



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, MAY 13, 2024

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. ADDITIONS TO OR DELETIONS FROM THE AGENDA

2. MINUTES

2.1	Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held Monday, April 22, 2024 M/S <i>THAT, the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held Monday, April 22, 2024 be adopted as presented.</i>	P. 1-2
2.2	Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, April 22, 2024 M/S <i>THAT, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, April 22, 2024 be adopted as presented.</i>	P. 3-8

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	Five Year Financial Plan Bylaw No. 867, 2024 M/S <i>THAT, the Five Year Financial Plan Bylaw No. 867, 2024 be adopted.</i>	P. 9-12
5.2	Tax Rates Bylaw No. 868, 2024 M/S <i>THAT, Tax Rates Bylaw No. 868, 2024 be adopted</i>	P. 13-14
5.3	Village of Ashcroft Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 869, 2024 M/S <i>THAT, the Village of Ashcroft Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 869, 2024 be adopted.</i>	P. 15-30

6. STAFF REPORTS

REQUEST FOR DECISION		
6.1	CAO / EDTC Report – Assessment of Japanese Mural at Heritage Park Purpose: The purpose of this report is to fulfill the request made during the Regular Council Meeting on April 22, 2024, that a comprehensive report assessing the current status of the Japanese Mural located at Heritage Park will be provided to Council. M/S <i>THAT, in light of the significant damage to the Japanese Mural at Heritage Park, it is proposed that Council send a report to the Mayor and Council of Bifuka, expressing our concern, and extend an invitation to artists from Bifuka to consult with us on developing a plan to move forward.</i>	P. 31-32
6.2	CFO Report – 2023 Statement of Financial Information Report (SOFI Report) Purpose: Review and approval of the Statement of Financial Information Report M/S <i>THAT, Council approve the 2023 Statement of Financial Information Report as presented.</i>	P. 33-45
FOR INFORMATION		
6.3	CAO Verbal Report Purpose: The purpose of this report and future reports is to provide information to the Council that may not come up during Regular Meetings or Committee of the Whole. Topics include operational updates, or other areas of interest to the village.	P. 46

7. CORRESPONDENCE

FOR ACTION		
7.1	JP Pow Wow Society – Request for Sponsorship of the Bonaparte St'uxwtews Pow Wow 2024 M/S	P. 47
7.2	Proclamation – Hope Air Day 2024 Proclamation attached M/S	P. 48-51
7.3	WRAPS – Request for Donation of Door Prize Items for Ashcroft Plein Air June 7-9, 2024 M/S	P. 52-53
FOR INFORMATION		
7.4	Alex Pawliuk – Wildfire Prevention and Suppression – Suggestions for Managing the Outcomes of Wildfires	P. 54-59
7.5	TNRD – TNRD to Issue Test Emergency Notice to Voyent Alert! Users on May 10	P. 60

7.6	TRU – Examining Rural Older Adults’ Perceptions of Falls Prevention Study	P. 61
7.7	TRU – Rural Aging and Independence to Support Dementia (RAISD) Study	P. 62
7.8	Bonaparte Watershed Stewardship Society – Restoration, Reconciliation, and Resources	P. 63-69
7.9	Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) – Snow Survey and Water Supply Bulletin	P. 70
7.10	EMCR – Four Pillars Emergency Management Resources for Communities – New Emergency Ready Planner	P. 71-80
7.11	Government of BC – Stay Informed During Emergencies	P. 81-89

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1	Task Manager – Motion Tracker For Information	P. 90
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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 – Verbal Report – SILGA Convention	
11.2	Councillor Anstett – Verbal Report – SILGA Convention	
11.3	Councillor Clement – Verbal Report – SILGA Convention	
11.4	Councillor Davenport	
11.5	Councillor Lambert - Report	P. 91

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



THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

FOR THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE VILLAGE OFFICE
AT 5:00 PM ON MONDAY, APRIL 22, 2024

PRESENT: Mayor, Barbara Roden
Councillor, Jonah Anstett – vie Zoom
Councillor, Jessica Clement
Councillor, Nadine Davenport
Councillor, Doreen Lambert

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

Shawn Birkenhead – Grant Thornton LLP

EXCUSED:

Media –
Public –

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Roden called the Special Meeting of Council for Monday April 22, 2024, to order at 5:00 pm.

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

2. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS FROM THE AGENDA

3. MINUTES

All Minutes are adopted at a Regular Meeting of Council.

4. DELEGATIONS

4.1	NONE	
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5. PUBLIC COMMENTS / QUESTIONS

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1	NONE	
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7. BYLAWS FOR DISCUSSION

6.1	NONE	
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8. STAFF REPORTS

7.1	NONE	
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9. CLOSED MEETING

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

9.1	M/S Roden / Clement <i>THAT, Council adjourn to a closed meeting under the Community Charter Section 90.1(l) discussions with municipal officers and employees respecting municipal objectives, measures and progress reports for the purpose of preparing an annual report under section 98 Annual Village of Ashcroft Report</i>	
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10. TERMINATION

Mayor Roden adjourned the Regular Meeting of Council for Monday April 8, 2024, at 7:09 pm.

Certified to be a true and correct copy of
the Minutes of the Special Meeting of
Council held Monday, April 22, 2024.

Daniela Dyck,
Chief Administrative Officer

Barbara Roden,
Mayor



THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT

REGULAR MINUTES

FOR THE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE VILLAGE OFFICE
AT 6:00 PM ON MONDAY, APRIL 22, 2024

PRESENT: Mayor, Barbara Roden
Councillor, Jonah Anstett – via Zoom
Councillor, Jessica Clement
Councillor, Nadine Davenport
Councillor, Doreen Lambert

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

EXCUSED:

Media – 1
Public – 1

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Roden called the April 22, 2024, Regular Meeting of Council for the Village of Ashcroft 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. ADDITIONS TO OR DELETIONS FROM THE AGENDA

M/S Clement / Davenport

THAT, the Village of Ashcroft Council Meeting Agenda for Monday April 22, 2024, be amended to include the Bonaparte Watershed Society invitation to attend a Beaver Dam Analogue (BDA) workshop under New Business.

CARRIED. Unanimous R-2024-67

2. MINUTES

2.1	Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, April 8, 2024 M/S Davenport / Lambert <i>THAT, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Monday, April 8, 2024 be adopted as presented.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-68
2.2	Minutes of the Community Forum held Monday, April 8, 2024 M/S Clement / Anstett <i>THAT, the Minutes of the Community Forum held Monday, April 8, 2024 be adopted as presented.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-69

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.

No question or comments received.

5. BYLAWS/POLICIES

5.1	Five Year Financial Plan Bylaw No. 867, 2024 M/S Clement / Davenport <i>THAT, the Five Year Financial Plan Bylaw No. 867, 2024 be introduced and read a first time by title only.</i> M/S Roden / Clement <i>THAT, the Five Year Financial Plan Bylaw No. 867, 2024 be read a second time.</i> M/S Davenport / Lambert <i>THAT, the Five Year Financial Plan Bylaw No. 867, 2024 be read a third time.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-70 CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-71 CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-72
5.2	Tax Rates Bylaw No. 868, 2024 M/S Clement / Davenport <i>THAT, the Tax Rates Bylaw No. 868 be introduced and read a first time by title only.</i> <i>The Bylaw is based on a 3.5% increase for the Village portion of the property taxes.</i> M/S Lambert / Clement <i>THAT, the Tax Rates Bylaw No. 868, 2024 be read a second time.</i> M/S Davenport / Lambert <i>THAT, the Tax Rates Bylaw No. 868, 2024 be read a third time.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-73 CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-74 CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-75
5.3	CAO Report – Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 869, 2024 Purpose: Request approval of Bylaw No. 869, 2024 to align fees and charges for cemetery services and development services closer to the actual costs. Village of Ashcroft Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 869, 2024 M/S Davenport / Lambert <i>THAT, Village of Ashcroft Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 869, 2024 be introduced and read a first time by title only.</i> M/S Clement / Lambert <i>THAT, Village of Ashcroft Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 869, 2024 be read a second time.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-76 CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-77

	M/S Lambert / Davenport <i>THAT, Village of Ashcroft Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 869, 2024 be read a third time.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-78
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6. STAFF REPORTS

REQUEST FOR DECISION		
6.1	CAO Report – Communities in Bloom - Update 2024 Season Purpose: Provide Council with an update in regard to the Ashcroft Communities in Bloom Society and the upcoming planting season. M/S Clement / Lambert <i>THAT, the Village of Ashcroft make a request to the Ashcroft Communities in Bloom Society to return the balance of funds remaining in the CiB account to the Village at the end of the 2024 season;</i> Alternate: M/S Clement / Davenport <i>THAT, the Village of Ashcroft supports the Communities in Bloom ongoing efforts for 2025 and onward to plant the flower beds at the Old Fire Hall until the remaining funds are spent with a caveat that an annual expense report be submitted to the Village.</i> Discussion: Council asked what the remaining balance is in the CiB account – approx. \$7000 Discussion: • Remain as status quo allow remaining cash to be used for the flower beds at the Old Fire Hall until diminished. Request annual funding report for transparency purposes. It was noted that this may be easier than the village receiving the money and then re-allocating it for future plantings. • CFO Bhalla noted best accounting principles procedure is to receive the funds and allocate them as reserve for future planting. • Publicize the need for a service group to take in on the planting project with a provided budget. Council expressed their gratitude to the CiB committee acknowledging the many years of service that was provided by their volunteers to beautify the community. Thank you for a job well done!	CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-79 DEFEATED
6.2	EDTC Report – Rebranding Initiative Purpose: To seek Council's approval for the Economic Development & Tourism Working Group to commence the Branding exercise identified by Council as a strategic priority.	

	M/S Lambert / Clement <i>THAT, Council tasks the Economic Development & Tourism Working Group to execute the Branding exercise outlined in the 2024-2026 Strategic Plan for the Village of Ashcroft.</i> Discussion: - Concern raised that the Branding exercise should include community involvement, this shouldn't be a stand-alone Council decision. - Publicize meetings and process by all available means including website, posters, LED, Voyent Alert, Mail drop, social media, ads. - Host several sessions – morning, afternoon, evening, spanning three weeks. - Public education to help residents the importance of branding and what is. - Cost – process questions – dependant on the level of engagement. - Timeline – concern raised that meetings need to be completed by the end of June prior to summer vacations for other economic development projects to complete on time. - Council was assured that a timeline would be developed by the working group and presented to Council.	CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-80
	FOR INFORMATION	
6.	N/A	

7. CORRESPONDENCE

FOR ACTION		
7.1	Hiroko Kanamaru, Bobby Nishiguchi & Alice Durksen – Repair of Japanese Mural in Heritage Park M/S Roden / Lambert <i>That Council direct staff to approach local artists and solicit advice on the required repairs for the Japanese mural.</i> Discussion: Once the scope of the project is identified, an invitation could be extended to the artists of Bifuka to participate in the repairs. Consider repairs to other Bifuka/Ashcroft art installations.	CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-81
7.2	Bonaparte Watershed Stewardship Society – Request for Letter of Support M/S Anstett / Clement <i>THAT, Council approves the Bonaparte Watershed Stewardship Society's request for a letter in support of their grant application to install Beaver Dam Analogues in the Bonaparte Watershed.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-82
FOR INFORMATION		
7.3	Hon. Ravi Kahlon, Minister of Housing – New Legislation Bill 16	
7.4	Interior Health – Launch of spring COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters marks the end of respiratory illness season	
7.5	School District 74 – April 2024 Board Bulletin	

7.6	NDIT – Approval Letter for 2024 Economic Development Capacity Building program to support Economic Development & Tourism Coordinator position wage	
7.7	District of North Vancouver – Support for Resolution re Black Bear Cub Conflict Response	

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1	Task Manager – Motion Tracker For Information	
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9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1	Bonaparte Watershed Stewardship invitation to attend Beaver Dam Analogue (BDA) workshop. Anyone wishing to attend the Bonaparte Watershed Society - Beaver Dam Analogue (BDA) workshop on May 4 th to contact the office for registration.	
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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	
11.2	Councillor Anstett	
11.3	Councillor Clement	
11.4	Councillor Davenport	
11.5	Councillor Lambert	

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	M/S Roden / Clement <i>THAT, the Audited Financial Statement for 2023 as presented by Grant Thornton LLP be released to the regular meeting and approved by Council.</i>	CARRIED Unanimous R-2024-83
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14. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Roden adjourned the Regular Meeting of Council for Monday April 22, 2024, at 6:46 pm.



