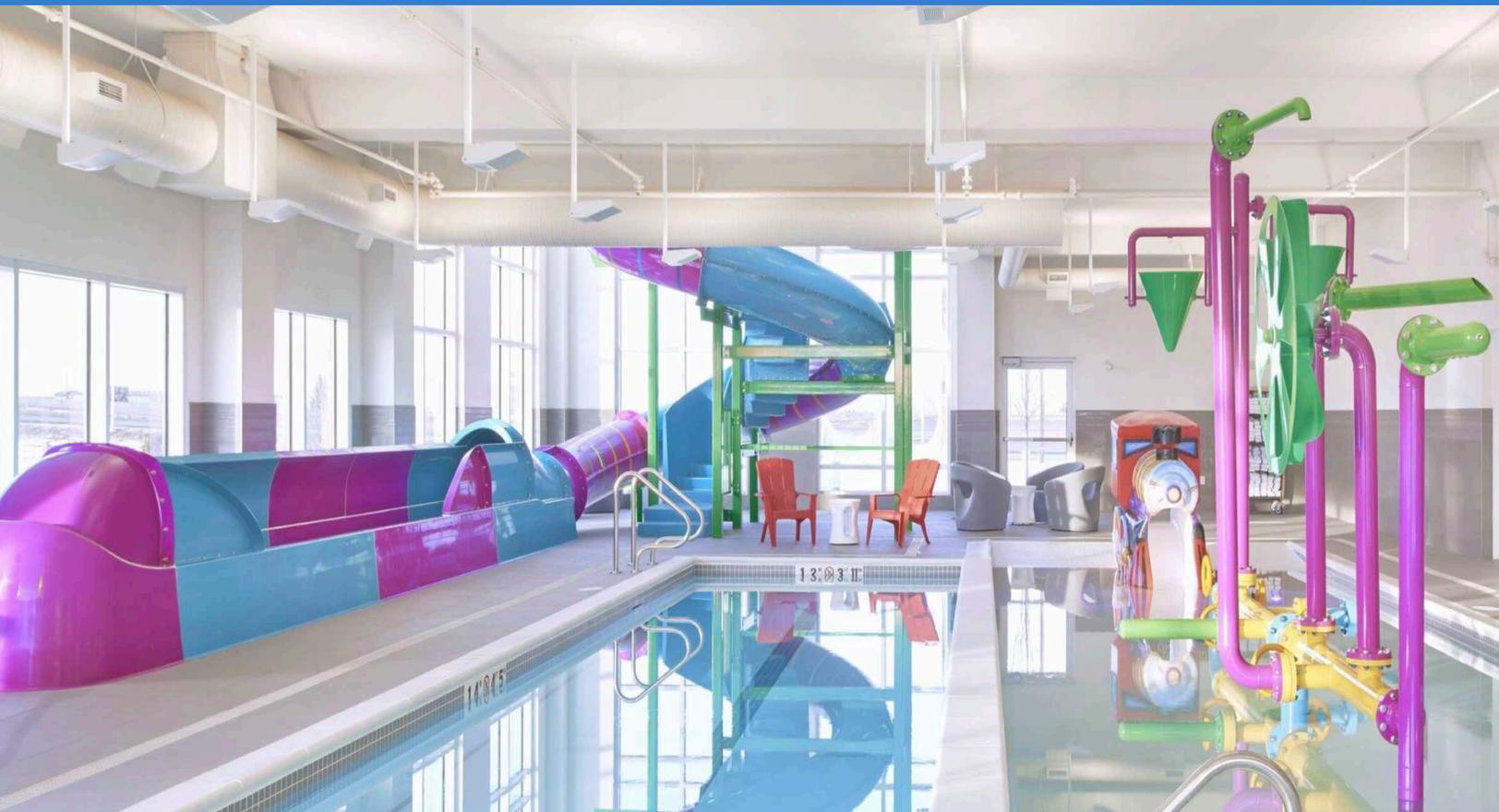
3682 Yorkton Rd. West Kelowna B.C. V4T 2T7 Ph: 250.864.3684

Email: Info@Spah.Ca Web: WWW.Spah.Ca

Red Deer Holiday Inn Gasline Alley



TOWNEPLACE SPASH PARK MEDICINE HAT



3682 Yorkton Rd. West Kelowna B.C. V4T 2T7 Ph: 250.864.3684

Email: Info@Spah.Ca Web: WWW.Spah.Ca

PROPOSAL SCOPE OF WORK

<p>I. Scope of Work</p>	<p>To provide all labour, material and equipment to provide systems of fully compatible components and construction methods required for complete and operable systems for an addition of an 16'-0" x 10'-0" outdoor spa . This quotation is based on the structural drawings from WestEdge Engineering Drawings labelled updated for mechanical changes and dated 02-07-2022. As well as mechanical drawings from HPF Engineering dated 02-28-2022 labelled issued for pricing.</p>
<p>II. Design. & Documentation</p>	<p>A. At completion of work copies of Operations and Maintenance Guidelines will be provided to the owner containing:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Operational Instructions including Vacuum and backwashing procedures2) Equipment literature with all parts list of all equipment3) Basic water chemistry procedures explained, including an initial water chemistry test4) Copies of manufacturer's Manuals5) Copy of drawings in manuals

PROPOSAL SCOPE OF WORK (CONT'D)

III. Warranty

- A. Serenity Pools & Hardscapes Inc. pass through to you the manufacturer's warranties on all mechanical equipment. The following are examples of such mechanical equipment: all pumps, Filters, heaters and controllers and chemical feeders.
- B. We will also warranty our workmanship for 12 month period from the date on commissioning documentation.
- C. Exclusions from Coverage- We do not assume responsibility for any of the following, all of which are excluded from the coverage of this Limited Warranty:
 - (1) Damage due to ordinary wear and tear, abusive use or lack of proper maintenance. Including damage due to lack of winterizing in the case of in operation during winter months for outdoor pool environments.
 - (2) Defects, which are the result of characteristics common to the materials, used, such as (but not limited to) light bulb burned out. Loss or damage due to adverse environmental conditions or extraordinary unforeseen circumstances.
 - (3) Conditions resulting from expansion/contraction of materials due to movement of materials under or around hot tub.
Any defects or damage due to any incorrect electrical connections or from items installed by maintenance staff or other sub trades other than our subcontractors or us.
 - (4) Act of God and extreme weather events are specifically excluded from this warranty including damages by airborne or waterborne debris. This warranty shall be limited to repair or replacement, at the option of Serenity Pools & Hardscapes Inc..

INSTALLATIONS SERVICES

Items and Service	Detail
I. Concrete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Superior, traditionally formed monolithically poured concrete hot tub 16 ft. x 10 ft with a radius wall ✓ Walls to be 8" thick including with a keyway detail at finish height around top edge of hot tub. ✓ Complete on site forming, reinforcing steel, placing of concrete for a rectangular shaped hot tub approximately 165 sq. ft. and water depths of approximately 3'-6" to 4'-5 ✓ Depth of Hot tub to be 3'-9" with a water depth of 3'-6" as per WestEdge Engineering drawings dated 02-07-2022
II. Mechanical Components	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Supply and install all mechanical equipment for a 13 jet hot tub as specified on engineered drawings in accordance with the health act. ✓ All White goods as specified on drawings including returns, skimmers, jets, main drains and sumps plumbed with Schedule 40 PVC ✓ All plumbing for hot tub mechanical (ie: Pumps, Filters, Heaters) to plumbed with Schedule 40 PVC and pressure tested. ✓ Salvage and Re-Use Existing Raypak Heater to supply heat for hot tub ✓ Fixed Pal 2 ADA Lift (See Pricing Below) ✓ New Stark Sand Filter to Replace Existing
III. Chemical Automation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Re-Use Rola Chem RC554XP chlorine chemical controller ✓ Re-Use Milton Ray LM161-168 injection pump to distribute chemicals ✓ Re-Use Chlorine Containment tanks ✓ Ph control by Strantrol CO2 injection controller, Untouched

INSTALLATIONS SERVICES (CON'T)

Items and Service	Detail
IV. Finishes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Complete tiled hot tub consisting of 2" x 2" porcelain mosaic tile. ✓ Pool to be furnished with a contrasting tiled 8". boarder on pool deck with handheld nosing tile. ✓ Inside top hand hold edge to be special non-glazed porcelain bull nosed tile. ✓ Waterline consisting of 8". coloured porcelain glazed tile on the inside edge ✓ All leading edges of benches and stairs will have a round edge contrasting coloured tile as required by the health department. ✓ Remaining interior of walls on to tub are to be White 2x2" mosaic tile. Unless specified otherwise. ✓ Appropriate depth markers for waterline and decking in glazed and non-glazed as required by health. ✓ 2- LED white Lights for Hot Tub ✓ Stainless Steel Handrails
V. Commissioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ We will coordinate the filling of the hot tub and start up all operating systems to clean and prepare for use. ✓ Provide a one time on site orientation training of maintenance staff and transfer all equipment operational manuals to authorized personnel and digital copies to general contractor and facility owners. ✓ Provide a box containing all extra manufacturer supplied replacement parts that were provided with installed equipment

EQUIPMENT SUPPLY

Items	Detail
Chemical System	Use existing Rola Chem Model RC554XP with Milton Ray Pump Model A161-168 C for Chlorine Injection
Spa Filtration	New Stark SS Series Model RS1-60-04
Skimmers	New Pentair Bermuda skimmers for pool
Spa Jet Pump	New Pentair Whisperflow XF XFE-12 3HP
Spa Filtration Pump	New Pentair Whisperflow XFVS 5HP pump
Spa Railings	New 2-HR-5-065
Jet Suction	2-Paramount SDX2 Series Model 004-182-2231
Hot tub Main Drains	Super Sump 12"x12" MLD-SG-1212 main drain covers
Flow Meters	2-3" FlowVis flow meters for Jets and Circulation Systems
Spa Lighting	2-Pentair Led White Lights
Thermometer	In-line thermometer 30 to 130 degree
Heater	Re-Use Existing Raypack P-0624

INSTALLATION SERVICES OTHER

Equipment	Detail
I. Excavation & Backfill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Backfill required around new hot tub ✓ Grading for new Deck area around new hot tub ✓ Supply & Installation of Trench Drains, ✓ New deck area, buildings etc. ✓ Soils testing and geotechnical report
II. Concrete Deck	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Complete on site forming, reinforcing steel, placing of concrete to replace deck area around spa.
III. Permits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Any Building Permits, licenses, and submission as required by local authorities ✓ Soils testing and geotechnical report
IV. Equipment Supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Garbage & Recycling Bins , construction fencing to be supplied

CLIENT RESPONSIBILITY

Equipment	Detail
I. Electrical Components	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Installation of any required electrical panels, breakers, conduits, wiring such as pumps and emergency stops or timers. ✓ Electrical grounding of rebar, handrails, and lights as well as chemical controllers ✓ Electrical service for wiring pumps, heaters, controllers, lights, or any switches or other equipment. ✓ Installation of Emergency Stop and Timer for Jets
II. Safety Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Provide safety equipment required for pool deck including a health department approved life ring and nonconductive rescue pole and rescue hook as well as whirlpool and swimming pool safety rule signs.

PRICING DETAILS

Optional A		Price (CAD)
Supply & Installation of Hot Tub & Mechanical Equipment		\$163,750.00
	GST	\$8,187.50
	Total (CAD)	\$171,937.50
Optional B		
Supply & Installation of Hot Tub		\$163,750.00
Installation Services Other ie: Deck prep & Concrete placement etc.		\$32,500.00
PAL 2 Deck Mount ADA Lift Supply & Install		\$19,000.00
	Total Before Tax	\$215,250.00
	GST	\$10,762.50
	Total (CAD)	\$226,012.50

PAYMENT TERMS

Payments	Terms Based on OPTION B	Price Including Tax (CAD)
Deposit	35% Deposit	\$79,104.38
3rd Payment	45% + GST upon completion of concrete floor and walls	\$101,705.63
4th Payment	15% + GST upon delivery of Mechanical Equipment	\$33,901.88
Final Payment	5% + GST upon completion of pools and startup	\$11,300.63
	Total Including Tax (CAD)	\$226,012.50

PAYMENT TERMS (CONT'D)

IV. Payment Terms

1. No warranties are valid until final payment is received.
2. All materials are guaranteed to be as specified. All work to be completed in a substantial workman like manner according to specifications submitted, per standard practices.
3. Any alteration or deviation from above specifications involving extra cost will be executed upon written order, and will become an extra charge over and beyond the estimate.
4. All agreements are contingent upon strikes, accidents or delays beyond our control.
5. Owner is required to carry fire and other necessary insurance.
6. Our workers and directors are fully covered by Worker's Compensation Insurance.
7. Serenity Pools & Hardscapes Inc. is fully insured with \$5,000,000 liability insurance
8. If either party commences legal action to enforce its rights pursuant to this agreement, the prevailing party and said legal action shall be entitled to recover its reasonable attorney's fees and costs of litigation relating to said legal action, as determined by the court.

V. Agreement

We would welcome the opportunity to construct the swimming pool area as outlined above. Please sign and return this signed document as acceptance of pricing and terms. We would expect a deposit of 15% to continue forward and begin engineering on this project. Please contact me if you have any questions.



Doug McGenn

President

Serenity Pools & Hardscapes Inc.



Kimberley McGenn

Vice President

Serenity Pools & Hardscapes Inc.

Offer agreed and accepted:

Check the items below:

- I have understood and I agree to Offer prices, equipment specifications
- I have understood and I agree to the Scope of Work
- I have understood and I agree to Payment Terms
- I have read and understand the client responsibilities

ON BEHALF OF MR. LYALL SARGENT (Buyer)

Signature:

Date:

Name:

Designation:

BEHALF OF SERENITY POOLS & HARDSCAPES INC.

Signature:

Date:

Name:

Designation:



3682 Yorkton Rd. West Kelowna B.C. V4T 2T7 Ph: 250.864.3684

Email: Info@Spah.ca Web: WWW.Spah.ca



PO Box 185
Clinton BC V0K 1K0
Phone: 250-459-2759
Email: clintonannualball@clintonannualball.com
Website: www.clintonannualball.com

March 21, 2022

By e-mail

Mayor Barbara Roden
Village of Ashcroft

Dear Mayor Roden:

Re: 155th Clinton Annual Ball – May 21, 2022

After being thwarted by Covid-19, the Clinton Annual Ball Committee is pleased to announce that a full-blown Ball has been scheduled for May 21, 2022. Doors open at 5:00 pm.

The Clinton Annual Ball Committee is planning a fabulous evening of dining, entertainment and dancing. We are looking forward to celebrating Logging and Forestry in the Cariboo.

We would be delighted to have you and your guests join us for this special occasion. Tickets are \$75.00 each and can be obtained by calling 250-459-7069 or emailing tickets@clintonannualball.com. As only a limited number of tickets are still available, please let us know, at your earliest convenience (deadline - mid April) how many tickets you require.

We look forward to seeing you at the 155th Clinton Annual Ball!

Sincerely,

Lily Barnett
Clinton Annual Ball Committee, Secretary

His/Her Worship Mayor,

I'm writing to you on behalf of Nature Canada's ocean protection team with an opportunity to help create positive change for your community, and the natural world we all rely on.

Canada has the longest coastline in the world. With it comes the duty to be leaders in protecting and restoring the ocean. As part of the Global Deal for Nature in the Paris Accords, our government **has promised to protect 30 percent of oceans by 2030** through establishing Marine Protected Areas. In 2015 only one percent of Canadian oceans were protected. But as of 2020, due advocacy by Canadians like you, nearly 14 percent of the world's oceans are now safeguarded for generations to come.

Municipalities can be powerful change agents in the goal to protect 30 percent of the world's oceans by 2030. We have seen this leadership in action in combating climate change, when cities and towns across the world stepped up to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and pressured federal governments to do the same. Whether on the coast or far inland, municipalities rely on ocean ecosystems for seafood production, climate regulation, and the preservation of unique and beautiful animals and ecosystems.

Municipalities are on the front lines of climate change and feel effects firsthand, from extreme heat to extreme precipitation.

Reaching our ocean protection goal will help us win the fight against global warming. Municipalities are on the front lines of climate change and feel effects firsthand, from extreme heat to extreme precipitation. The oceans play a pivotal role counteracting climate change as the largest carbon sink, providing more than half our oxygen while storing fifty times more carbon than the atmosphere. Oceans also regulate weather, helping to balance the uneven distribution of solar radiation.

Here's why we need you: Your voice as a municipality can influence national governments and have a direct effect on the quality of life for your residents. It's as easy as having the council pass the attached resolution. By taking this simple step, you will be helping our policy team show government officials that Canadians support National Marine Protected Areas and encourage them to implement effective policies.

It would mean a great deal to us if you could sign on to help secure a future for our generation and the generations to come.

In solidarity with you and with our natural world,

Paul Gregory
Senior Oceans Campaigner

Nature Canada is one of the oldest national nature conservation charities in Canada. For 80 years, we've helped protect over 110 million acres of parks and wildlife areas in Canada and countless species. Today, Nature Canada represents a network of over 130,000 members and supporters, guided by more than 1,200 nature organizations.

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF MUNICIPALITY X RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING
WORLD OCEANS DAY 2022 AND THE ADVANCEMENT OF OCEAN CONSERVATION IN
CANADA**

WHEREAS, Wednesday, June 8, 2022, is the 30th annual World Ocean's Day. World Oceans Day is the United Nations day for celebrating the role of the ocean in everyday life and inspiring action to protect it.

WHEREAS, Countries around the world, including Canada as a prominent leader, have committed to protecting 30% of their ocean territory by 2030 in order to reverse nature loss in the ocean and safeguard at-risk marine life.

WHEREAS, The ocean is home to hundreds of species at risk, vulnerable ecosystems, and is a crucial carbon sink shielding us from the worst of climate change.

WHEREAS, The ocean produces over half of the world's oxygen and absorbs 50 times more carbon dioxide than our atmosphere. Therefore protecting the ocean is in the interest of all life on Earth, and communities both coastal and inland, as it is essential to our shared future.

WHEREAS, It is the jurisdiction of the Government of Canada, under various pieces of legislation and regulation, to establish marine protected areas in consultation with Indigenous Peoples. Many Indigenous nations and communities are leading in the conservation of the ocean, and have been stewards of the ocean since time immemorial.

WHEREAS, It is important for municipal leaders to demonstrate support for actions to safeguard the ocean, as they have for action on climate change and other environmental matters of national importance.

WHEREAS, In celebrating the ocean, and protecting its habitats and ecosystems, we can together raise the profile of ocean conservation's critical role in improving planetary health and slowing the crisis of species collapse and ecosystem decline.

Therefore be it resolved that the MUNICIPALITY OF X recognizes the 30th anniversary of World Oceans Day on June 8th, 2022 and supports national and international efforts to protect 30% of the ocean by 2030.