Certified to be a true and correct copy of
the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
Council held Monday, April 22, 2024.

Daniela Dyck,
Chief Administrative Officer

Barbara Roden,
Mayor

THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT

BYLAW NO. 867

Being a bylaw for the Corporation of the Village of Ashcroft to adopt the Five Year Financial Plan commencing the year 2024.

The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Ashcroft, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

1. This bylaw may be cited for all purposes as the "Five Year Financial Plan Bylaw No. 867, 2024."
2. Schedule "A" and Schedule "B" attached hereto and made part of this bylaw are hereby adopted and are the Five Year Financial Plan of the Village of Ashcroft commencing January 1st, 2024.

READ A FIRST TIME THIS 22nd DAY OF April , 2024

READ A SECOND TIME THIS 22nd DAY OF April , 2024

READ A THIRD TIME THIS 22nd DAY OF April , 2024

ADOPTED THIS DAY OF May , 2024

Barbara Roden, Mayor

Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer

Certified to be a true and correct copy
of Bylaw No.867 as adopted by Council.

Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer

YSB/kw

THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT

BYLAW NO. 867 - SCHEDULE "A"

FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN 2024 - 2028

	Year 1 2024	Year 2 2025	Year 3 2026	Year 4 2027	Year 5 2028
Revenues					
Property Taxes	1,736,690	1,780,107	1,824,610	1,870,225	1,916,981
Parcel Taxes	166,000	166,000	166,000	166,000	166,000
Fees and Charges					
Sales of Services	316,800	326,800	326,800	326,800	326,800
Other					
User Fees	995,000	1,010,000	1,010,000	1,010,000	1,010,000
Borrowing Proceeds - MFA	0	0	0	0	0
Other Revenue					
Interest	114,000	114,000	114,000	114,000	114,000
Grants/Other Gov'ts.	1,767,167	850,000	850,000	850,000	850,000
Other	120,432	101,000	101,000	101,000	101,000
Services to Other Gov'ts.	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Transfers from Funds					
Reserve Funds	0	0	0	0	0
DCC	0	0	0	0	0
Transfer form Equity	662,000	662,000	662,000	662,000	662,000
Accumulated Surplus	0	0	0	0	0
Total Revenue	5,908,089	5,039,907	5,084,410	5,130,025	5,176,781
Expenses					
Debt Interest	0	0	0	0	0
Debt Principal	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Expenditure	2,268,000	1,425,831	1,455,136	1,455,465	1,403,747
Deficiency	0	0	0	0	0
Other Municipal Purposes	0	0	0	0	0
General Municipal	1,332,005	1,365,305	1,399,438	1,434,424	1,470,284
Fire Protection	165,196	170,000	175,000	180,000	185,000
Water	591,359	600,000	600,000	600,000	600,000
Sewer	500,065	505,000	505,000	505,000	505,000
Transfer to	0	0	0	0	0
Reserve Funds	389,464	311,771	287,836	293,137	350,749
Amortization Expense	662,000	662,000	662,000	662,000	662,000
Accumulated Surplus	0	0	0	0	0
Total Expenses	5,908,089	5,039,907	5,084,410	5,130,025	5,176,781

**Village of Ashcroft
2024-2028 Financial Plan
Statement of Objectives and Policies
Schedule 'B' of Bylaw No. 867**

In accordance with Section 165(3.1) of the *Community Charter*, the Village of Ashcroft (Town) is required to include in the Five Year Financial Plan, objectives and policies regarding each of the following:

1. The proportion of total revenue that comes from each of the funding sources described in Section 165(7) of the *Community Charter*;
2. The distribution of property taxes among the property classes, and
3. The use of permissive tax exemptions.

Funding Sources

Table 1 shows the proportion of total revenue proposed to be raised from each funding source in 2024. Property taxes form the greatest proportion of revenue. As a revenue source, property taxation offers a number of advantages, for example, it is simple to administer and it is fairly easy for residents to understand. It offers a stable and reliable source of revenue for services that are difficult to fund on a user-pay basis. These include services such as general administration, fire protection, police services, bylaw enforcement and street lighting.

User fees and charges form the second largest portion of planned revenue. Many services can be measured and charged on a user basis. Services where fees and charges can be easily administered include water and sewer usage, building permits, business licenses, and sale of services – these are charged on a user pay basis. User fees attempt to apportion the value of a service to those who use the service.

Objective

- Over the next five years, the Village of Ashcroft will balance the proportion of revenue that is received from user fees and charges with the projected funds operations require.

Policies

- The Village will review all user fee levels to ensure they are adequately meeting both the capital and delivery costs of the service.
- Where possible, the Village will endeavor to supplement revenues from user fees and charges, rather than taxation, to lessen the burden on its limited property tax base.

Table 1: Sources of Revenue

Revenue Sources	% of Total Revenue	Dollar Value
Property Taxes *	29%	\$ 1,736,690
Parcel Taxes	3%	\$ 166,000
Sales of Service	22%	\$ 1,311,800
Grants/Transfers	42%	\$ 2,459,167
Borrowing Proceeds	0%	\$ -
Other Sources	4%	\$ 234,432
Total	100%	\$ 5,908,089

* contains \$251,719 Capital Replacement Reserve funds

Distribution of Property Tax Rates

Table 2 outlines the distribution of property taxes among the property classes. The residential property class provides the largest proportion of property tax revenue. This is appropriate as this class also forms the largest portion of the assessment base and consumes the majority of Town services.

Objectives

- Maintain the property tax rate as low as possible while still providing for future needs.

Policies

- Continue to maintain and encourage economic development initiatives designed to attract more retail and commercial businesses to invest in the community. New investment from these areas will help offset tax increases while providing more revenue for the Village.
- Align the distribution of tax rates among the property classes with the social and economic goals of the community, particularly to encourage a range of employment opportunities.
- Regularly review and compare the Village of Ashcroft's tax burden relative to other municipalities in British Columbia.

Table 2: Distribution of Property Tax Rates

Property Class	% of Total Property Taxation	Dollar Value
Residential (1)	50%	\$ 867,776
Utilities (2)	9%	\$ 157,397
Light Industrial (5)	16%	\$ 270,301
Business and Other (6)*	24%	\$ 422,168
Recreation/Non-profit (8)	0%	\$ 723
Farmland (9)	1%	\$ 18,325
Total	100%	\$ 1,736,690

Permissive Tax Exemptions

- The Annual Municipal Report for 2023 contains a list of permissive exemptions granted for the taxation year and the amount of revenue foregone. The list demonstrates the policy of council that permissive exemptions are granted to not-for-profit institutions that form a valuable part of our community. These include religious institutions and some recreational facilities and service organizations.

Objective

- To ensure permissive tax exemptions are utilized to maximize the benefit to the municipality and citizens.

Policy

- To maintain permissive exemptions for religious institutions, recreational facilities, and service organizations.

Capital Asset Reserve

- In 2011 the Village recognized the need to accumulate funds to pay for future replacement of infrastructure. Accordingly, a separate tax was established and funds collected are accounted for separately from general municipal taxes.

Objective

- To establish a reserve to fund future infrastructure replacement.

Policy

- To supplement revenues from government grants wherever possible to lessen the amount of funds utilized from the reserve fund.
- To seek out projects which will reduce the operating costs of the Village enabling them to repay funds back into the reserve over time.

THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT

BYLAW NO. 868

Being a bylaw for the levying of rates for municipal, hospital, and regional district purposes for the year 2023.

The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Ashcroft, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

1. The following rates are hereby imposed and levied for the year 2024:
 - a. For all lawful general purposes of the municipality on the assessed value of land and improvements taxable for general and municipal purposes, rates appearing in column "A" of the schedule attached hereto and forming a part hereof.
 - b. For capital asset reserve purposes on the assessed value of land and improvements taxable for general municipal purposes, rates appearing in column "B" of the schedule attached hereto and forming a part hereof.
 - c. For hospital purposes on the assessed value of land and improvements taxable for hospital district purposes, rates appearing in column "C" of the schedule attached hereto and forming a part hereof.
 - d. For Thompson-Nicola Regional District purposes on the assessed value of land and improvements for hospital district purposes, rates appearing in column "E" of the schedule attached hereto and forming a part hereof.
2. The minimum amount of taxation upon a parcel of real property shall be one dollar (\$1.00).
3. This bylaw may be cited as "Tax Rates Bylaw No. 868, 2024".

READ A FIRST TIME THIS 22nd DAY OF April, 2024

READ A SECOND TIME THIS 22nd DAY OF April, 2024

READ A THIRD TIME THIS 22nd DAY OF April, 2024

ADOPTED THIS DAY OF May, 2024

Certified to be a true and correct copy
of Bylaw No. 868 as adopted by Council.

Barbara Roden, Mayor

Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer

Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer

/ysb

BYLAW NO. 868

SCHEDULE A - TAX RATES 2024

Property Class	Tax Rates (dollars of tax per \$1000 taxable value)					
	A General Municipal	B Capital Reserve	C Regional Hospital District	D Improvement District	E Regional District	F Specified Area
1. Residential	2.7697	0.4888	0.3051		0.6406	0.0000
2. Utility	27.4235	4.8403	1.0678		2.2420	0.0000
2. Utility (Tax Limit Area)	2.6321	0.4646	1.0678		2.2420	0.0000
5. Light Industry	16.6570	2.9400	1.0373		2.1779	0.0000
6. Business	11.2365	1.9832	0.7475		1.5694	0.0000
8. Rec/Non Profit	5.2023	0.9182	0.3051		0.6406	0.0000
9. Farm	11.5578	2.0400	0.3051		0.6406	0.0000

THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT

FEES AND CHARGES BYLAW NO. 869, 2024

A bylaw for the charging of rates for goods and services in the Village of Ashcroft

WHEREAS the Council of the Village of Ashcroft wishes to charge fees in accordance with Section 194 of the *Community Charter*; a Council may impose fees with respect to all or part of a service of the municipality, the use of municipal property, or the exercise of authority to regulate, prohibit or impose requirements;

- (1) **NOW THEREFORE** the Council of the Village of Ashcroft, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:
- (2) This Bylaw may be cited as "Village of Ashcroft Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 869, 2024".
- (3) The Village of Ashcroft Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 869, 2024 shall impose the fees and charges as specified in the Schedules "A" through "M" and forming part of this Bylaw;
 - Schedule "A" Administration and Miscellaneous Fees
 - Schedule "B" Ashcroft Swimming Pool Rental Rates
 - Schedule "C" Drylands Arena Rental Rates
 - Schedule "D" Parks Rental Rates
 - Schedule "E" Ashcroft Community Hall Rental Rates
 - Schedule "F" Ashcroft Museum Research Fees
 - Schedule "G" Dog Control and Pound Operation Fees
 - Schedule "H" Cemetery Fees
 - Schedule "I" Water Fees
 - Schedule "J" Sewer Fees
 - Schedule "K" Solid Waste Collection Fees
 - Schedule "L" Development and Subdivision Fees
 - Schedule "M" Public Works Equipment Rates
- (4) That any charge is subject to discount by the Chief Administration Officer up to \$250 per instance. Any discount over \$250 requires a resolution of Council.
- (5) The Chief Administrative Officer or designate may recover any recreation fees or charges for different business activities affecting property or recreation.
- (6) Upon adoption, this bylaw repeals the Village of Ashcroft Consolidated Fees and Charges Bylaws No. 808 and 858, and Village of Ashcroft Consolidated Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw No 866, in their entirety.
- (7) If any section, subsection sentence, clause or phrase of this Bylaw is for any reason held to be invalid by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, the invalid portion shall be severed and the part that is invalid shall not affect the validity of the remainder.

(8) This bylaw will take affect at adoption.

READ A FIRST TIME THIS	22 nd DAY OF	April, 2024
READ A SECOND TIME THIS	22 nd DAY OF	April, 2024
READ A THIRD TIME THIS	22 nd DAY OF	April, 2024
ADOPTED THIS	DAY OF	, 2024

Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer

Barbara Roden, Mayor

Certified to be a true and correct copy of
Bylaw No. 869 as adopted by Council.

Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer

Schedule "A"**Administration and Miscellaneous Fees**

Rates include GST

Administration	Unit of Charge	Rate
NSF Cheque Service Charge		\$ 25.00
Property Tax Certificate Request		\$ 25.00
Building Information Request (BIR)	Per Request	\$ 75.00
Routinely Releasable Information	\$25.00/ first 30 minutes and \$12.50 per every ¼ hour afterwards)	\$50.00/hour
Photocopies		
Greyscale 8.5x11 per copy	Per page	.50
Greyscale 8.5x14 per copy	Per page	.50
Greyscale 11x17 per copy	Per page	1.00
Colour 8.5x11 per copy	Per page	1.00
Colour 8.5x14 per copy	Per page	1.25
Colour 11x17 per copy	Per page	2.00
Bulk copying may be negotiated		
Faxes and Scans, per page		.50
Other Services		
Official Community Plan	Per Document	\$ 10.00
Zoning Bylaw -photocopy	Per Document	\$ 10.00
Subdivision Servicing & Development Bylaw	Per Document	\$ 10.00
Reprinted Tax/Utility Bills or Business License	Per Document	\$ 5.00
Business License Listing	Per Document	\$ 5.00
Village Pins	Each	\$ 1.00

Schedule "B"**Ashcroft Swimming Pool – Rental Rates**

Rates include GST

Classification	Time Period	Rate	2023
Infant	N/A	Free	Free
Child	Public Swim	\$2.00	\$2.50
	Season Pass	\$40.00	\$50.00
	Punch Card*	\$20.00	\$30.00
Youth OR Senior Citizen OR Disabled Persons	Public Swim	\$2.50	\$3.00
	Season Pass	\$45.00	\$55.00
	Punch Card*	\$25.00	\$36.00
Adult	Public Swim	\$3.00	\$4.00
	Season Pass	\$60.00	\$75.00
	Punch Card*	\$30.00	\$48.00
Family	Public Swim	\$10.00	\$15.00
	Season Pass	\$140.00	\$175.00
Group Rental Rate (includes 2 Lifeguards)	Per hour	\$125.00	\$150.00
Aqua Fit	Per Class		\$5.00
	Punch Card**		\$60.00
SWIMMING LESSONS			
Preschool Level	Per level	\$40.00	\$50.00
Level 1-5	Per level	\$40.00	\$50.00
Level 6-10	Per level	\$45.00	\$60.00
Private Lessons per student	Per Hour	\$10.00	\$20.00
Bronze Cross	Per level	\$150.00	\$150.00
Bronze Medallion	Per level	\$150.00	\$150.00
Bronze Cross and Bronze Medallion		\$250.00	\$250.00

* = 14 Sessions for the price of 12

** = 2 free classes

Schedule "C"**Drylands Arena – Rental Rates**

Rates include GST

Classification	Time Period	Rate	2023
Infant	N/A	Free	Free
Child	Public Skate Season Pass	\$1.50 \$20.00	\$2.50 \$30.00
Youth OR Senior Citizen OR Disabled Persons	Public Skate Season Pass	\$2.50 \$40.00	\$3.50 \$50.00
Adult	Public Skate Season Pass	\$3.00 \$60.00	\$4.00 \$70.00
Family	Public Skate Season Pass	\$10.00 \$100.00	\$10.00 \$100.00
Drop-in Hockey /person		\$5.00	\$7.00
Mom & Tots Skating		\$2.50	
Sticks & Pucks	Per user	\$3.00	

Classification	Definition	Rate (per hour)	2023
Minor (Use of Ice)	Rentals where the majority of users are 18 years or younger	\$60.00	\$65.00
Adult (Use of Ice)	Rentals where the majority of users are 19 years or older	\$100.00	\$100.00
Ice Time Cancellation For Seasonal Ice Bookings	50% of fees refunded with minimum 2-week cancellation notice. If less than 2 week notice - no refund		
Minor (Dry Floor)	Rentals where the majority of users are 18 years or younger	\$30.00	\$30.00
Adult (Dry Floor)	Rentals where the majority of users are 19 years or older	\$40.00	\$40.00

Classification	Definition	Rate
Minor Special Events (Ice Use)	Rentals where the majority of users are 18 years or younger. These events could include tournaments, fundraising, exhibition games, etc.	6 Hours - \$325.00 8 Hours - \$400.00 12 Hours - \$575.00 16 Hours – \$725.00 Weekend - \$1500.00
Adult Special Events (Ice Use)	Rentals where the majority of users are 19 years or older. These events could include tournaments, fundraising, exhibition games, etc.	6 Hours - \$575.00 8 Hours - \$750.00 12 Hours - \$1100.00 16 Hours – \$1325.00 Weekend - \$2250.00
Special Events (Dry Floor) - Regular *	This covers a 3-day period - one day to setup, one day for event and one day for takedown. Beyond 3 days, \$50 will be charged per day	\$700.00
Special Events (Dry Floor) - Non- Profit*		\$300.00
Other Charges	Damage Deposit	\$500.00

Lounge Rental

Per hour	\$10.00
Per Day – tournament	\$30.00
Per 2 Days – tournament	\$50.00
Per 3 Days – tournament	\$75.00

Non-Resident Users

Ice users who do not physically reside within the boundaries of the Village of Ashcroft will be charged \$30.00 per person per season to a maximum of \$100.00 per family to use the Drylands Arena. Family rate applies to a maximum of five persons of an immediate family who all reside at the same physical address. These funds will be collected by their respective organization and remitted to the Village of Ashcroft along with a listing of their registered members. The payment and listing must be received by the Village by November 15th in each year.

Schedule "D"
Parks – Rental Rates
Rates include GST

Annual Fees

Classification	Rates (per Year)
All Users before 17:00 hours	Free
Minor – 18 years old and younger after 17:00 hours	\$3.00 per player
Adult – 19 years old and older after 17:00 hours	\$6.00 per player

Tournament Fees

Classification	Rates (per Day)
Minor – Up to 16 teams	\$55.00
Minor – Over 16 teams	\$110.00
Adult – Up to 16 teams	\$110.00
Adult – Over 16 teams	\$220.00

Base Use Deposit
Per set = \$200.00 per use

Damage/Clean Up Deposit
Per Tournament = \$300.00

Legacy Park

Classification	Rates
RV Sites	\$35.00 / night
Weekly RV Site Rate	\$190.00
Monthly RV Site Rate (max 50% capacity)	\$750.00
Tenting Sites	\$20.00 / night
Sani Dump	\$5.00 /use

Schedule "E"**Ashcroft Community Hall – Rental Rates****Rates include GST**

Type of Use	Time Period	Rate
Kitchen	Per Day	\$10.00
Not-for-Profit Use	Hourly	\$5.00
	Per Day	\$40.00
Commercial/Private Use – Adult Aged	Hourly	\$10.00
	Per Day	\$80.00
Hall Cleaning Fee*	Hourly	\$50.00

* = If complaint is received or public works does a random facility cleanliness inspection and cleaning is required, the last facility users will be invoiced accordingly.
During winter months and inclement weather throughout the year, floors must be swept and mopped after each use.
Facility users are required to clean the hall as per the user agreement.

Schedule "F"**Ashcroft Museum – Research Fees****Rates include GST**

Classification	Unit of Charge	Rate
Research	\$25.00/first 30 minutes and \$12.50 per every ¼ hour afterwards	\$50.00/hour
Photocopying	Per Page	\$0.50
Digital Imaging	Personal	\$15.00
	Commercial	\$30.00

Schedule "G"**Dog Control and Pound Operation Fees****Rates include GST**

Annual License Fee	Rate
Each Altered Dog	\$10.00
Each Unaltered Dog	\$30.00
Dangerous Dog	\$100.00
Replacement of lost or damaged tag	\$5.00
Kennel	\$150.00
Surcharge applied after February 28 each calendar year	\$5.00
Impound Fees	
For seizing and impounding any LICENSED dog	
Seized and returned immediately to the owner	\$10.00
First Impoundment	\$25.00
Second Impoundment	\$50.00
Third Impoundment	\$100.00
Fourth and subsequent impoundments	\$200.00
Daily boarding fee	\$10.00
For seizing and impounding any UNLICENSED dog	
First impoundment	\$50.00
Daily boarding fee	\$10.00
Dog license (must purchase upon return of animal)	See appropriate fee above
For seizing and impounding any DANGEROUS dog	
Each offence	\$200.00
Daily boarding fee	\$10.00
If unlicensed, Dangerous dog license must be purchased upon return of animal	\$100.00
Animal Adoption	
Animal adoption fee	\$100.00

Schedule “H”
Cemetery Fees
Rates include GST

Grave Space	Rate	New Rate
Adult size grave space – resident (includes \$125.00 to Care)	\$500.00	\$500.00
Adult size grave space – non-resident (includes \$250.00 to Care)	\$1000.00	\$1000.00
Cremated Remains – resident (includes \$50.00 to Care)	\$200.00	\$200.00
Cremated Remains – non-resident (includes \$100.00 to Care)	\$400.00	\$400.00
Columbarium Space		
Niche – resident (includes \$250.00 to Care)	\$1000.00	\$1000.00
Niche – non-resident (includes \$375.00 to Care)	\$1500.00	\$1500.00
Services		
Opening and closing for Burial - Adult size	\$350.00	\$500.00 (actual cost \$1000)
Opening and closing - Cremated Remains	\$150.00	\$250.00 (actual cost \$500)
After Hours Burials		
Burials after 3:30 pm Monday – Friday – regular fee plus	\$200.00	\$350.00
Burials on Saturday, Sunday or Statutory Holiday – regular fee plus	\$200.00	\$500.00
Transfer of License		
Transfer of License (resident to non-resident)	\$200.00	\$200.00
Transfer of License (all other)	\$75.00	\$75.00
Memorial Installation		
Single: (30cm x 50 cm); (20 cm x 28 cm); (30 cm x 60 cm); (includes \$25.00 to Care)	\$100.00	\$150.00
Double: (45 cm – 75 cm); (includes \$50.00 to Care)	\$200.00	\$250.00
Engraving and handling of niche plates (includes \$62.50 to Care)	\$250.00	\$350.00
Grave Liners		
Full size grave (concrete)	\$500.00	\$800.00 (actual cost)
Full size grave (poly)		\$625.00 (actual cost)
Cremated Remains (poly)	\$150.00	\$150.00

Schedule “I”
Water Fees
Rates include GST

Category	2019	2020 Subsequent	2023
Single Family Dwelling	\$478.00	\$550.00	\$550.00
Multi Family Dwelling – per single unit	\$478.00	\$550.00	\$550.00
Mobile Home	\$478.00	\$550.00	\$550.00
Hotel (including restaurant, beer parkour, rooms, lounge)	\$5750.00	\$6613.00	\$6613.00
Restaurant 1-20 seats	\$687.00	\$790.00	\$700.00
Restaurant 21-50 seats	\$1542.00	\$1773.00	\$1500.00
Restaurant 51+ seats			\$3000.00
Licensed Lounge	\$1542.00	\$1773.00	\$1773.00
Laundromat, Per Washer	\$205.00	\$236.00	\$236.00
Service Station	\$514.00	\$591.00	\$591.00
Clinic / Train Station	\$1199.00	\$1379.00	\$1379.00
Commercial 1-2 Washrooms	\$478.00	\$550.00	\$550.00
Post Office	\$925.00	\$1064.00	\$1064.00
Supermarket	\$1542.00	\$1773.00	\$1773.00
Church / Community Hall	\$478.00	\$550.00	\$550.00
School, Per Classroom	\$478.00	\$550.00	\$550.00
Hospital, Per Bed	\$478.00	\$550.00	\$550.00
Industrial Plant 1-2 Washrooms	\$3018.00	\$3471.00	\$3471.00
RCMP Station	\$3085.00	\$3548.00	\$3548.00
Curling Rink	\$478.00	\$550.00	\$550.00
Racquet and Leisure Centre	\$3596.00	\$4135.00	\$4135.00
Courthouse	\$3104.00	\$3570.00	\$3570.00
Unspecified, 1-2 Washrooms	\$478.00	\$550.00	\$550.00
Irrigation	\$4349.00	\$5001.00	\$5001.00
Drip Irrigation	\$2130.00	\$2450.00	\$2450.00
Car Wash	\$1677.00	\$1929.00	\$700.00/bay
Water on/off for repair	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Cross Connection Turn on Fee	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Third Party Purchase of Bulk Water	\$75.00 fixed rate and \$1.00 /m3 of water purchased	\$75.00 fixed rate and \$1.00 /m3 of water purchased	No Bulk Water Sales
Application for Connection to Village Water Supply (if the Village has put in the connection)	\$1500.00 minimum fee	\$1500.00 minimum fee	\$1500.00 minimum fee