From: DON HAUKA <ddclauka@shaw.ca>

Sent: March 30, 2022 2:10 PM

To: DONALD/DON HAUKA <ddclauka@shaw.ca>

Subject: Request for a motion of support from the New Pathways to Gold Society



Dear Civic Partner:

A few weeks ago, we wrote to ask for your support in our campaign to secure additional funding from the provincial government in order to keep the New Pathways to Gold Society (NPTGS) operating past June. We are happy to say that some of you have already expressed your support. On March 22, Williams Lake City Council passed this motion:

That pursuant to the request of the New Pathways to Gold Society (NPTGS) in their letter dated March 2, 2022, Council send a letter of support for the NPTGS work and investments in the region's Gold Rush/Spirit Trails heritage tourism corridor to Premier John Horgan, TACS Minister Melanie Mark and Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation Minister Murray Rankin urging them to continue providing the NPTGS with the stable, ongoing core funding needed for them to continue providing this valuable service.

The Quesnel City Council passed an almost identical motion at their March 15 meeting. We thank these civic partners for sending a message to the provincial government that NPTGS is a valuable organization dedicated to Reconciliation and economic development via heritage tourism and Multiculturalism.

If you have not done so already, we ask that you put a similar motion of support on the agenda of your next meeting. Let the BC Government know that you want the Society to keep on making the difference in the lives of the people living the length of the Gold Rush/Spirit Trails. And tell them how much it means to your community to have the government continue to invest in the heritage tourism assets in your area.

We thank you in advance. We know that by working together as we have since 2007, we can continue to help build local economies in Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities from Hope to Barkerville. We hope that this finds you well and safe!

Sincerely,

Cheryl Chapman, Indigenous Co-Chair
Terry Raymond, Co-Chair

For more information, please contact
Don Hauka,
Executive Director,
New Pathways to Gold Society
Email: ddclauka@shaw.ca
Cell: 604-787-9155



New Pathways to Gold

Meet the New Pathways to Gold Society!



Hi! We're the New Pathways to Gold Society (NPTGS), a non-profit, non-partisan organization working with communities along the Gold Rush/Spirit Trails, stretching from Hope to Barkerville and beyond. NPTGS is dedicated to heritage tourism, Indigenous reconciliation and economic development. With financial support from the government of British Columbia and other partners, we've done a great deal along the corridor since we were incorporated in 2007 to build sustainable local economies. Working together over the past fifteen years we've:

- **Built or restored over 270 km of heritage trails and installed dozens of signs, kiosks and campsites**
- **Raised and/or leveraged over \$4.75 million for projects in local communities**
- **Launched and/or completed 20 major projects and staged over 200 events, performances, lectures, workshops, screenings and symposia**
- **Created 15,000 person-days of employment**
- **Partnered with nearly 150 municipalities, regional districts, Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities in four provincial and three federal electoral ridings to deliver projects and employment along the Gold Rush/Spirit Trails corridor and throughout B.C.**
- **Worked with over a dozen heritage sites to deliver programming and create new tourism assets**
- **Partnered with ministries and agencies at all levels of government to mobilize resources to make the difference in Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities along the Gold Rush/Spirit Trails corridor**
- **Forged relationships with dozens of Indigenous and non-Indigenous cultural organizations and educational institutions to tell a more inclusive narrative of our shared history**
- **Created compelling communications materials and media content with a global reach to promote Heritage Tourism, Reconciliation and Multiculturalism**
- **Funded numerous small events in communities from Hope-Barkerville**

AND STAY TUNED!

NPTGS is working on projects big and small all along the corridor. By restoring and reinventing existing heritage tourism assets and creating new ones, we're helping create employment in Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities. Some of our major projects include:

Restoring intact, accessible sections of a legendary route via the **Cariboo Waggon Road Restoration Project**. Local economies from Yale to Lillooet to Barkerville are benefitting from this partnership with Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities, the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, the Friends of Barkerville, corporate partners and other organizations.



Partnering with the Spuzzum First Nation and others on the **1926 Alexandra Bridge Rehabilitation Project** to create a marquee heritage tourism attraction and preserve/restore the iconic 1926 structure, built on the foundations of the original Cariboo Waggon Road bridge at this ancient Indigenous crossing point. Other partners include the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, BC Parks and Heritage BC.



Transforming the **Gold Rush Snowmobile Trail** between Clinton and Horsefly into an all-season trail for use by hikers, cyclists and horseback riding enthusiasts as well as snowmobilers.

We're working with our partners at Gold Rush Trails Marketing and Destination BC to attract visitors to the entire Gold Rush/Spirit corridor. Check our website (www.newpathwaystogold.ca) for more information.



TALK TO US!

Our Board of Directors represent Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities from Hope to Barkerville. We'd love to talk to you. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to:

Cheryl Chapman, Indigenous Co-chair, Indigenous Director, North Cariboo:

Terry Raymond, Co-chair, Director Canyon:

Brent Rutherford, Secretary, Director South Cariboo:

Chief James Hobart, Indigenous Director, Canyon:

Byron Spinks, Indigenous Director, Thompson:

Paul Clark, Director, Thompson:

Roy Christopher, Indigenous Director, South Cariboo:

Ron Paull, Director, North Cariboo:

Michael Retasket, Indigenous Director, Tourism Associations:

Susanna Ng, Multicultural Director:

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New Pathways to Gold Society

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Tel. 604-787-9155

Visit Cache Creek, Box 353, Cache Creek BC V0K1H0
www.visitcachecreek.ca
visitcachecreek@gmail.com

Hello!

Desert Mesa Club as the operator of the Cache Creek Visitor Information Centre is applying for funding for the marketing plan of Visit Cache Creek.

The marketing plan for the Centre includes:

- New Signage for the centre featuring a map of local businesses located outside the Centre and a regional map showcasing Ashcroft, Cache Creek, and Clinton.
- Creation of an Ashcroft, Cache Creek, Clinton, and area Regional Chamber of Commerce, with a fee-free membership.

A Regional Chamber of Commerce will benefit the businesses in our communities by providing:

- Business exposure
- Community involvement
- Grant funding
- Workshops, conferences, and training opportunities
- Networking events

We have secured money for the project and are looking to leverage that into additional grant funding, *no funding is being requested from the municipalities for this project.*

I would like to ask for a motion from council **“THAT, the Village of Ashcroft supports the application to Northern Development Initiative Trust from the Desert Mesa Club for the Marketing Initiative Grant.”** and a letter of support confirming the motion was carried.

Thank you for your time,

Kat Chatten
Manager, Visit Cache Creek



Development and implementation of a Heat Alert and Response System in rural British Columbia

Heather E. Deegan¹ · Jenny Green² · Sylvia El Kurdi³ · Michelle Allen⁴ · Sue L. Pollock⁵ 

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Abstract

Setting In 2018, a regional health authority in British Columbia (BC) initiated a multi-year project to support planning and response to extreme heat. Climate projections indicate that temperatures in the southern interior of BC will continue to increase, with concomitant negative impacts on human health. Successful climate change adaptation must include cross-sectoral action, inclusive of the health sector, to plan for and respond to climate-related events, including extreme heat.

Intervention The objective of this project was to support the development and implementation of a Heat Alert and Response System (HARS) in a small, rural community. The health authority facilitated collaboration among provincial and local governments, community organizations, and First Nations partners to assess community assets, draft a plan for extreme heat, and prepare for a community-supported response during heat events.

Outcomes Stakeholders expressed the importance of utilizing existing partnerships and community resources, such as physical and procedural infrastructure, in which to embed the HARS. It was imperative that the plan be simple, concise, and considerate of the community's unique context. Educational materials and a tailored method of dissemination were important for collective and individual risk mitigation.

Implications A community-driven approach that utilized existing assets allowed for integration of HARS within municipal response plans and established infrastructure. The result is a sustainable public health intervention that has the potential to mitigate the negative health effects of extreme heat. Knowledge acquired through this initiative is informing similar HARS planning processes in other rural BC communities.

Résumé

Lieu En 2018, une régie régionale de la santé de la Colombie-Britannique a lancé un projet pluriannuel de soutien de la planification et des interventions face à la chaleur extrême. Selon les projections climatiques, les températures dans l'intérieur méridional de la province continueront d'augmenter, ce qui aura des effets nuisibles sur la santé humaine. Pour se préparer aux phénomènes climatiques comme la chaleur extrême et pour intervenir efficacement, les mesures d'adaptation doivent être intersectorielles et englober le secteur de la santé.

Intervention Le projet visait à soutenir la création et la mise en œuvre d'un système d'alerte et d'intervention à la chaleur (SAIC) dans une petite communauté rurale. La régie de la santé a facilité la collaboration entre le gouvernement provincial, l'administration locale, les organismes associatifs et les partenaires des Premières Nations pour évaluer les actifs communautaires, dresser un plan en cas de chaleur extrême et se préparer à intervenir avec l'aide de la communauté durant les épisodes de chaleur.

Résultats Les acteurs ont souligné l'importance d'utiliser les partenariats et les ressources communautaires existants, comme les infrastructures matérielles et administratives, et d'y intégrer le SAIC. Il fallait absolument que le plan soit simple et concis et qu'il

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tienne compte du contexte particulier de la communauté. Il a été jugé important d'avoir du matériel pédagogique et une méthode de diffusion créés sur mesure pour atténuer les risques individuels et collectifs.

Conséquences Une approche communautaire utilisant les actifs existants a permis d'intégrer le SAIC dans les plans d'intervention municipaux et les infrastructures établies. Il en est résulté une intervention sanitaire durable qui peut potentiellement atténuer les effets néfastes de la chaleur extrême sur la santé. Les connaissances acquises grâce à cette initiative éclairent aujourd'hui des processus de planification de SAIC similaires dans d'autres communautés rurales de la Colombie-Britannique.

Keywords Extreme heat · Heat Alert and Response Systems · Public health practice · Cross-sectoral partnership · Community engagement · British Columbia

Mots-clés Chaleur extrême · systèmes d'alerte et d'intervention à la chaleur · pratiques en santé publique · partenariat intersectoriel · participation de la communauté · Colombie-Britannique

Introduction

In 2018, a regional health authority (hereafter, “the health authority”) in the southern interior region of British Columbia (BC) embarked on a multi-year project to support planning and response to extreme heat in rural and remote communities. The health authority is one of five geographically defined health authorities in BC with a population over 800,000 and covering 215 km². The region includes 59 municipalities ($n=53 < 20,000$ population), 10 regional districts, 16 school districts, 54 First Nations, and 15 Métis chartered communities. Approximately 8.8% of the total population identify as Aboriginal (Interior Health 2021).

Wildfires, floods, and extreme heat events are common in this region and expected to worsen in frequency and severity over time. An average warming of 3.2°C and increase in precipitation of 1.2% is expected annually in the 2050s compared with a 1961–1990 baseline (data are publicly available: <https://services.pacificclimate.org/plan2adapt/app/>). The health impacts of climate change are well described in the literature (Costello et al. 2009). While the impacts of wildfire smoke on health are apparent during poor air quality events, the effects of heat on health are more insidious. The continuum of heat-related illness ranges from heat rash to heat stroke, a medical emergency. In the province of BC, heat waves have been linked to excess mortality (British Columbia Coroners Service 2021; Kosatsky et al. 2012). Infants, young children, and older adults are at highest risk. Additional risk exists for people who work or exercise outdoors, use substances, have poor access to stable housing, and have select underlying chronic diseases. Fortunately, heat-related illness is entirely preventable through individual, community, and policy interventions.

Climate change adaptation ideally includes efforts across multiple sectors to plan for and respond to events, including extreme heat. Because of impacts on human health, the health sector plays an important role. This paper provides an

overview of an ongoing cross-sectoral partnership with one rural BC community to develop and implement a Heat Alert and Response System (HARS).

Intervention

Heat Alert and Response Systems alert the public of risk through an organized communication system that helps individuals and communities to prepare and protect themselves, both before and during extreme heat events (Health Canada 2012). These systems have been implemented in multiple urban jurisdictions in Canada. However, urban and rural communities have distinct differences which should be reflected in a HARS plan. For example, rural residents are more likely to know and trust their neighbours, provide unpaid volunteer work, and have a strong sense of belonging to their community (Statistics Canada 2005). In recognition of these differences, the health authority identified the need to pilot HARS development and implementation in a rural setting with the intent to develop a framework for HARS in similar sized communities.

In order to identify communities for potential participation, temperature data for the 59 municipalities within the health authority catchment were reviewed. The Health and Air Quality Forecast Services at Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) provided temperature data and information on past heat advisories and alerts (ECCC 2018). Communities that had existing strong relationships with the health authority were prioritized, recognizing that the partnership aspect of the work would be integral to success.

The health authority subsequently identified one community to invite into the HARS initiative, the Village of Ashcroft (hereafter, “Ashcroft”). In addition to historically high temperatures, Ashcroft also had a high proportion of the population over 60 years of age (47.5% per Statistics Canada 2017),

a demographic that is particularly vulnerable to heat (Health Canada 2011). Ashcroft also met the criteria for small and rural. As per the 2016 Census, the population of Ashcroft is 1558 people and the closest large urban municipality is Kamloops with a population of 90,280 and 94 km driving distance (Statistics Canada 2017).

Initial engagement

The health authority extended an invitation to Ashcroft to work together to prevent and minimize heat health impacts on the local population. The project leads travelled several times to the community, first to meet with municipal staff and then to deliver a formal presentation to Mayor and Council during a public council meeting, outlining the initiative and the opportunity to collaborate. The presentation included information about historical and projected heat in the region, the health impacts of heat, the core elements of HARS, and benefits to the community, including financial and in-kind supports.

Once the proposed partnership was supported by the municipality, key community stakeholders were invited to develop and implement a HARS. The Ashcroft HARS Stakeholder Committee (hereafter, “the committee”) was formed and comprised individuals from the municipal government and regional district, Emergency Management BC, the local school district, public health, community organizations including non-profits, first responders, a volunteer coordinator, First Nation Band members, and members of the public. The committee provided input into the five core elements of HARS, depicted in Figure 1 and described as follows.

Five core elements of HARS

1. Community mobilization and engagement

A participatory approach was used in the development of the HARS for Ashcroft. Engagement activity was purposeful and used the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) spectrum of public participation techniques: inform, consult, involve, collaborate, and empower (International Association for Public Participation 2018). There was ongoing consultation with partners, relying on expertise from the community for knowledge and contextual considerations, plus expertise from health authority staff for technical aspects of HARS, including best practices from elsewhere.

Stakeholder engagement included several dynamic and interactive workshops and meetings with the committee, conducted in-person and virtually. The first engagement session was an opportunity to assess strengths, vulnerabilities, assets, and needs. The project team shared information about extreme heat and health impacts, as well as community preparation. The committee developed asset maps of physical

infrastructure and social and communication hubs in both Ashcroft and in the local First Nations community. The committee also identified which local populations would be most vulnerable to extreme heat and discussed which agencies and service providers had connections with these populations.

Subsequent engagement sessions were held to create the HARS, which included identifying each stakeholder’s heat response actions and preferred communication methods. The committee reviewed the overall processes and community response plan, including communication materials and dissemination methods. The in-person sessions created opportunities for the committee to strengthen social connections, provide locally relevant input, and work together to address challenges and concerns.

2. Alert protocol

The BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC), in collaboration with ECCC and Health Canada, previously developed heat alert thresholds for the province of BC and its varied climatic regions (McLean et al. 2018). This involved identifying day and night temperature combinations that were correlated with pronounced negative health outcomes in the regions. Based on these thresholds, ECCC generates extreme heat event alerts for BC, using highly conservative meteorological models. An alert issued by ECCC triggers the activation of the community response plan within Ashcroft. The health authority also monitors these alerts for surveillance purposes, as well as for any informational support Ashcroft may need.

3. Communication plan

Communication methods and activities are embedded in the community response plan and are activated prior to and during heat events. Ashcroft’s plan outlines communication activities that are implemented by the municipality, such as education for staff, as well as materials that are disseminated to community stakeholders and the public about preparedness for extreme heat. Examples include the pre-heat and advisory notifications, the use of social media, and Web-based messages.

Community stakeholders identified the need to include the language “take the time to talk to your neighbours and identify residents who may require assistance during lengthy extreme heat events.” This message is included in the pamphlets distributed by Ashcroft. Additional messages were more specific and provided guidance for neighbours to watch for “people who do not have air conditioning, have limited or no form of transportation and no supply of bottled water on hand.” Broader community support for information dissemination at the neighbourhood level was explored with a local grassroots volunteer group that mobilized after the 2017 wildfires; this

HEAT ALERT RESPONSE SYSTEMS (HARS)



Fig. 1 Five core elements of HARS

group was willing to offer their pre-existing network and mobilize during a heat event as necessary.

4. Community response plan

The community response plan utilizes existing partnerships, and physical and communications infrastructure to support the community and individuals to take protective actions against extreme heat. The plan includes a list of community stakeholders (e.g., community agencies, service providers and businesses) as well as roles and responsibilities of each. Each stakeholder has the responsibility to take action during a heat event, for example dissemination of information among their networks. The level of response from the community depends on the anticipated length of the heat event. Increased length of the event results in higher risk to the population. As such, HARS can be tiered by creating different response levels. In Ashcroft, the plan is tiered into three stages based on level of activation.

In the *Pre-Heat Notification* stage, there is action to raise awareness that Ashcroft is expected to get hot temperatures and the community should anticipate subsequent heat advisories. In this stage, pamphlets are mailed, updated heat information is placed on the Ashcroft website, stakeholders receive email notices, and municipal staff are provided with education to build awareness of the HARS protocols and plan.

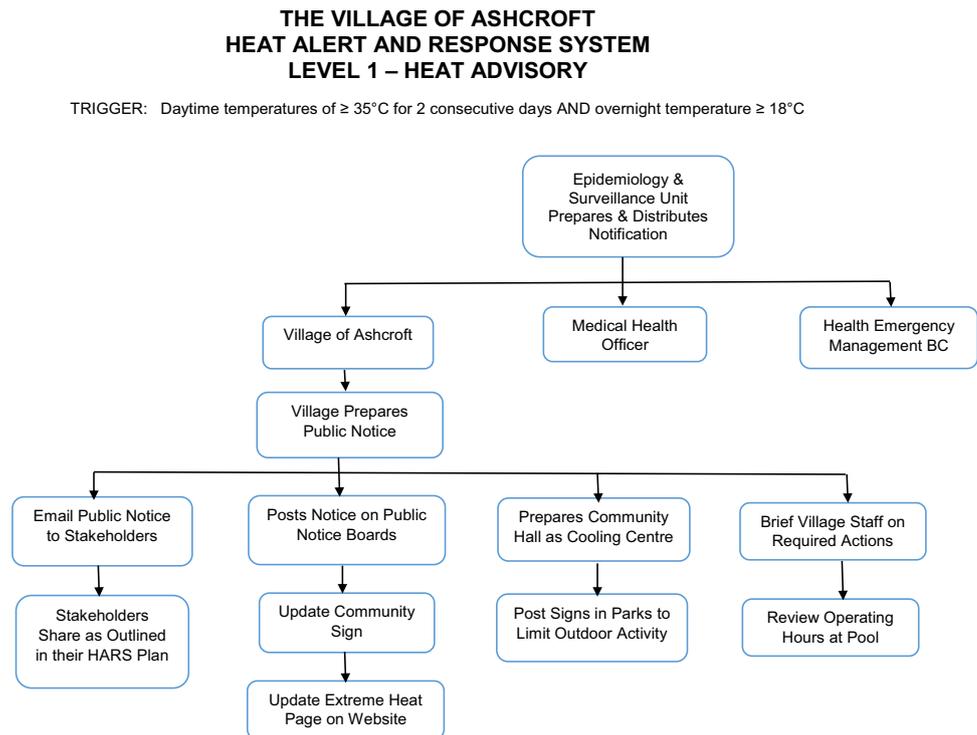
The response to the initial ECCC alert in Ashcroft is considered *Level 1 Heat Advisory*. In this stage, the community is notified that Ashcroft will experience hot temperatures ($\geq 35^{\circ}\text{C}$ for 2 consecutive days AND overnight temperature $\geq 18^{\circ}\text{C}$). Public messaging related to the prevention of heat-related illness is also disseminated. Figure 2 provides details on the flow of information and actions taken by the community.