Schedule “J”
Sewer Fees
Rates include GST

Category	2020	2021 Subsequent	2023 Subsequent
Single Family Dwelling	\$458.00	\$504.00	\$504.00
Multi Family Dwelling – per single unit	\$458.00	\$504.00	\$504.00
Mobile Home	\$458.00	\$504.00	\$504.00
Hotel (including restaurant, beer parlour, rooms, lounge)	\$2103.00	\$2313.00	\$2313.00
Restaurant 1-20 seats	\$715.00	\$787.00	\$700.00
Restaurant 21-50 seats	\$1659.00	\$1825.00	\$1500.00
Restaurant 51+ seats			\$3000.00
Licensed Lounge	\$1659.00	\$1825.00	\$1825.00
Laundromat, Per Washer	\$201.00	\$221.00	\$221.00
Service Station	\$458.00	\$504.00	\$504.00
Clinic / Train Station	\$458.00	\$504.00	\$504.00
Commercial 1-2 Washrooms	\$458.00	\$504.00	\$504.00
Post Office	\$458.00	\$504.00	\$504.00
Supermarket	\$1144.00	\$1258.00	\$1258.00
Church / Community Hall	\$246.00	\$271.00	\$271.00
School, Per Classroom	\$458.00	\$504.00	\$504.00
Hospital, Per Bed	\$458.00	\$504.00	\$504.00
Industrial Plant 1-2 Washrooms	\$916.00	\$1008.00	\$1008.00
RCMP Station	\$916.00	\$1008.00	\$1008.00
Curling Rink	\$458.00	\$504.00	\$504.00
Racquet and Leisure Centre	\$2859.00	\$3145.00	\$3145.00
Courthouse	\$2973.00	\$3270.00	\$3270.00
Unspecified, 1-2 Washrooms	\$458.00	\$504.00	\$504.00
Car Wash	\$1605.00	\$1766.00	\$600.00/bay
Sewer Disconnection/Re-connection	Actual cost	Actual cost	Actual cost
Video or Snake Sewer lines on Private Property			\$125/hr

Schedule “K”

Solid Waste Collection Removal and Disposal Fees

Classification	Rate	2023 Rate
Collection Fees – Once per week	Per Cart	
Solid Waste Residential Cart (240 litre)	\$117.00	\$150.00
Solid Waste Business Container (360 litre)	\$176.00	\$225.00
Solid Waste Commercial Container (1100 litre)	\$538.00	\$688.00
Collection Fees – Twice per week	Per Cart	
Solid Waste Residential Cart (240 litre)	N/A	
Solid Waste Business Container (360 litre)	\$352.00	\$400.00
Solid Waste Commercial Container (1100 litre)	\$1076.00	\$1350.00
Additional Receptacle / Replacement Costs		
Solid Waste Residential Cart – Entire unit	\$75.00	\$100.00
Replacement Lid	\$35.00	\$50.00
Replacement Wheels	\$20.00	\$30.00
Solid Waste Business Container – Entire Unit	\$100.00	\$150.00
Replacement Lid	\$45.00	\$60.00
Replacement Wheels	\$20.00	\$30.00
Solid Waste Commercial Container – Entire unit	\$600.00	\$750.00
Replacement Lid	\$175.00	\$200.00

Schedule “L”**Development and Subdivision Fees****Rates include GST**

Category	RATE	NEW RATE
Variance Permit Application	\$300.00	\$300.00
Temporary Use Permit	\$250.00	\$250.00
Official Community Plan Amendment (OCP)	\$800.00	\$1000.00
Zoning Bylaw Amendment	\$800.00	\$1000.00
Development Permit	\$500.00	\$500.00
If OCP and Zoning Amendments are in tandem, combined fee	\$1000.00	\$1800.00
Subdivision Application Fees		
Preliminary Layout Approval (PLA):		
First Parcel	\$250.00	\$350.00
Subsequent Parcels	\$100.00	\$150.00
Final Plan Examination Fees:		
Base Fee	\$250.00	\$500.00
Final Plan or Document Re-signing	\$100.00	\$250.00
Subdivision Application Fees (STRATA)		
Form “P” Approval	\$100.00	\$350.00
Phased Strata Approval – application fee for each phase	\$250.00	\$350.00
Form “Q” – per each additional Strata lot	\$100.00	\$150.00
Bare Land Strata – application fee	\$250.00	\$350.00
- Per each Strata lot created	\$100.00	\$150.00
Strata Conversion - application fee	\$250.00	\$350.00
- Each Strata unit created	\$100.00	\$150.00
Form or Document Re-signing	\$100.00	\$150.00
Submission of a Contaminated Site Profile form	\$100.00	\$150.00
Preliminary Layout Approval Renewal	\$100.00	\$150.00

Schedule “M”
Public Works Equipment Fees

Category	RATE
Cat 430E Backhoe	\$105.00 / HR
CAT Front End Loader	\$85.00 / HR
CAT 1404 Grader	\$125.00 / HR
Single Axle Dump Truck	\$70.00 / HR
John Deere W/Flail Mower	\$80.00 / HR
Elgin Sweeper	\$160.00 / HR
Pick Up Truck W/Operator	\$65.00 / HR
Water Tanker	\$65.00 / HR
Compressor Hourly	\$45.00 / HR
Compressor Per Day	\$125.00
Tamper VR12	\$20.00 / HR
Vibrator Roller	\$60.00 / HR
Sewer Flusher	\$75.00 / HR
Kubota (Sidewalk Snow Removal)	\$50.00/Incident
Labourer	\$40.00 / HR
Foreman (Crew Leader)	\$50.00 / HR

CONDITIONS

- All rentals are for a minimum of one (1) hour and invoiced in ½ hour increments thereafter.
- All equipment rates include an operator except the Tamper & Vibrator Roller.
- 5% Administration Fee added to all invoicing.
- 5% GST applicable

TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Daniela Dyck, CAO & Margaret Moreira, EDTC
SUBJECT: Assessment of Japanese Mural at Heritage Park

MEETING DATE: May 13, 2024

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT, in light of the significant damage to the Japanese Mural at Heritage Park, it is proposed that Council send a report to the Mayor and Council of Bifuka, expressing our concern, and extend an invitation to artists from Bifuka to consult with us on developing a plan to move forward.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to fulfill the request made during the Regular Council meeting on April 22, 2024, that a comprehensive report assessing the current status of the Japanese Mural located at Heritage Park will be provided to Council.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Daniela Dyck,
Chief Administrative Officer



Margaret Moreira,
Economic Development and Tourism Coordinator

BACKGROUND:

Council received a letter of concern from Alice Durksen, Bobbi Nishiguchi and Hiroko Kanamaru asking Council to take action and develop a plan to repair the Japanese mural at Heritage Park and invite artists from Bifuka to assist in the project.

DISCUSSION:

During the Regular meeting on April 22, 2024, Council reviewed a request concerning the Japanese mural located at Heritage Park. Following deliberation, Council directed the staff to collaborate with local artists to assess the condition of the mural and provide a scope of work report for consideration.

Margaret Moreira, the Economic Development and Tourism Coordinator (EDTC), was tasked with this responsibility. Margaret enlisted the expertise of artist Jo Petty to conduct an initial assessment of the mural. The objective was to evaluate the extent of damage, determine the feasibility of salvaging the mural, and estimate the repair costs.

Jo Petty consulted with Royden Josephson, a specialist in large-scale murals, and Mrs. Hiroko Kanamaru, who had been involved in coordinating and planning the mural with Sister City artists from Bifuka. Their

insights were crucial in understanding the extent of the damage and planning the best approach for repairing the mural.

The mural had received touch-ups in 2013; however, these touch-ups were applied over the original varnish. This, combined with the extreme heat experienced during the 2021 heat dome, has caused paint bubbling on many of the panels. Reapplying paint and varnish would risk further peeling due to the added weight of the new layers.

Additionally, the varnish along the bottom panels is extensively flaking. While Ms. Petty suggested that power washing could address this to some extent, there is some peeling along the very bottom that cannot be remedied. Also, there are holes from screws that were not properly sealed, allowing water to seep in. This has caused the mural to swell and detach from the frame between the middle panels.

Considering all the damage, repairing the mural would require a week or more of work, with estimated costs ranging from \$1500 to \$2000. However, it's crucial to note that this would only provide a temporary solution, with an estimated lifespan of five years or less.

Regrettably, Ms. Petty does not consider repairing the mural to be a worthwhile pursuit. She contends that repainting it would not only be ineffective but would also dishonor the memory of the artist, who has passed away. However, Ms. Petty agrees with the original request and suggests that artists from Bifuka should be invited to assist in evaluating the art installation. Together, they can devise a plan that respects the mural's original intent, the artists involved, and the significance of the gift it represents.

CONCLUSION:

In conclusion, based on the comprehensive assessment conducted by Ms. Jo Petty, in consultation with experts Mr. Royden Josephson and Mrs. Hiroko Kanamaru, it is evident that the Japanese mural at Heritage Park is in a state of significant disrepair. Despite efforts to salvage the mural, the damage, compounded by previous touch-ups and environmental factors, poses considerable challenges.

While repair is technically feasible, it would offer only a temporary solution with a limited lifespan. Furthermore, Ms. Petty, with great respect for the artist's legacy, advises against repainting, as it would not only be ineffective but also disrespectful to the artist's original work.

Considering these factors, it is advisable for the Council to investigate alternative options for preserving the memory of the mural and honoring the artist's contribution to our community. Additionally, it is suggested that an invitation be extended to Bifuka, inviting their consultation on the project.

Strategic/Municipal Objectives

Intergovernmental Relations - Sister City

Legislative Authority

Financial Implications

Attachment Listing

TO: Mayor and Council

MEETING DATE: May 13, 2024

FROM: Yogi Bhalla, CFO

SUBJECT: 2023 Statement of Financial Information Report

RECOMMENDATION: THAT, Council approve the 2023 Statement of Financial Information Report as presented.

PURPOSE: Review and approval of the Statement of Financial Information Report

Respectfully Submitted by:

Approved for Submission to Council:



Yoginder Bhalla,
Chief Financial Officer



Daniela Dyck,
Chief Administrative Officer

BACKGROUND: The Village is required to file a statement of Financial Information report on an annual basis with the Ministry.

DISCUSSION. Attached are the schedules that, when attached to our audited financial statements, form the complete report. Section 9 of the regulation requires that the report must be approved by the Council and the Chief Financial Officer. Once approved, this package must be made available to members of the public for viewing and/or purchase.