In the *Level 2 Heat Advisory* stage, the community is notified that Ashcroft will experience extremely hot temperatures for three consecutive days and that the health of the population is at higher risk. Messaging and actions aim to protect those who are more susceptible to heat-related health problems by placing signage in parks to encourage the reduction of outdoor activity, preparing cooling centres for people to attend and get relief from heat, and reviewing operating hours at the public pool.

5. Evaluation plan

Evaluation is a key component of HARS to ensure the plan is working effectively for the community. In Ashcroft, the actions taken during the 2020 heat season were evaluated during a virtual engagement session with the committee. The session included a presentation delivered by Ashcroft that described the implementation of the community response plan and how COVID-19 restrictions resulted in modifications to the plan. A

Fig. 2 Flow of information and community actions during a Level 1 Heat Advisory



presentation was given by the health authority describing the background and process of the Heat Alert Protocols established by ECCC and BCCDC. Stakeholder feedback was collected during the session to identify areas for improvement of communication methods and activities. A questionnaire, adapted from Health Canada (Health Canada 2012), was completed by Village of Ashcroft staff at the end of the 2020 heat season. The purposes of the questionnaire were to assess whether the HARS design and delivery was implemented as planned and whether the target population was reached, and to identify perceived challenges and successes.

A formal and comprehensive evaluation plan is in development to assess the timeliness, relevance, and effectiveness of the intervention to date and to help stakeholders understand how the measures are reducing the negative health impacts of extreme heat. Community stakeholders should be included from all sectors, including public health, local government, First Nation Band members, first responders, community agencies, schools, and community members (Interior Health 2020). Ideally, future evaluation methods will include in-person focus groups with vulnerable sub-populations, including groups that meet regularly such as the seniors' group.

Outcomes

The Ashcroft HARS is simple, concise, and relevant to the community's context. Although Ashcroft was ready to implement HARS in the summer of 2019, temperature thresholds

for activation were not met and the plan was not implemented. In the summer of 2020, temperature thresholds were met twice. Although the HARS plan was activated in 2020, the planned actions were modified due to the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, public congregation was not supported and community cooling centres could not be opened.

A unique aspect of the Ashcroft HARS included the tiered response levels and associated risk-related heat mitigation activities, including community notice boards, designated locations for cooling centres, mail outs of paper notices, signs posted in visible places, and outreach to vulnerable populations. An output of this project is a framework that could be used in smaller communities in BC and Canada to develop similar plans. Protocol checklists were developed for Ashcroft staff to support implementation of activities at each response level. Printed and digital notification templates included public health messages targeted to each response level, with a focus on education for individuals on how to prepare for and manage extreme heat.

One important outcome of this project is understanding how to best communicate heat messages in a small rural community, where there might be a lack of traditional media such as a dedicated radio station or newspaper. The committee carefully reviewed materials and tools and chose communication methods and language that would best suit their community; it was recommended that the word "alert" should be avoided, as it was flagged as a potential trigger in creating anxiety within the community due to recent threats from wildfires (Government of British Columbia 2019). As a result, the

term “advisory” was chosen. Educational materials that encourage individuals to take action against extreme heat were identified as the most effective means to mitigate risk in a community with limited resources. Paper flyers were seen as preferable for disseminating messaging, in part to ensure that vulnerable populations such as seniors were reached. During heat events, informational materials such as brochures and posters are now distributed through the local post office and through household mail boxes, and posted on bulletin boards at high-traffic sites throughout the community, including the community hall, the museum, and the Village Office. Additional methods of communication about extreme heat include lawn signs, the Village of Ashcroft website (Village of Ashcroft 2021), Facebook, and Twitter. Figure 3 depicts the key messaging provided to the community via social media during a Level 2 Heat Advisory. It is essential to find a balance between not enough and too much information, in order to avoid message fatigue.

Rural-based HARS planning must take into account resource availability and allocation. Ashcroft had only one full-time and one part-time employee in the municipal office who could dedicate some time to the project. The Chief Administrative Officer was the primary contact for the HARS initiative and she was preparing for an election year and had many other demands on her time. To minimize the burden on a limited resource base, the HARS plan was based on or embedded into existing physical and procedural infrastructure, e.g., the tiered response levels in the HARS plan were adapted from the local water system emergency response plan. Several sites within the community were considered as possible cooling centres, including the community swimming pool, library, and local businesses. Ultimately, the Ashcroft Community Hall was identified as the best place for people to seek cool shelter. The committee also played an integral role in the development of the community response plan as well as the promotion and implementation of the plan. Establishment of the committee enabled commitment, diversity of perspective, and efficient communication. While Ashcroft is the lead agency and initiates the plan, each committee member has responsibility for their respective actions during an extreme heat event.

The community response plan can now be updated as necessary when circumstances change within participating organizations and the broader community. The adaptability of Ashcroft’s plan was demonstrated during the COVID-19 pandemic. Regular review of the plan is encouraged to identify what is working well and what can be improved to protect the health of the public and reduce risk of illness and death.

Implications

This initiative demonstrates development and implementation of HARS in one rural community. Heat-related morbidity and mortality data helped establish the urgent need to plan for heat-

related emergencies amid competing priorities. One benefit of HARS is that it can be tailored to a community’s needs and resources; the stakeholder committee was critical in ensuring that this intervention was directly relevant to the unique context of this small community. The importance of health sector involvement is described in the Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion (World Health Organization 1986). Within this HARS intervention, the health authority endeavoured to create supportive environments and strengthen community action. While it is important for the health sector to be involved, HARS should be community-driven and community-led to ensure successful implementation and ongoing sustainability. Achieving consensus on roles and responsibilities of stakeholders was key during the planning process.

Although it will take more than one heat season to measure positive impacts on the health of the community, specifically a reduction in heat-related illness or death, there are other indications of early success. Notably, the community response plan was activated during the summer of 2020 in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, including the initiation of pre-heat notifications in anticipation of hot temperatures. Based on feedback from stakeholders, these actions led to higher awareness of heat risk and available supports in the community, as well as engagement with clients and the public.

Anticipated future challenges for this community include planning for extreme heat that may occur concomitantly with other natural events like wildfires, and the potential consequent service disruptions (i.e., water, power, transportation) that could impede HARS implementation. In the event of both extreme heat and poor air quality events happening simultaneously, cooling shelters could potentially function as clean air shelters. Collaboration between the community of Ashcroft and the health authority is ongoing.

The findings from this project are informing expansion of HARS to other rural BC communities. There is strong potential for Ashcroft’s action plan to serve as a guiding document for similar places across Canada in their efforts to prepare for heat events. A Heat Alert and Response Planning Toolkit has been developed by the health authority to support other communities (Interior Health 2020). The toolkit incorporates learnings from the HARS development in Ashcroft and describes the roles of federal, provincial, and local governments, the health authority, and community partners. Long-term strategies and preventive actions that target local governments and communities are also included.

Conclusion

Heat-related illness and death are preventable when risk is understood and there is a combination of individual, community, and policy efforts to prepare for and respond to extreme heat. The time has come to accept that climate-

EXTREME HEAT ADVISORY: LEVEL 2



The Village of Ashcroft and Interior Health advise residents that the immediate forecast for 3+ consecutive days is with daytime temperatures of 35°C or more and not cooling off to below 18°C at night.

It is important that residents are aware of the impacts extreme heat events have, especially for the very young, the elderly, those with chronic illness or those taking certain medications. People working outdoors or participating in outdoor activities, face greater heat exposure and are encouraged to modify their hours of work, if possible, and reduce or limit their outdoor activities.

PLEASE SPREAD WORD TO YOUR NEIGHBOURS

Please take the time to talk to your neighbours and identify residents who require assistance during lengthy extreme heat events. These may be people who do not have air conditioning, have limited or no form of transportation, and no form of water supply on hand. It is important that everyone understands the need to cool off during extreme heat events.

VOYENT ALERT!

Please register with Voyent Alert notification system to stay informed in events of extreme heat alerts, fire alerts, water conservation measures and other important notifications. Need help registering? Call (250) 453-9161 for assistance.

COVID-19

Due to Covid-19 restrictions the Village will not have cooling centres available for the 2021 season. Please take extra precautions and find an air conditioned environment to allow your body to cool off.

If you have any questions, please contact The Village of Ashcroft, check our website at www.ashcroftbc.ca, or check the Interior Health Extreme Heat website at www.interiorhealth.ca

HEALTH SAFETY TIPS AND REMINDERS

SYMPTOMS OF HEAT ILLNESS

Mild symptoms:

- Pale, cool, moist skin
- Heavy sweating
- Muscle cramps
- Rash
- Swelling, especially hands and feet
- Fatigue and weakness
- Light headedness and/or fainting
- Headache
- Nausea and/or vomiting

More Severe Symptoms: (Requires urgent medical attention)

- High Fever and/or high body temperature (103°F or higher)
- Hallucinations
- Seizures
- Unconsciousness

STEPS TO AVOID HEAT RELATED ILLNESS

- Plan your outdoor activities before 11 AM or after 5 PM, to avoid the most intense sun.
- Drink plenty of non-alcoholic fluids - Avoid caffeine, water is the best choice.
- If you must work or exercise outside in the heat of the day, drink two to four cups of water every hour, even before you feel thirsty.
- Rest and/or stay in the shade, or create your own shade with an umbrella and/or a wide brimmed hat. Wear light colored clothing.
- If you're struggling to keep cool, move indoors to an air-conditioned building or take a cool shower. At temperatures above 30°C, fans alone may not be able to prevent heat-related illness.
- Never leave children or pets alone inside a parked car. Temperatures can rise to 52°C (125°F) within 20 minutes inside a vehicle when the outside temperature is 34°C. Leaving the car windows open slightly will not keep the inside of the car at a safe temperature.

Fig. 3 Social media key messages during a Level 2 Heat Advisory

related events will become more frequent and when they occur in rapid succession they have an intensifying impact on communities. Through partnership, connection, and coordination, sectors can come together and make a profound positive impact on community health and well-being.

Implications for policy and practice

What are the innovations in this policy or program?

- The development of HARS in rural BC was community-driven and community-led, informed by the intersectoral stakeholder committee.
- The purposeful and collaborative investment by the health authority in this small rural community facilitated buy-in and engagement to seek out local approaches to HARS planning and implementation.
- The HARS was simple, concise and relevant to the community's context, utilizing existing physical and communications infrastructure.

What are the burning research questions for this innovation?

- What does the community consider as success in developing and implementing a response to extreme heat?
- How do we measure behaviour change at individual and community levels?
- How can a promising practice that is developed and implemented in one rural community be adopted and modified by another, considering each individual and unique community context?

Acknowledgements The authors would like to recognize the significant contributions of the Village of Ashcroft, including Mayor and Council; Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO); Amy O'Rourke, Former Northern Development Initiative Trust Ashcroft Intern; and the Ashcroft HARS Stakeholder Committee. In addition, the authors would like to thank Melissa MacDonald of the Health and Air Quality Forecast Services from Environment and Climate Change Canada, as well as Sarah Henderson and Kathleen McLean from Environmental Health Services at the BC Centre for Disease Control. Thank you to Gabriel Ramirez, former Interior Health HARS intern and the Interior Health Healthy Communities staff who provided support to this project. Finally, the authors extend their appreciation to the Heat Division at the Climate Change and Innovation Bureau, Health Canada.

Availability of data and material Source materials available upon request; data repository not used

Code availability N/A

Author contributions All the authors whose names appear on this submission made substantial contributions to the conception of design of the work and/or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of the data; drafted the work or revised it critically for important intellectual content; approved the version to be published; and agree to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy and integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

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Declarations

Conflict of interest The authors declare no competing interests.

Ethics approval N/A

Consent to participate N/A

Consent for publication N/A

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From: [Jacqui Schneider](#)
To: [Mayor, Village of Ashcroft](#); [Daniela Dyck](#)
Cc: [Carly Bielecki](#)
Subject: Re: Teck and Royal Inland Hospital Announcement
Date: April 4, 2022 1:43:21 PM

Good afternoon, Mayor Roden, Council and Daniela,

Royal Inland Hospital provides care to many in our region, and we would like to share that Teck has made a \$2.5 million contribution towards the Royal Inland Hospital's new emergency department which will include the installation of innovative antimicrobial copper surfaces and equipment to help protect patients and healthcare workers.

When complete, the newly renovated emergency department will offer expanded care and enhanced patient outcomes. The facility upgrades will result in reduced wait times for access to treatment for people when they need it most. Teck's donation will also facilitate innovation within the department, including antimicrobial copper surfaces and equipment that reduce the spread of infectious disease.

Copper has unique antimicrobial properties and is proven effective in eliminating up to 99.9 per cent of harmful bacteria within two hours of contact. When installed in high-touch, high-traffic locations, copper can help reduce the spread of infectious disease. Research has shown that every year patients in Canada contract infections in healthcare settings and copper's antimicrobial properties are a proven tool to help minimize this risk.

This support is also the latest in a series of contributions made to hospitals across B.C. such as St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver General Hospital and Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital which include installation of antimicrobial copper surfaces as part of Teck's Copper & Health program. We're very proud to make this important contribution supporting the health and wellbeing of health care workers, patients, and the public for years to come.

Regards,
Jacqui Schneider

Jacqui Schneider
Sr Community Affairs Officer
Teck Highland Valley Copper Partnership
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www.teck.com

COMMUNITY FUTURES INTRODUCES A FREE NEW TOOL TO HELP BUSINESSES PLAN FOR DISASTER

April 5, 2022

ASHCROFT, April 5, 2022– Community Futures Sun Country has launched a new online tool that will help prepare for and mitigate the impact of disasters that affect their business. The tool is free for all businesses to use.

The past two years have been challenging for businesses of all sizes. British Columbia experienced multiple natural disasters on top of having to cope with the lingering effects of COVID-19 on the economy.

The Business Continuity Planning Tool will help business owners identify hazards to their business, core assets and functions, and how to mitigate those risks. The tool has been tested in group settings for over four years and has received glowing reviews.

“We’re excited to announce this free online tool that allows business owners to focus on what they can control when disaster strikes. It will assist you to be prepared to respond and poised to recover. We highly recommend this tool because it has been proven to be straightforward to use and guides you easily through each step at your own pace. The future is uncertain and the best way to face this uncertainty is with a well-made plan.” – Wendy McCulloch, Executive Director of Community Futures BC

Businesses located in the Sun Country region that are interested in learning more about the tool and helping their business prepare for disasters are encouraged to reach out to their local Community Futures office. For more information, please contact:

Community Futures Sun Country

Email: vision@cfsun.ca

Phone: 250-453-9165

###

About Community Futures:

Community Futures is part of a national economic development program that has been supporting small business and community economic development since 1986.

Our Community Futures office is a non-profit organization guided by a volunteer board of directors and staffed with business professionals. Our volunteers and staff work with community partners to develop and implement community-based economic development strategies.

We provide a variety of different support services – including business loans, training and coaching, and access to expert resources – to people wanting to start, expand, franchise or sell a business, and to owners of small- and medium-sized businesses in the community.



Gold Country Communities Society

April 2022 Highlights



[Sally Watson]

A Word From The Chair

As Chair of the Gold Country Board this last couple of months were tough and a huge learning experience. We now have watched Marcie move up the road and have Brandy filling her hiking boots.

Along with the lifting of COVID restrictions and the re-opening of highways there will be more travelers in our communities, and we will do more traveling. Plans to visit our First Nations neighbours and to learn how to work through Truth and Reconciliation with each group will be the first steps that we take.

Spring has finally arrived in the Great White North of Gold Country and we all look forward to a safe and happy growing season. Take Care



Thank You Marcie!

These last few months have been a roller coaster ride of many emotions and senses as the team worked in and around the communities to build the Shop Local, BC campaign, and with the Resiliency Center. The atmospheric river that hit Hwy 8, along the Nicola River caused great destruction to livelihoods, homes,

[Marcie Down]

neighbourhoods and highways. The sheer power of the raging river to wipe out chunks of land and infrastructure is still mind boggling. The effects of this will be felt for a long, long time.

Many have worked together to assist their communities and others during this time. Chief Christine Minnebarriet of Cook's Ferry Band and her team have worked many, many hours, days and weeks to ensure resources were there for her not only her community, but also for residents along Hwy 8 and Spences Bridge. The Band working with their connections ensured supplies could be flown in and out and that vehicles that had been abandoned were also air lifted. There is still much to be done as all the members, residents, and businesses continue to move from response to recovery. Fire Chief Dhillon and many others also ensured provision for the people of the area also had blankets, and essentials. Food, clothing and shelter were in great demand. The ESS team from Cache Creek was also working around the clock to provide the supports needed for those first weeks.

I would like to thank the team that came together to provide much needed supports and am grateful for the opportunity we at Gold Country had assist with a Resiliency Center. Not the usual tourism program, and is why we worked to bring forward First Response Tourism. This is the concept of assisting when and where needed. Providing information, and resources to visitors and residents alike during natural disasters.

The usual office productions of Gold Country have been paused repeatedly in the last 2 years. We have continued behind the scenes to diligently keep moving forward to keep productions going despite wildfires, floods and highway closures, COVID-19 and pauses to marketing and promotion requests when travel was for essential reasons. Now with the guidelines eased and mask mandate lifted we are and have been in full gear. The Summer guide is in full production with content and images gathered of the course of the last two years and the A Gold Country Winter Guide will be out this autumn! The trail map has had a few new additions due to previously selected trails no longer accessible due to wildfire and will be out for summer exploration.

A very special thank you to all who participated in the Shop Local BC campaign. In early winter we did a survey asking for your favorite businesses and Gold Country and we thank you for participating in this. We would have loved to have filmed every business, but due to time and budget we had to have a maximum. Every community through Gold Country is so unique, diverse and dynamic. We thank you all.

Plans are under way for more filming in the Spring and Summer, and as new opportunities arise the team hopes to do another filming campaign once again highlighting the diversity of the region.

There is much to do in the next few months with planning and building the New Geotour – The Prequel. The event will run Aug 4 – 8th of 2022! Volunteers will be needed. Interested? Please contact info@exploregoldcountry.com. Stay posted for registration for the event. Approximately 50 new geocaches with stories will be hidden.