SUMMARY: NA

Strategic/Municipal Objectives

Financial stewardship

Legislative Authority

Financial Implications

Attachment Listing:

SOFI Report

Financial Information Act
Financial Information Regulation (FIR), Schedule 1

Statement of Financial Information (SOFI)
Index to FIR Schedule 1 and the Checklist

Page 1: Corporation Information

Ministry Information

General: Section One

- 1(1)(a) Statement of assets and liabilities
- 1(1)(b) Operational statement
- 1(1)(c) Schedule of debts
- 1(1)(d) Schedule of guarantee and indemnity agreements
- 1(1)(e) Schedule of employee remuneration and expenses
- 1(1)(f) Schedule of suppliers of goods and services
- 1(2) [Explanatory information for reference]
- 1(3) Statements prepared on a consolidated basis or for each fund
- 1(4) & (5) Notes to the statements and schedules in section 1(1)

Page 2: Statement of Assets & Liabilities: Section Two

- 2 Balance sheet
- Changes in equity and surplus or deficit

Operational Statement: Section Three

- 3(1) Statement of Income / Statement of Revenue and Expenditures
- Statement of Changes in Financial Position
- 3(2) & (3) Omission of Statement of Changes in Financial Position, with explanation
- 3(4) Requirement for community colleges, school districts and municipalities

Statement of Debts: Section Four

- 4(1)(a) & 4(2) List and detail the schedule of long-term debts
- 4(1)(b) Identify debts covered by sinking funds / reserves
- 4(3) & (4) Omission of schedule, with explanation

Page 3: Schedule of Guarantee and Indemnity Agreements: Section Five

- 5(1) List agreements under the Guarantees and Indemnities Regulation
- 5(2) State the entities and amounts involved
- 5(3) & (4) Omission of schedule, with explanation

Page 3 & 4: Schedule of Remuneration and Expenses: Section Six

- 6(1) [Definitions for reference]
- 6(2)(a) List remuneration / expenses for each elected official, member of board, Cabinet appointees
- 6(2)(b) List each employee with remuneration exceeding \$75,000, plus expenses
- 6(2)(c) Consolidated total for all employees with remuneration of \$75,000 or less
- 6(2)(d) Reconcile difference in total remuneration above with operational statement
- 6(3) Exclude personal information other than as required

Page 3 & 4: Schedule of Remuneration and Expenses: Section Six (continued)

- 6(4) & (5) [Explanatory information for reference]
- 6(6) Report employer portion of EI and CPP as a supplier payment
- 6(7)(a) & (b) Statement of severance agreements
- 6(8) Explain an omission of statement of severance agreements
- 6(9) [Statement of severance agreements to minister – not required unless requested]

Page 4: Schedule of Suppliers of Goods or Services: Section Seven

- 7(1)(a) List suppliers receiving payments exceeding \$25,000
- 7(1)(b) Consolidated total of all payments of \$25,000 or less
- 7(1)(c) Reconcile difference in total above with operational statement
- 7(2)(a) [Explanatory information for reference]
- 7(2)(b) Statement of payments of grants or contributions
- 7(2)(c) [Explanatory information for reference]

Page 5: Inactive Corporations: Section Eight

- 8(1) Ministry to report for inactive corporations
- 8(2)(a) Contents of report – statements and schedules under section 1(1) to extent possible
- 8(2)(b) Contents of report – operational status of corporation

Approval of Financial Information: Section Nine

- 9(1) Approval of SOFI for corporations (other than municipalities)
- 9(2) Approval of SOFI for municipalities
- 9(3) Management report
- 9(4) Management report must explain roles and responsibilities
- 9(5) Signature approval is for all contents of the SOFI

Access to the Financial Information: Section Ten

- 10(1) to (3) [Explanatory information for reference]

Financial Information Regulation, Schedule 1

Checklist – Statement of Financial Information (SOFI)

For the Corporation:

Corporate Name: Village of Ashcroft Contact Name: Yoginder Bhalla
 Fiscal Year End: December 31, 2023 Phone Number: 250-453-9161
 Date Submitted: _____ E-mail: cfo@ashcroftbc.ca

For the Ministry:

Ministry Name: _____ Reviewer: _____
 Date Received: _____ Deficiencies: Yes ☐ No ☐
 Date Reviewed: _____ Deficiencies Addressed: Yes ☐ No ☐
 Approved (SFO): _____ Further Action Taken: _____

Distribution: Legislative Library ☐ Ministry Retention ☐

FIR Schedule 1 Section	Item	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
General					
1 (1) (a)	Statement of assets and liabilities	☒	☐	☐	Financial Statements
1 (1) (b)	Operational statement	☒	☐	☐	Financial Statements
1 (1) (c)	Schedule of debts	☒	☐	☐	Financial Statements
1 (1) (d)	Schedule of guarantee and indemnity agreements	☒	☐	☐	Nothing to report
1 (1) (e)	Schedule of employee remuneration and expenses	☒	☐	☐	
1 (1) (f)	Schedule of suppliers of goods and services	☒	☐	☐	
1 (3)	Statements prepared on a consolidated basis or for each fund, as appropriate	☒	☐	☐	
1 (4) 1 (5)	Notes to the financial statements for the statements and schedules listed above	☒	☐	☐	

FIR Schedule 1 Section	Item	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
Statement of Assets & Liabilities					
2	- A balance sheet prepared in accordance with GAAP or stated accounting principles / policies, and - Show changes in equity and surplus or deficit due to operations	☒	☐	☐	
Operational Statement					
3 (1)	Prepared in accordance with GAAP or stated accounting principles / policies and consists of: - a Statement of Income or Statement of Revenue and Expenditures, and - a Statement of Changes in Financial Position	☒	☐	☐	
3 (2) 3 (3)	- The Statement of Changes in Financial Position may be omitted if it provides no additional information - The omission must be explained in the notes	☒	☐	☐	
3 (4)	Community colleges, school districts, and municipalities must prepare a Statement of Changes in Financial Position for the Capital Fund	☒	☐	☐	Financial Statements
Schedule of Debts					
4 (1) (a) 4 (2)	List each long-term debt (secured by debentures, mortgages, bonds, etc.), stating the amount outstanding, the interest rate, and the maturity date	☒	☐	☐	Financial Statements; No long term debt outstanding
4 (1) (b)	Identify debts covered by sinking funds or reserves and amounts in these accounts	☐	☐	☒	
4 (3) 4 (4)	- The schedule may be omitted if addressed under section 2 or 5 and it provides no additional information - The omission must be explained in a note to the schedule	☐	☐	☒	

FIR Schedule 1 Section	Item	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
Schedule of Guarantee and Indemnity Agreements					
5 (1)	List financial agreements that required government approval prior to being given (see Guarantees and Indemnities Regulation in FIA Guidance Package)	☒	☐	☐	
5 (2)	State the entities involved, and the specific amount involved if known	☐	☐	☒	Nothing to report
5 (3) 5 (4)	- The schedule may be omitted if addressed under section 2 or 4 and it provides no additional information - The omission must be explained in a note to the schedule	☐	☐	☒	Nothing to report
Schedule of Remuneration and Expenses (See Guidance Package for suggested format)					
6 (2) (a)	List separately, by name and position, the total remuneration and the total expenses for each elected official, member of the board of directors, and employee appointed by Cabinet	☒	☐	☐	
6 (2) (b)	List alphabetically each employee whose total remuneration exceeds \$75,000 and the total expenses for each [excluding the persons listed under 6 (2) (a)]	☒	☐	☐	
6 (2) (c)	Include a consolidated total for employees whose remuneration is \$75,000 or less [excluding the persons listed under 6 (2) (a)]	☒	☐	☐	
6 (2) (d)	Reconcile or explain any difference between total remuneration in this schedule and related information in the operational statement	☒	☐	☐	
6 (3)	Exclude personal information other than name, position, function or remuneration and expenses of employees	☒	☐	☐	

FIR Schedule 1 Section	Item	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
Schedule of Remuneration and Expenses (See Guidance Package for suggested format)					
6 (6)	Report the employer portion of EI and CPP as a supplier payment to the Receiver General for Canada rather than as employee remuneration	☒	☐	☐	
6 (7) (a) 6 (7) (b)	Include a statement of severance agreements providing: - the number of severance agreements under which payment commenced in the fiscal year being reported on for non-union employees, and - the range of equivalent months' compensation for them (see Guidance Package for suggested format)	☒	☐	☐	None to report
6 (8)	Provide the reason for omitting a statement of severance agreements in a note to the schedule of remuneration and expenses	☒	☐	☐	None to report
Schedule of Suppliers of Goods or Services (See Guidance Package for suggested format)					
7 (1) (a)	List in alphabetical order all suppliers of goods and services who received aggregate payments exceeding \$25,000	☒	☐	☐	
7 (1) (b)	Include a consolidated total of all payments to suppliers who received \$25,000 or less	☒	☐	☐	
7 (1) (c)	Reconcile or explain any difference between the consolidated total and related figures in the operational statement	☒	☐	☐	See note on schedule
7 (2) (b)	Include a statement of payments for the purposes of grants or contributions	☒	☐	☐	

FIR Schedule 1 Section	Item	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
Inactive Corporations					
8 (1)	The ministry reports for the corporation if the corporation is not operating to the extent required to produce a SOFI	☐	☐	☒	
8 (2) (a)	The ministry's report contains the statements and schedules required under section 1 (1), to the extent possible	☐	☐	☒	
8 (2) (b)	The ministry's report contains a statement of the operational status of the corporation (see Guidance Package regarding what to include)	☐	☐	☒	
Approval of Financial Information					
9 (1)	Corporations other than municipalities – the SOFI is signed as approved by the board of directors or the governing body (see Guidance Package for example)	☐	☐	☒	
9 (2)	Municipalities – the SOFI is approved by its council and by the officer assigned responsibility for financial administration (see Guidance Package for example)	☒	☐	☐	
9 (3)	A management report is included, signed by the head and chief financial officer, or by the municipal officer assigned responsibility for financial administration (see examples in annual report at http://www.gov.bc.ca/cas/popt/)	☒	☐	☐	
9 (4)	The management report explains the roles and responsibilities of the board of directors or governing body, audit committee, management, and the auditors	☒	☐	☐	
9 (5)	Signature approvals required in section 9 are for each of the statements and schedules of financial information, not just the financial statements	☒	☐	☐	

THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT
Financial Information Act

Statement of Financial Approval
for the Year Ended December 31, 2023

The undersigned, as authorized by the Financial Information Regulation, Schedule 1, subsection 9(2), approves all the statements and schedules included in the Statement of Financial Information, produced under the Financial Information Act.

Barbara Roden
Mayor

Yoginder (Yogi) Bhalla, CPA CGA
Chief Financial Officer

Date

**Schedule Showing the Remuneration & Expenses
Paid to or on behalf of Each Employee
for Year Ending December 31, 2023**

1. Elected Officials

Name	Position	Remuneration	Expenses
Roden, Barbara	Mayor	15,185	4,138
Anstett, Jonah	Councillor	8,215	5,609
Clement, Jessica	Councillor	8,215	4,789
Davenport, Nadine	Councillor	8,215	4,002
Lambert, Doreen	Councillor	8,215	1,785
Total		\$48,047	\$ 20,323

2. Other Employees (excluding those listed in Part 1 above)

Name	Remuneration	Expenses
Employees with Remuneration & Expenses exceeding \$75,000.		
Dyck, Daniela	114,906	10,720
Bhalla, Yoginder	111,921	3,773
Bennewith, Brian	98,786	4,163
Battel, Oscar	91,069	1,425
Sidwell, Robert	90,212	2,768
Aie, Eddie	84,208	3,571
White, Josh	76,177	3,284
Kostesky, Mark	78,138	3,837
LaRue, Lucas	75,860	3,503
Consolidated total of other employees with remuneration and expenses of \$75,000 or less	615,412	8,159
Total Paid to Other Employees	\$1,436,689	45,203.00

3. Reconciliation

Total Paid to Elected Officials	\$48,047	
Total Paid to Other Employees	\$1,496,235	
Subtotal	\$1,544,282	
Reconciling Items	See Note	T4'S
Total per Statement of Revenue and Expenditure	See Note	
Variance	See Note	

Note: The Village of Ashcroft does not report remunerations on the Financial Statements as a separate line item, rather expenditures are recorded by object. As part of the auditing process our Auditors do perform a reconciliation involving T4 statements, payroll records, etc.