These locations will have an easier accessibility rating to ensure those with mobility challenges will be able to complete this geotour! Love long hikes? Be sure to check out the Gold Country Geotour Phase 1 and 2!

Well, after nearly three years as Executive Director, and a previous 5 years as Office Clerk and Program Coordinator it is time for me to step down as the Executive Director, and step into a new career within the region. I will be remaining in the region and area I love. I will continue to be an advocate for Gold Country, BC and I will certainly miss working with the team and Board. Thank you to everyone who has been so supportive over the years. The Gold Country team will continue to make great strides and to serve with passion and enthusiasm. At this time, I would like to introduce the Marketing Manager, Brandy Cooper-Chardon. Brandy has been working with Gold Country on the guides, website and on the recent Shop Local Campaign. Talisa and Brandy both recently completed the Destination BC Digital Media Marketing Strategy course. Brandy is passionate about tourism and economic development of the area. To the team of Gold Country Brandy, Lana Rae, Talisa, Emma, Aaliyah and Dana, thank you for working together, for your energy, enthusiasm and dedication. All the best to everyone at Gold Country Communities Society, and I look forward to working with you all in the future as we collectively and collaboratively strive to further promote this diverse and dynamic rural interior region. To the Board of Gold Country, thank you and all the best in the future.

Marcie Down

Come Explore With Us~

Check out our video productions about shopping local!

- [70 Mile](#)
- [Ashcroft](#)
- [Cache Creek](#)
- [Clinton](#)
- [Lillooet](#)
- [Logan Lake](#)
- [Lytton](#)
- [Savona](#)
- [Spences Bridge](#)

Here's what's happening in Gold Country:

Earth Day Actions

April

Easter Treasure Hunt | Ashcroft
April 1-11, 2022 (Entry deadline April 11 @ noon)

Craft Fair | Cache Creek Community Hall
April 9, 2022 (9:00 am - 2:00 pm)

Seedy Sunday | Clinton Memorial Hall
April 10, 2022 (10:00 am - 2:00 pm)

Easter

April 17, 2022

Earth Day

April 22, 2022

Cache Creek Market | Cache Creek
May 7, 2022 (9:00 am - 1:00 pm)

Logan Lake Lobster Fest | Logan Lake
Recreation Centre
May 14, 2022 (6:00 pm - 11:00 pm)

Clinton & District Parade | Cariboo Highway
May 28, 2022 (11:00 am)

Gold Country Rear View Mirror

[CLICK IMAGES FOR LINKS]



#OnTheTrailTuesday
Stake Lake located near Logan Lake, BC



Geocaching safety and tips for this years upcoming adventures!



Real and Reel



Featuring the Oh so “nice” Canadian Geese!



#OnTheTrail Tuesday



Featuring the one and only Cougar Point

First Response Tourism Information Bulletin Board:

- [BC Vaccination Card Details for Businesses](#)
- [Evacuee Supports](#)
- [Travel and COVID-19](#)
- [Travel into Canada Checklist](#)

- [Small Business Supports](#)
- [Upcoming Changes to Restrictions](#)

At Your Leisure

- [BC Rail Trails](#)
- [BSAFE Training - BC Safety Assured For Everyone](#)
- [Business Education](#)
- [Business Evaluation Survey](#)
- [Continued Partnership with ITAC](#)
- [Emergent Response and Recovery Grant](#)
- [Federal Government Announces New COVID-19 Support Measures](#)
- [\(ITBC\) Chair Brenda Baptiste Awarded Order of BC Accolade](#)
- [Propel Student Work Placement Program](#)
- [Province Wide Restrictions](#)
- [Tourism Relief Fund](#)
- [Workplace Accessibility Grant](#)
- [Youth Employment and Training Initiative](#)

Geotour Blog

Gold Country: Nlaka'pamuxcin Language

Log By: djcache2

I didn't look closely enough at the map, so I took the 'low road' first. When I got to within 62m, the needle on my GPSr pointed uphill, so that's where I went. Got to upper trail at 19m to go. Cache is in great shape.

About the cache page: This is one of the best First Nations cache pages I have ever seen. It excites and encourages me that the vast First Nations history of this province can yet be (partially) saved, and passed on. Keep up the history lessons in Gold Country. I hope this type of cache page catches on and spreads. Thanks for all the effort on this page. Gets a fave. k^{wuk} scémx^w

<https://coord.info/GC79RHQ>



The Gold Country Team



Brandy Chardon
[Marketing Manager]



Talisa McIntyre
[Graphic / Website Design]



Lana Rae Brooks
[Admin Assistant & Grant Writer]



Dana Foster
[Workshop Coordinator]



Aaliyah Joseph
[Multimedia Photographer &
Content Development]



Marcie Down
[On speed dial!]

Come check out our new Tik Tok account!



GOLD COUNTRY • BC

— explore with us —



From: [LCRB Liquor Policy LCRB:EX](#)
Subject: Policy Directive 22-05: Intention to Extend Temporary Expanded Service Area (TESA) authorizations
Date: April 7, 2022 10:15:47 AM

Hello,

I'm writing to announce [Policy Directive 22-05](#) regarding an amendment to the Liquor Control and Licensing Regulation (LCLR) that will enable the General Manager of the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB) to extend the expiry date of Temporary Expanded Service Area (TESA) authorizations.

As you're aware, all existing TESA authorizations were set to expire on June 1, 2022. However, to enable licensees with temporary service areas to continue operating while local governments implement policies related to applications to make expanded service areas permanent and subsequently process those applications, the GM will extend all existing TESA authorizations to **March 31, 2023** unless a local government or First Nation objects to the extension the TESAs in their jurisdiction.

Local governments and First Nations **will have until April 22, 2022, to raise concerns about TESAs in their jurisdiction before the GM extends TESA authorizations until March 31, 2023**. As always, the LCRB will work with local governments, First Nations, and licensees to resolve any concerns that are raised with existing TESAs. To raise concerns about a TESA in your jurisdiction please email: Terry.Rowsell@gov.bc.ca.

Licensees do not need to apply for this temporary extension, and there are no associated costs for licensees.

All licensees with TESA authorizations whose local government or First Nation has not raised concerns, will be issued an authorization letter extending their TESA authorization through to **March 31, 2023**. All other provincial requirements relating to TESAs remain unchanged. Licensees whose TESA authorizations are extended must ensure their TESA complies with local bylaws and requirements.

Licensees who would like to make their current TESA authorization permanent must apply for new outdoor patio permanent structural change (if their TESA is located outdoors) or a new interior service area permanent structural change (if their TESA is located indoors). Manufacturers with TESAs associated with their sampling area should consider applying for a Lounge patio or Picnic Area endorsement. It's important to note that the approval process for a permanent structural change can take **up to 10 months**. Although the LCRB has amended its policies and processes to help improve application timelines, we encourage licensees to submit their permanent structural change applications as soon as possible to reduce the risk of business disruption.

The LCRB is committed to supporting local governments and First Nations to ensure TESAs operate in the interest of their communities. If you have any questions about this policy, please email LCRBStructural@gov.bc.ca.

Sincerely,

Jillian Rousselle
A/Assistant Deputy Minister and General Manager
Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch



March 3, 2022

Honourable Katrine Conroy
Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations
Via Email: FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Dear Minister Conroy:

Re: Changes to BC's Wildfire and Forest Management Practices

Attached for reference is a letter from the Village of Ashcroft calling on Provincial and Federal Governments to provide better forest management and wildfire protection by assessing the current policies and guidelines to enhance those that are working and to re-evaluate those that are not. They are not alone as the District of Lillooet has also initiated requests for changes. I was pleased that the recent budget provided for year-round staffing of the BC Wildfire Service however more investment, work and change is needed.

I have had the unfortunate experience of having major wildfires in my riding in 2017 and 2021 and watching as residents lose their homes, businesses and livelihoods, and hundreds of hectares of land are burned destroying forests, rangeland, and wildlife. It takes years to recover, not just for the forests to regenerate but for the emotional scars to heal and the economic toll to rebound.

Concern has been expressed that the local knowledge of First Nations, ranchers, loggers, and contractors is not fully utilized. These people know and love the back country and have equipment close at hand, but they have not been consulted or included in fire fighting plans. Back burn tactics also need to be reviewed, as well as investment in more effective and modern technologies and equipment.

I am pleased to support the Village of Ashcroft's call to action. Wildfire events in recent years have shown that current practices are no longer effective in preventing and fighting forest fires and other natural disasters.

Yours truly,
FRASER-NICOLA

Jackie Tegart
MLA

Cc Mayor and Council, Village of Ashcroft

Ashcroft Constituency Office

405 Railway Avenue, Box 279
Ashcroft, B.C. V0K 1A0
T 250.453.9726 | F 250.453.9765

Merritt Constituency Office

2-2152 Quilchena Avenue
Merritt, B.C. V1K 1A1
T 250.378.8831 | F 250.453.9765

Legislative Office

Room 201, Parliament Buildings
Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4
T 250.952.7616 | F 250.387.9100

February 15, 2022

FILE: 0221-2022

Jackie Tegart, MLA Fraser-Nicola
PO Box 279
405 Railway Ave.
Ashcroft, BC V0K 1A0

BY EMAIL: Jackie.Tegart.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Dear MLA Tegart,

Re: Request for a Review of BC's Wildfire and Forest Management Practices

The Village of Ashcroft Council, at their Regular meeting on Monday January 10, 2022, considered a letter and BC Wildfires Petition from the District of Lillooet requesting other BC communities to adopt similar resolutions to join the effort to bring about change in BC's Forest management.