Yoginder (Yogi) Bhalla
Chief Financial Officer

Date

THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT
Financial Information Act
for the Year Ended December 31, 2023

1. Alphabetical list of suppliers who received aggregate payments exceeding \$25,000

Supplier Name	Aggregate amount paid to supplier
AESL15 ASSOCIATED ELECTRICAL SERVICES LTD	84,514.24
BCHA15 B C HYDRO & POWER AUTHORITY	271,677.75
BCPC15 BRITISH COLUMBIA PENSION CORPORATION	209,639.57
BCTR15 BC TRANSIT	142,692.19
CDFM15 CANADIAN DEWATERING LP	45,903.69
CFUE15 COLUMBIA FUELS	51,712.60
CTII15 CLEARTECH INDUSTRIES INC.	38,007.28
DLEL15 DOUGLAS LAKE EQUIPMENT LP	75,333.65
ENCO15 EMIL ANDERSON CONSTRUCTION	88,452.75
EXTR15 EXTREME EXCAVATING LTD.	160,129.81
FOBC15 FORTIS BC -NATURAL GAS	68,706.40
GTLL GRANT THORNTON LLP	40,446.00
KELT15 KENDRICK EQUIPMENT (2003) LTD.	175,159.39
MIAS15 MUNICIPAL INSURANCE ASSN. OF BC	96,965.00
MMWL15 MEARL'S MACHINE WORKS LTD.	160,702.66
NSAS15 NGN SALES & SERVICE	37,558.00
PBCR15 PACIFIC BLUE CROSS	95,486.12
RGEN15 RECEIVER GENERAL FOR CANADA	449,397.72
SPAH15 SERENITY POOLS & HARDSCAPES INC.	70,339.07
TNRD15 THOMPSON NICOLA REGIONAL DISTRICT	68,881.75
TRCI15 TRICITY CANADA INC. GENERAL CONTRACTORS	1,088,537.82
USLT15 URBAN SYSTEMS LTD	95,221.41
WCBO15 WORKSAFE BC COLLECTIONS DEPT	50,303.16
XCPL15 XYLEM CANADA LP	94,953.60
Total Aggregate amount paid to suppliers	\$ 3,760,721.63
2. Consolidated total paid to suppliers who received aggregate payment of \$25,000 or less	
	\$ 713,742.89

Consolidated total of grants exceeding \$25,000	Nil
Consolidated total of contributions exceeding \$25,000	Nil
Consolidated total of all grants and contributions	Nil

4. Reconciliation

Total of aggregate payments exceeding \$25,000 paid to suppliers	\$	3,760,721.63	
Consolidated total of payments of \$25,000 or less paid to suppliers	\$	713,742.89	
Consolidated total of all grants and contributions exceeding \$25,000	\$	-	
	\$	<u>4,474,464.52</u>	
Total per Statement of Revenue and Expenditure		4,135,489.00	
Less: Debt Payments			
Less: remuneration/transfers included in above		(1,436,689.00)	
Less: amortization included in above		(657,687.00)	
Add: increase in prepaids		19,182.00	
Add: Increase in tangible assets		2,351,593.00	
		<u>4,411,888.00</u>	
Variance	-\$	62,576.52	-1.42%
Reconciling items		See note	
Note: The Corporation does not report a separate line item in the Financial Statements for Payments of Goods and Services.			

Yoginder Bhalla CPA, CGA
Chief Financial Officer

Date

THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT
Financial Information Act

**Statement of Guarantee & Indemnity Agreements
for the Year Ended December 31, 2023**

This Corporation has not given any guarantees or indemnities under the Guarantees and Indemnities Regulations.

Yoginder Bhalla CPA, CGA
Chief Financial Officer

Date

THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT
Financial Information Act

**Statement of Severance Agreements
for the Year Ended December 31, 2023**

There were no severance agreements made between the Corporation of the Village of Ashcroft and its non-unionized employees during the 2023 fiscal year.

Yoginder Bhalla, CPA, CGA
Chief Financial Officer

Date

TO: Mayor and Council

MEETING DATE: May 13, 2024

FROM: Daniela Dyck, CAO

SUBJECT: Verbal Report

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report and future reports is to provide information to the Council that may not come up during regular meetings or Committee of the Whole. Topics will include operational updates, or other areas of interest to the village.

DISCUSSION:

In the interest of transparency and to allow Council the opportunity for questions and dialogue during meetings, topics for verbal reports will be included on the agenda using this report template.

Verbal Report Items:

1. Southern Interior Local Government Association – Conference highlights 2024
2. NG911 and TNRD GIS Shared Service – update
3. Rainbow Bench
4. Practicum Student – University of the Fraser Valley
5. Desert Sands Community School - Bursaries
6. Pool Staffing and Operations Update
7. RCMP - Sergeant Appointment at Ashcroft Detachment Update

JP Pow Wow Society

JP Pow Wow Society
Bonaparte First Nation
2667 Sage Hill Road,
Cache Creek, BC
Independent Society 70069 0217 BC0001
1-250-572-1457
February 29, 2024



RE: Sponsorship Request for Bonaparte St'uxwtews Pow Wow 2024,

Weyt-kp, xwexweytec, (hello everyone)

Greetings from Bonaparte St'uxwtews Pow wow Society, we hope that this correspondence finds you in good health and happiness. The JP Pow wow Society is a non-profit society that was newly formed to represent the Annual St'uxwtews Pow wow. Our Pow wow is held at the Historic Hat Creek Ranch, located minutes west of Cache Creek, British Columbia, on the junction of the scenic Sea to Sky Highway.

St'uxwtews First Nation is driven to be unified and empowered by a foundation of tradition, culture, and language with values to Knucwentw'ecw (help one another), y'ucwementwecw (take care of one another) with integrity, respect, and equality.

In the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation the JP Pow wow Society wishes to encourage and uplift our Indigenous and Non-Indigenous community to raise awareness of our shared history and to support the understanding between our cultures, encourage the freedom to express the culture of our Indigenous Community and to uplift the freedom and self-esteem of all ages to participate in our pow wow. Whether it be wearing the regalia, singing and for the youth to represent their talents in the pageants.

Our request for monetary donation for the St'uxwtews Pow wow 2024, will be going towards funding the dancing and singing competitions, securing the services of a Master of Ceremonies and a host drum, and paying for facilities. There are numerous costs associated with running a Competition Pow Wow, all funds go towards these expenses. The Pow wow Society members are volunteer positions.

To ensure a successful competition pow wow, the JP Pow wow Society's goal for 2024 is to fundraise \$125,000.00. Your sponsorship/donation will help with expenses incurred by hosting such a prestigious event – JP Pow Wow Society relies on your help to reach this goal! What you contribute will help to bring us closer to successfully preserving our cultural heritage and providing a safe space to enjoy the event.

Please make cheque out to JP Pow wow Society

☐ \$5,000.00 ☐ \$10,000.00 ☐ \$15,500.00 ☐ \$20,000.00 Other _____

Please make cheque payable to "JP Pow wow Society."

Kukwstep-kucw – We thank you all,

President JP Pow Wow Society,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "A. O. R.", written over a horizontal line.

"I would like to acknowledge that we are conducting business on the lands & territory of St'uxwtews te Secwepemc"

From: Phoebe Lazier <phoebe.lazier@bcruralhealth.org>

Sent: Wednesday, May 1, 2024 9:05:39 AM

Subject: Declaring June 17th as Hope Air Day

Good morning,

I am reaching out to you today to request your assistance and support for Hope Air.

Hope Air provides essential services to rural and remote communities across the country and the majority of their work is done here in British Columbia. Not only does Hope Air provide air transportation to patients and their caregivers but also provides accommodations, meals and ground transportation. Their charitable services need to continue and to be enhanced, to ensure equitable access to care for all of us who are forced to leave our communities for care and treatments.

In 2023, Hope Air supported over 14,100 travel arrangements for patients across British Columbia. Hope Air had an infusion of support from the Government of B.C. to support the needs of cancer patients and steadfast support from the Provincial Health Service Authority, community foundations, and corporate and individual donors. And yet, the demand continues to soar.

The BC Rural Health Network has been working closely with Hope Air and promoting their services to many who haven't been aware of their significant and essential services. Their no patient left behind policy could be jeopardized if their funding is not sufficient or stable. Over the past year, we have been promoting the services of Hope Air and as people become aware of what services they can provide, the more these services are utilized.

On **June 17th**, Hope Air is working with municipalities across the province to declare this day, "**Hope Air Day**" in British Columbia. They are choosing this day to shine the spotlight on the unique medical travel needs of thousands of residents each year. In turn, we must continue to bring awareness to the issue of equitable access to health care for all.

I am writing to request your consideration that your Municipality adopt the attached proclamation declaring June 17th, Hope Air Day. We would be grateful for this support, in joining cities and towns across B.C. to recognize the impact of Hope Air.

I have attached a draft of the proclamation for your review.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this proclamation.

Yours in health and wellness,

Phoebe Lazier

Community Engagement

BC Rural Health Network

Phoebe Lazier || She/Her || Community Outreach || **BC Rural Health Network** ||



|| Cell: (250) 505-3049 || <https://bcruralhealth.org/> ||

phoebe.lazier@bcruralhealth.org || [LinkedIn](#)

The BCRHN is the healthcare voice of the rural residents of British Columbia and seeks better health outcomes for all people, through solutions-based approaches with governments, and information provision to residents.

The BCRHN is grateful to live, work, and be in relation with people from across many traditional and unceded territories, covering all regions of British Columbia. We are honoured to live on this land and are committed to reconciliation, decolonization, and building relationships in our communities

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.



JUNE 17TH IS
HOPE AIR
DAY

Join us on June 17 as we shine a light on the medical travel needs of people living in B.C., and our commitment to equitable access to health care regardless of distance or cost.





**HOPE AIR DAY
JUNE 17, 2024
Proclamation**

WHEREAS, access to healthcare is a fundamental right for all citizens, regardless of their geographic location;

WHEREAS, Hope Air, a charitable organization, has been tirelessly dedicated to providing access to healthcare by facilitating free flights and other services for patients living in rural and under-served communities in British Columbia, ensuring they can receive vital medical treatment regardless of distance or financial means;

WHEREAS, Hope Air has been instrumental in bridging the gap between smaller communities and hospitals far from home, reducing the barriers that often prevent individuals from reaching medical care;

WHEREAS, the impact of Hope Air extends beyond the individual patients served, positively affecting families, communities, and the healthcare system as a whole by promoting wellness and reducing the burden of untreated medical conditions;

WHEREAS, the compassion, dedication, and commitment demonstrated by Hope Air and its volunteers embody the spirit of community and the belief in the inherent value of every individual's well-being;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it proclaimed by the [Name of Municipality] that June 17th, 2024, shall be known as "Hope Air Day" in recognition of the invaluable contributions made by Hope Air to the health and well-being of individuals in British Columbia's remote, rural and underserved communities.

We urge all citizens to join us in celebrating Hope Air Day and to reflect on the significance of ensuring equitable access to healthcare for all members of our society. Let us reaffirm our commitment to supporting initiatives that promote health equity and extend our gratitude to Hope Air for their unwavering dedication to serving those in need.

Barbara Roden, Mayor

From: Heidi Alther <colourmeheidi@gmail.com>
Sent: May 7, 2024 2:39 PM
To: EDT Village of Ashcroft <edt@ashcroftbc.ca>
Cc: Jessica Clement <jessicaclement@gmail.com>
Subject: Donation Request, Ashcroft Plein Air 2024

Dear Mayor and Council:

On behalf of the winding Rivers Arts and Performance Society, please consider this request for a donation of door prize items from the Village of Ashcroft. These door prizes would be presented to Ashcroft Plein Air 2024 participants.

Ashcroft Plein Air 2024, the 9th annual event takes place June 7th 8th and 9th and invites artists from Ashcroft, Canada and beyond to join us and be inspired by our beautiful Vistas and Heritage buildings. On June 9th Ashcroft citizens are invited to attend the wet show of artworks at St. Albans Church common room.

Local businesses are also donating items as door prizes. Business owners have commented to me that they enjoyed how the artists animated the streets and countryside of Ashcroft as they painted outside. They also mentioned that these artists and their families did support local businesses. These businesses welcome the event again.

Our committee would be proud to showcase the Village of Ashcroft at this event and any items that you feel would be appropriate to donate as door prizes would be appreciated. Items could include cups, pens, jewelry, including any items that have the Ashcroft Village brand. The event will accommodate up to 50 artists.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Heidi Alther
Ashcroft Plein Air 2024 Committee Member

Please find event poster attached.



ASHCROFT PLEIN AIR 2024

Friday, June 7th to Sunday, June 9th.

Join us in Ashcroft BC to paint our beautiful vistas and heritage buildings.

Friday Night Gourmet Appy Artist Meet and Greet,
Saturday Dinner and Sunday Brunch included
Wet Show and Sale on Sunday

Come out on Thursday so that you can spend all day Friday painting!
optional group activities provided for guests and artists

ARTISTS - \$100

NON-PAINTING GUESTS - \$50

"I had a great time. The food was great, and we had a
great time getting to know your town"
- LC (Plein Air Participant)

For more info: ashcroftpleinair@gmail.com | 250 457 7128



Scan to Register



To: The Mayor and all Councillors of British Columbia's Municipalities

Hello Dear Council Members:

With recent wildfire experiences in many parts of Canada I thought all elected Members of British Columbia's Municipalities may be interested in these Wildfire Prevention and Suppression suggestions and observations. They can be easily applied in your area of B.C.

Am sending the following suggestions to B.C.'s EMCR Minister, Bowinn Ma and to the B.C. Ministry of Forest, B.C.'s elected officials and Canada's MP's in hopes with your help, we can safely with lower costs, substantially improve our Wildfire Prevention and Suppression while reducing our CO2 emissions.

I am a retired senior with over 50 years of varied coastal forest industry experience including engineering, management, helicopter salvage of dead or dying timber and even participating in disaster planning exercises held at Arnprior, Ontario by Civil Defence Canada.

I am quite concerned that recently many are now advocating a policy of widespread prescribed burning of flammable forest biomass debris, which creates much CO2 pollution, is costly and there is always the danger of wildfire escape as past history illustrates.

As a sustainable, environmentally friendly and potentially profitable alternative, I believe wherever possible we should try to mulch and collect and utilize the flammable biomass fuels as a valuable feedstock resource for further process into biomass pellets and briquettes.

It is very possible that Drax and or other biomass pellet companies would be interested in helping to develop the field practices and purchase the biomass feedstock.

FYI I've attached a 5 page PDF with a more detailed description of the suggested policy and system to help improve the safety, effectiveness and costs of B.C.'s Wildfire Prevention & Suppression.

Thank you for your consideration of my suggestions.

Best Regards,
Alex Pawliuk

Cell: 778-229-2640
Email: aopawliuk@gmail.com
#203 - 1050 54A St.,
Delta, B.C. V4M 4B4

To Whom It May concern:

Consider Managing for Safer, Lower Cost Prevention and Outcomes of Wildfires by Using;

- **“Primary Firebreaks”** with the flammable biomass debris removed and wide reaching water sprinkler systems installed where possible.
- **“Quick Detection”** by increasing ground and aerial fire patrols aided with real time monitoring with infrared satellite Imaging.
- **“Prompt Effective First Response”** with large volume 4,000 to 6,000 gallon plus aerial water or retardant drops as opposed to the current use of small volume drops or monsoon buckets.

Natural Resources Canada reports:

<http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/forests/fire-insects-disturbances/fire/14444>

“On average, 8,600 wildfires burn 2.5 million hectares in Canada each year, often threatening communities and resulting in the evacuation of residents and sometimes the loss of homes.”

Only 3% of all wild land fires that start each year in Canada grow to more than 200 hectares in area. However, these fires account for 97% of the total area burned across the country.

Fire suppression costs over the last decade in Canada have ranged from about \$800 million to \$1.5 billion a year.

In 2023: <https://cwfis.cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/report>

“According to the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre National Fire Summary, 6,623 fires have been recorded nationally in 2023, burning a total of 18,401,197 hectares (ha). For comparative purposes, the total number of fires and area burned last year (4,883 fires; 1,467,970 ha), and the 10-year average (5,597 fires; 2,751,161 ha) as reported in the Canadian National Fire Database (CNFDB). According to the CNFDB, in terms of area burned, this year was the highest ever recorded with the previous recorded in 1989 (7,597,266 ha)”.

“British Columbia saw the most wildfires so far this year (2,245), followed by Alberta (1,022). British Columbia (2.82M ha), Alberta (2.52M ha), Northwest Territories (4.16 M ha), Saskatchewan (1.85M ha), and Quebec (5.03 M ha) each had over a million hectares burned. Estimated area burned was above the 10-year average in British Columbia, Yukon, Alberta, Northwest Territories, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Quebec, Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Parks Canada, but lower than average in Manitoba and Prince Edward Island.

The total area burned may change as provinces and territories continue to map their respective fires.”

Forest fires can be caused by natural events like lightening, accidentally by power line faults, friction, explosions or sparks, and unfortunately very often by human carelessness or lack of an individuals fire safety knowledge and practices.

It has become a generally accepted view that as a result of changes in atmospheric levels of Green House Gases (GHG's) a global warming of earth's climate conditions is now under way. The resulting increase in naturally occurring dry flammable organic fuels in our forests and grasslands is expected to continue to lead to an increase in number and severity of wildfires in the areas surrounding many Canadian and global rural communities.

Many small communities including 1st Nations can be at greater risk, as they often are located in remote areas surrounded by forests that can be frequently threatened by out of control wildfires. As a result thousands of people are forced to evacuate each year with many residents facing personal threats to life and property as well as the potential severe environmental, economic and social consequences for the communities they live in.

My Personal Observations:

In 1969 while working in the Forest Engineering Dept. at MacMillan Bloedel's, Sproat Lake Division in Port Alberni, B.C., Canada, as a standard practice we planned for, established and maintained ½ mile wide "Primary Firebreaks" with the purpose of surrounding and separating active log harvesting areas of + - 4,000 to 8,000 acres into more manageable fire protection units in case of wildfire and or operationally caused forest fires occurring in the more flammable post logging slash and dry bio-mass debris.

The "Primary Firebreaks" were planned into lower risk landscapes, when ever possible using; mature Hemlock dominant stands and or deciduous inclusive stands containing low amounts of ground level fuels as well where possible inclusive of lakes, rivers, creeks or rock bluffs, all of which could help reduce forest fire flame spread.

The "Primary Firebreaks" (other than thru access roads) were to stay intact and unlogged until the adjacent second growth stands were old enough to serve the same purpose.

As well during "Fire Season" we did daily after-shift ground and aerial fire patrols of all operating areas, and did the same during periods of lightening strikes.

If we observed any signs of smoke or fire we could act quickly to call in the Mars water bomber to do 6,000 gallon drops until the fire was out or under control, and well before it could grow unmanageable in size and too out of control and dangerous for the ground based fire suppression crews.

A combination of preventative measures, quick identification, location & response using readily available appropriate technology and common sense helps ensure the safest, lowest cost wildfire prevention, mitigation and defense.

The idea being if we had an operationally caused or natural forest fire, our "Primary Firebreak" units with lower flame spread potential, helped our fire suppression crews efforts and the locally available 6,000 gallon Mars water bombers to quickly gain control of fires before they could spread to become dangerous, expensive and large out of control wild fires.

We need a modern version of water bomber type aircraft with the “Mars 6,000 gallon capacity”. Its “Effective Volume of Water or Retardant” combined with “Early Detection”, “Prompt Response and use of “Primary Firebreaks” worked really well for us and as a result we had very few run away wildfires occur.

I am confident that using the **“Primary Firebreak”** approach to encircle and protect communities, or important infrastructure and residences, augmented with high volume sprinkler systems where-ever possible will pro-actively and safely help to protect residents and land owners from out of control wild fires, saving lives, loss of property and building assets at the lowest possible cost.

“Primary Firebreaks” Should:

- 1 - be ½ mile (or wider) to encircle a subject community or protect an infrastructure and narrower if necessary for isolated residential and farm buildings.
- 2 - also be used to divide and isolate drainages or forest areas into smaller potential compartmented wildfire areas surrounded by semi-natural fire stops.
- 3 - be of less flammable stands like mature Hemlock trees and deciduous inclusive stands preferably that have been thinned, spaced and pruned.
- 4 - be inclusive of adjacent lakes, rivers, creeks or rock bluffs, all of which could help reduce a forest fires flame spread.
- 5 - if where sufficient water supply is available, be equipped with an effective far-reaching sprinkler system preferably elevated on poles or posts, with an independent back up system including generator.
- 6 - contain low amounts of, or be cleared of easy to ignite ground level bio-mass fuels and woody debris.
- 7 - Where-ever possible the easily flammable leaves, needles, branches and woody debris should be collected and mulched for processing into biomass pellets or briquettes for companies like Drax or other producers, **as opposed to prescribed burning which should only be the last option**. Prescribed burns do not make sustainable use of our existing resources, they cost money, create pollution and can be dangerous particularly if they escape.

The 5 links below are just a few equipment types & or companies that could be used by existing local Forestry Silviculture crews for **“environmentally friendly and hopefully profitable”**, self funded bio-mass recovery from the naturally occurring leaves, needles, branches & woody debris they may collect and recover while establishing Primary Firebreaks.

Thank you for considering my suggestions regarding “Wildfire Prevention and Suppression”.

Regards, Alex Pawliuk
Cell: 1-778-229-2640
Email: aopawliuk@gmail.com

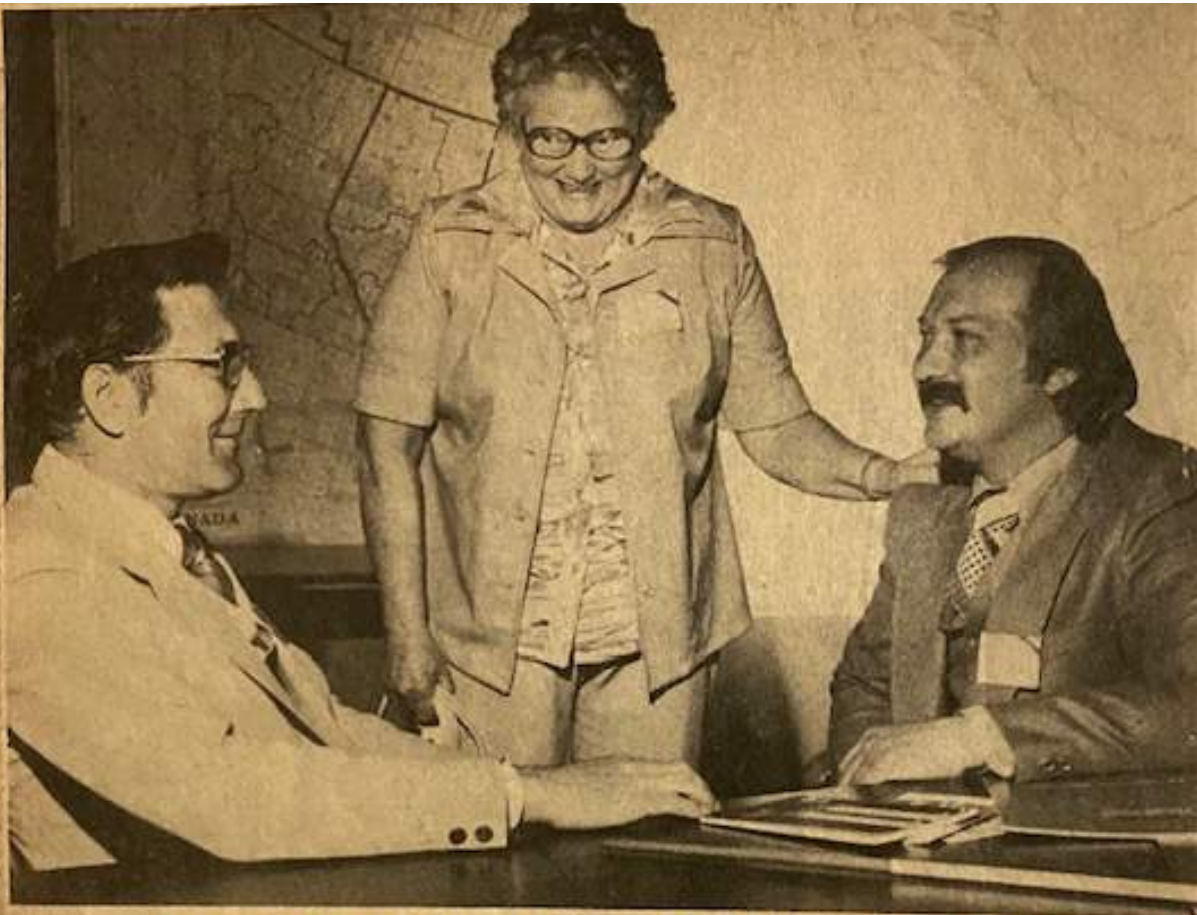
https://www.billygoat.com/au/en_au/products/debris-loaders.html

<https://www.facebook.com/appliedcleansingsolutions/videos/urban-leaf-and-litter-vacuum-system-litter-master-9000/1365437830456658/>

<https://www.deere.com/en/gator-utility-vehicles/>

<https://www.tmhindustries.com/collections/403150242007>

<https://www.drax.com/>



DISASTER PLANNING DISCUSSED

Ald. Ada Howden of Nanaimo, discusses the results of a four-day study of leadership in disaster situations with Ladysmith Ald. D. A. Brown, left, and Mayor A. O. Pawliuk of Port

Clements. They were among 21 mayors and senior elected officials from eight provinces who took part in the study in Arnprior, Ont. The program involved films, lectures, demonstrations and

discussions. Civic leaders were introduced to problem areas in which they and their administrations could become involved in coping with peacetime disasters.