Council supports this initiative and echoes the District of Lillooet's request that *"the Federal and Provincial governments provide for better forest management and wildfire protection and assess the current policies and guidelines, enhance the those that are working and re-evaluate and amend those that are not."*

Ashcroft was threatened by wildfire in 2017 (Elephant Hill Wildfire) and again in 2021 (Tremont Creek Wildfire). Both times the fires escalated quickly and aggressively. Given the impacts of climate change, the current state of our forests, forest management and wildfire practices require an overhaul from a layman's perspective.

We understand the BC Wildfire Services current management is focused on fuel reduction to contain wildfires which is generally accomplished with backburns. Council agrees that fuel reduction is necessary but perhaps a proactive approach during late winter or early spring is a better option. In addition, utilizing local stakeholders' knowledge such as ranchers, loggers and First Nations of the area during a wildfire event could provide much needed information about access, topography, wind and weather and more to firefighters enabling better fire suppression.

Wildfires impact our economy, health, environment and industry; a re-evaluation of forest management practices is required in order to maintain sustainable forests. Therefore, Council implores you to bring this to the attention of the provincial government and lobby for review and change.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Barbara Roden,
Mayor

Cc: Brad Vis, MP for Mission- Matsqui-Fraser Canyon

"Wellness Awaits You"

www.ashcroftbc.ca

P.O. Box 129
Ashcroft, BC, V0K 1A0

Bus: (250) 453-9161
Fax: (250) 453-9664

Email: admin@ashcroftbc.ca



Reference: 269788

April 7, 2022

VIA EMAIL: jackie.tegart.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Jackie Tegart, MLA
Fraser-Nicola
PO Box 279
Ashcroft, British Columbia
V0K 1A0

Dear Jackie Tegart:

Thank you for your letter of March 3, 2022, regarding wildfire management and response in British Columbia.

The BC Wildfire Service (BCWS) is a world-class fire management organization, but, like other jurisdictions around the world, it faces increasing challenges introduced by climate change. Drier and hotter summers have resulted in extended wildfire seasons in recent years.

As you noted, Budget 2022 includes one of the largest investments in the history of BCWS which will help transform the organization into a year-round operation. This model will allow the organization to focus on all four pillars of emergency management including prevention and mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. There will also be increased capacity to strengthen relationships with Indigenous governments, local governments, and stakeholders to collaboratively develop wildfire mitigation and preparedness strategies.

Regarding your concern about the utilization of local knowledge, BCWS Incident Management Teams liaised with representatives from Indigenous communities, BC Cattlemen's Association, forest industry partners, and local governments when responding to fires near Lillooet, Ashcroft, and Kamloops during the 2021 wildfire season. In the Kamloops Fire Zone, BCWS has previously worked with several First Nations on prescribed burns, ecosystem restoration burns, and response planning. Work with the BC Cattlemen's Association helped establish a Rancher Liaison serving as a direct communication link with the incident commander to share local knowledge in fire-affected areas. Similarly, BCWS worked directly with forest companies during the 2021 season to take full advantage of their significant resources. Industry equipment was placed throughout the province for rapid response, and industry personnel provided critical support on numerous large fires.

Page 1 of 2

You also raised the issue of back burn tactics. I am unsure if you are referring to backfiring or prescribed burning. Backfiring is a firefighting tool used to hinder the advance of a wildfire by removing fuel in its path and is done during a wildfire emergency to control the fire. In contrast, prescribed burns, usually conducted in the winter and spring months, help reduce fuels and usually target ground fuels and excess forest debris like fallen branches. In addition to reducing the accumulation of forest fuels, prescribed fires also help achieve important land management objectives such as pest management, ecological restoration, wildlife habitat enhancement, First Nations traditional use, and agriculture.

With specific interest to Ashcroft, the Community Resiliency Investment (CRI) program provides funding through the FireSmart Community Funding and Supports funding category to help local governments and First Nations mitigate wildfire threats around their communities. The CRI program takes a proactive approach to wildfire risk reduction and fuel management treatments by considering fire prevention and FireSmart activities on provincial Crown land, private land, local government land, and reserve land.

All municipalities, Regional Districts, and First Nations are eligible for up to \$150,000 each year in the CRI funding streams. Since the CRI program started in 2018, our records indicate that the Village of Ashcroft has not applied for funding. The Kamloops Fire Centre's Wildfire Prevention Officer would be pleased to explain funding opportunities and can be contacted by phone at 250-554-5500. You can also visit the web at www.ubcm.ca/cri or www.bcwildfire.ca for more information about the CRI program for communities.

The BC Wildfire Service is committed to building strong relationships with all communities in British Columbia.

Again, thank you for bringing these concerns to my attention.

Sincerely,



Katrine Conroy
Minister

INFORMATION CORRESPONDENCE – FLIP CHART

APRIL 11, 2022 – REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Interior Health

- Info Bulletin: Let's talk about ticks

TNRD – The Current

- Highlights from the Board of Directors' Meeting of March 24, 2022

Office of the Seniors Advocate BC

- Monthly Update – April 2022

Government of BC

- BC Takes Next Steps in COVID-19 Response

CN Rail

- CN Right of Way Vegetation Control
- Annual Vegetation Management Program FAQ
-

Actionable Motion and Task List Tracker - 20+A2:F1921		March			
Motion No.	Motion	Staff Responsible	Comments	Time line	Status
2020 MOTIONS					
R-2020-160	"That Council approve staff to research and develop an updated Business License Bylaw for the Village of Ashcroft and bring it back to Council for consideration."	EA	Research and draft ongoing		completed
2021 MOTIONS					
R-2021-80	"That Council direct staff to develop a communication strategy for public engagement and not amend Bylaw No. 834, and include a guideline of what and how information can be communicated by Council on social media."	CAO/AA	Develop a communication strategy for public engagement including guideline for information communicated by Council on social media		in-progress
2022 MOTIONS					
R-2022-48	THAT, Council approves staff to assemble an Ashcroft themed basket not to exceed \$100 for donation to the SILGA Convention	CAO	Assemble an Ashcroft themed basket for the SILGA Convention		completed
R-2022-74	THAT, Council directs staff to coordinate the Annual Thank You BBQ for Saturday, May 21, 2022,	CAO	Coordinate the Annual Thank You BBQ		in progress
R-2022-73	THAT, Council agrees to amend the Community BBQ motion to include a budget of up to \$5000 be allocated to the event.	CFO	Funds allocated		completed
R-2022-75	THAT, Council sends a letter of congratulations to Linsie Lachapelle on her appointment as General Manager of Community Futures.	CAO	Letter be sent to Linsie Lachapelle new General Manager of Community Futures		completed
R-2022-77	THAT, Council approves the renewal of the UBCM annual membership dues for 2022 in the amount of \$1152.38	CFO	Renew Membership		completed

COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORT

DATE: April 11, 2022
TO: Council
FROM: Mayor Roden

Assigned Committees:

Finance Committee
 Gold Country Communities Society (GCCS)
 Historic Hat Creek Ranch
 Cache Creek Environmental Assessment
 TNRD
 Municipal Insurance Association (MIA)

Alternate Committees:

Health Care
 Communities in Bloom (CiB)

Working Groups:

Economic Development/Tourism WG
 Storm Drainage & Run Off WG
 Trails Master Plan WG
 Fire Department Sustainability WG

March 29: Interview with Radio NL

Spoke on the Paul James show about housing development, the province's claims that some municipalities are standing in the way of new housing, and what Ashcroft has done to attract developers and some of the obstacles in the way of new development in rural communities.

March 29: Electric vehicle workshop

Attended an online workshop about electric vehicles in Northern B.C., which addressed the basics of EV charging, different types of vehicles, upcoming technologies, rebates, and cost of ownership benefits. There was also a chance to hear from Northern B.C. residents who own electric vehicles and could describe their experiences.

March 30: Savona public hearing (TNRD)

Chaired a public hearing in Savona regarding a proposed zoning amendment from C4 to R1 for a property on the Frontage Road.

March 31: Landfill monitoring committee tour

Members of the committee took a quarterly tour of the Campbell Hill landfill and found no issues.

April 4: Interview with CBC Kamloops (radio)

Spoke on the morning show about the recent recruiting notice from Interior Health, which is designed to attract health care workers to Ashcroft.

April 5: Landfill monitoring committee meeting

The committee was to review the applications from members of the public who want to be on the committee, but there were not enough members present. The applications will be forwarded by email to committee members for review and a decision.

April 6: Emergency Management legislation meeting

Emergency Management BC (EMBC) is re-engaging with partners on the work to modernize B.C.'s emergency management legislation. There was an update on the proposed legislative framework, co-development with Indigenous partners, and regulation/implementation planning. New or changed concepts in the legislation include building in recovery; strengthening mitigation and preparedness; fine-tuning states of emergency; and revising the framework for Disaster Financial Assistance, to make it more transparent. Local authorities will need more comprehensive Emergency Management plans and risk assessments, and more engagement with local First Nations. The duration of States of Local Emergency will be extended from seven to 14 days. There was much emphasis from local government officials put on the fact that the province will need to provide financial assistance to help local governments implement the new requirements. It's hoped that the new legislation will be introduced in fall 2022.

April 8: Central Interior regional meeting

The meeting took place after this report was prepared, and was scheduled to be a discussion with the Minister of Municipal Affairs and regional mayors/regional district board chairs regarding opportunities under the new Connecting Communities BC program, which looks to expand internet services to all rural areas of B.C. with internet speeds of less than 50/10 Mbps. According to the National Broadband Internet Service Availability Map, Ashcroft has 50/10 service through most of the village, but this depends on your service provider: a speed test at the Journal office shows an internet speed of 22.2/4.51, while the village office has a speed of 111/11.94.

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara Roden,
Mayor