MID-ISLAND NEWS

From: Parksville, Courtenay, Ladysmith

Courtenay Office: 541 Duncan Ave. (upstairs) — 334-4171

10 Nanaimo Daily Free Press, Friday, May 13, 1977



Sproat Lake Logging Division



Admin

Bob Hopkins · Apr 1 ·



Like



Comment



You and 63 others

Top comments ▾



Alex Pawliuk

In 1972 & 73 on the Sproat Lake Div. Engineering crew, during early shift I occasionally had to fly an afternoon fire patrol of the current active logging locations in Alberni Valley looking for smoke from hot spots. We flew in the Gruman Goose and on occasion if the Mars water bombers had to be called out to do a quick water strike, we flew the intended attack flight path ahead of it to make sure it was safe for the Mars. It was quite exciting to say the least.

35w Like Reply

3



NEWS RELEASE

TNRD to Issue Test Emergency Notice to Voyent Alert! Users on May 10

Kamloops, BC – May 6, 2024 – In alignment with Emergency Preparedness Week, the Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) will be issuing a test alert of its emergency notification system on Friday, May 10, 2024, at 10:30 am through Voyent Alert!

The TNRD uses Voyent Alert! to share information when the Emergency Operations Centre is activated, including evacuation alerts, evacuation orders, downgrading or rescinding these notices, and other relevant emergency notices. All TNRD emergency updates are also shared on the TNRD's new, dedicated emergency website (eoc.tnrd.ca), and on the TNRD [Facebook](#) and [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#) social media pages.

The public can receive TNRD emergency notices via the Voyent Alert! smartphone app (Android or iOS), SMS text, email, or voice call. This service is free for residents, easy to use, and anonymous, and helps ensure that residents have access to trusted, timely, and accurate information when their property is impacted. To register for Voyent Alert!, visit: tnrd.ca/voyent.

Please be advised that the TNRD only has jurisdiction to issue evacuation alerts or orders for properties located in the 10 TNRD Electoral Areas. If your address is in a Member Municipality of the TNRD or a First Nations community within TNRD boundaries, please refer to your local government for local updates during an emergency.

"With hot and dry weather in the immediate forecast, the risk of wildfires and flooding due to snow melt will increase in many areas, and we also want to urge the public to be prepared," said Mike Knauff, TNRD Emergency Program Coordinator. "Have your own emergency plan in place in case your property is placed on Evacuation Order. Know the risk levels for your property, and make any preparations that you can to help your home withstand a potential flood or wildfire."

Ongoing drought conditions combined with hot and dry weather are expected to lead to an increased risk of more severe wildfires in the months ahead. Many private properties in the TNRD are in the wildland urban interface, and it is crucial for residents to FireSmart™ their property to reduce the risk of wildfire damage. There are many easy steps to make your home more resilient. To learn more, visit: tnrd.ca/firesmart.

For more information on preparing for various emergencies, visit: tnrd.ca/beprepared. To find a list of relevant emergency webpages from various agencies, [click here](#).

Media Contact:

Colton Davies, Communications Manager
Thompson-Nicola Regional District
Tel.: 250 377-6299
Email: cdavies@tnrd.ca

MUNICIPALITIES: Ashcroft | Barriere | Cache Creek | Chase | Clearwater | Clinton
Kamloops | Logan Lake | Lytton | Merritt | Sun Peaks

ELECTORAL AREAS: "A" "B" "E" "I" "J" "L" "M" "N" "O" "P"



THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY

Recruitment Poster

Examining Rural Older Adults' Perceptions of Falls Prevention Study



Are you a person aged 60 years or older living in a rural community?

If so, we invite you to participate in our study. We want to hear your perceptions of falls prevention, contributing factors, and mitigation strategies.

Our study aims to examine your perception of falls prevention in your community.

You would be invited to participate in a 1-hour interview. This would be conducted in-person or virtually depending on your preference.

TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR STUDY or for more information, please contact:

Research Supervisor	Student Researcher
Juanita-Dawne Bacsu Assistant Professor, School of Nursing Thompson Rivers Phone: 1 (250) 371-5538 Cell: (306) 250-4399 Email: jbacsu@tru.ca	Megan Funk Master of Nursing Student, School of Nursing Thompson Rivers Phone: 1 (250) 371-5538 Email: funkm112@mytru.ca

Study Title: Examining Rural Older Adults' Perceptions of Falls Prevention, Contributing Factors, and Mitigation Strategies

This research has been approved on ethical grounds by Thompson Rivers University Research Ethics Board on March 8, 2024. Any questions regarding your rights as a participant may be addressed to that committee by emailing the Research Ethics Office: TRU-REB@tru.ca or phoning Dr. Rani Srivastava, the Dean at the School of Nursing at 1 (250) 828-5441. If you have any questions concerning the research project, please contact Dr. Juanita-Dawne Bacsu at 1 (250) 371-5538.



THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY

Recruitment Poster

Rural Aging and Independence to Support Dementia (RAISD) Study



Are you a family member, neighbour, friend, care partner, or a person living with early-stage **dementia**?

If so, we invite you to participate in our study. We want to hear **your ideas** on the supports and challenges of rural aging of older adults living with dementia and their care partners.

Our study aims to identify supports and actions to improve rural aging for older adults living with dementia and their care partners.

You would be invited to participate in a 1 hour interview at a time that is most convenient for you. This would be conducted by phone, in-person, or Zoom, as you prefer.

TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR STUDY or for more information, contact:

Dr. Juanita-Dawne Bacsu

Assistant Professor, School of Nursing

Thompson Rivers University

Phone: 1 (250) 371-5538

Email: jbacsu@tru.ca

This research has been approved on ethical grounds by Thompson Rivers University Research Ethics Board. Any questions regarding your rights as a participant may be addressed to that committee by emailing the Research Ethics Office: TRU-REB@tru.ca or phoning Dr. Rani Srivastava, the Dean at the School of Nursing at 1 (250) 828-5441. If you have any questions concerning the research project, please contact Dr. Juanita-Dawne Bacsu at 1 (250) 371-5538.

[View this email in your browser](#)



If you missed it, our beaver dam analog installation workshop on May 4 was a great opportunity to provide education to landholders and stakeholders in the area who rely on the watershed for fire response, water access, food, agricultural success, recreation, tourism, cultural practices, and so much more.

Thanks to everyone who came out to our beaver dam analog (BDA) workshop, hosted at the lovely **Blue Earth Forest Farm**! Huge thanks to **Jeff Anderson of Geomorphic Consulting Inc** for teaching and to **BC Wildlife Federation** and **Thompson Nicola Regional District Director Tricia Thorpe** for funding this workshop on ***flood and fire prevention, lands restoration and water management***. Thanks as always to our board of directors and volunteers for your continued investment of your time and efforts, and to Michael Hollihn and BEFF for hosting!

Attendees learned about the permitting process and regulations of BDAs and the history of beavers and what benefits beavers provide in the upper watersheds. The group discussed what happens when beavers' natural habitats are destroyed in our watersheds - human activities often cause beavers to migrate further downstream where they may negatively affect agricultural activity or civic infrastructure.

years by an unknown party, creating a straight, narrow, and shallow channel that is still dry as White Mountain has not shed its snowpack yet. Leaving the channel as it currently sits means the water will flow straight down Venables Valley, leaving no water for use during the summer months, further eroding the landscape around it and dragging assorted sediment and aggregate and woody debris with it.

Not having water retention upstream of Venables Lake puts Blue Earth Forest Farm and everyone downstream, including [Saranagati Village](#), [Cooks Ferry Indian Band](#), and [Oregon Jack Creek](#) residents, at risk. These communities, with a fast or large snowpack melt and no ability to retain the snow water, may not be able to protect their lands from wildfires and drought; infrastructure such as the Trans Canada Highway and CN Rail are also at more risk of damages from landslides and floods. Water retention in the upper watersheds and the slowing down and spreading out of the water mitigates this risk, preventing flood and landslide damage and disaster and providing valuable water for fire fighting, reforestation, and agricultural and residential use.

On May 4, the workshop group installed a BDA in a dry diversion channel outside of the stream channel and outside of the Present Natural Boundary of the creek while awaiting permitting for works within the stream channel by Ministry of Forests and Department of Fisheries and Oceans. When the snowpack melts, the area in the photo below will flood as it does annually. With this BDA installed, sediment carried by the flowing water will fill in the gaps of the woody BDA installation and hold the water in this location over the dry summer months. The held water will experience its natural processes such as evaporation and filtration, and the water will naturally dissipate into the earth and provide moisture to the ecosystems around it and to communities and wildlife downstream.

We'll be following up on this project in July at a community event hosted by Blue Earth Forest Farm, so stay tuned! Interested in learning more? [Fill out our survey here!](#)

Workshop
Survey

What's a
Present Natural
Boundary??

Tell me about
hosting a
workshop!



BWSS DIRECTORS MEETING on JUNE 4

Our next directors meeting will be held at Blue Earth Forest Farm on June 4 from 1-3pm, and anyone is welcome to join us. Carpooling will be available from the Cache Creek Community Hall at 12:20pm or from the Ashcroft Tim Horton's at 12:40pm. If you'd like to carpool, please email us at bonapartewatershed@outlook.com or reach out to any one of our directors next time you see them.

THANK YOU!!

Huge thanks to these organizations for coming alongside to advance restoration and reconciliation in our rural communities!

2024 Funders and Partners



Huge congrats to **Watershed Watch Salmon Society** and Lina Azeez for your nomination and award at **Real Estate Foundation of BC's** Land Awards! Lina Azeez presented at the Bonaparte Community Hall in January with the **Village of Cache Creek**, we're so grateful to have your support!



Did you know the [Interior Wildlife Rehabilitation Society](#) has their own dam just for beavers in rehab?? Support the Society's efforts and spread the word about this film festival in Kelowna on May 17th! [More information and tickets are available here!](#)



BC RURAL CENTRE
vibrant & sustainable rural
communities

[More Information Here](#)

BC Rural Centre's *Keeping it Rural* Conference

From May 21-23, Bonaparte Watershed Stewardship Society will be in Kelowna at [BC Rural Centre's *Keeping it Rural* Conference](#). We are honoured to join Jeff Anderson of [Geomorphic Consulting Inc](#) as panelists discussing *Watersheds, Riparian, Drought, and Riverscapes!*

It's Freshet Season.

And Fire Season.

Are you ready? We're here to help.

Emergency Resources: Get Prepared



Agriculture Emergency Preparedness Workbook

Get the Workbook



Flood Smart Emergency Guide

Get the Guide



Flood Smart Posters

Get the Guide



Fire Smart Your Home

Learn More



Learn More

Need more? Head to our website.

Love what we’re doing?

Become a member for only \$10, or make any charitable donation of your choice!

Become a Member Here!



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bonapartewatershed@outlook.com

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Snow Survey and Water Supply Bulletin – May 1st, 2024

The May 1st snow survey is now complete. Data from 90 manual snow courses and 108 automated snow weather stations around the province (collected by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy's Snow Survey Program, BC Hydro and partners), and climate data from Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and the provincial Climate Related Monitoring Program have been used to form the basis of the following report.

Executive Summary

- As of May 1st, the provincial snowpack is extremely low, averaging 66% of normal across B.C. Last year, the provincial average was 91%.
- The Fraser River at Hope snow basin index is well below normal at 63%.
- Annual snow accumulation in B.C. typically reaches maximum levels in mid-April; The May 1st survey provides insight into possible late season snow accumulation, the timing of snowmelt onset, and whether melt is early, late, or following seasonal patterns.
- Below normal spring freshet flood hazard is expected this season for most of the province due to low snowpack (excluding northern regions). Local flooding from extreme rainfall is possible.
- Low snowpack and seasonal runoff forecasts combined with warm seasonal weather forecasts and lingering impacts from on-going drought are creating significantly elevated drought hazards for this upcoming spring and summer. Visit [B.C. Drought Information Portal](#).

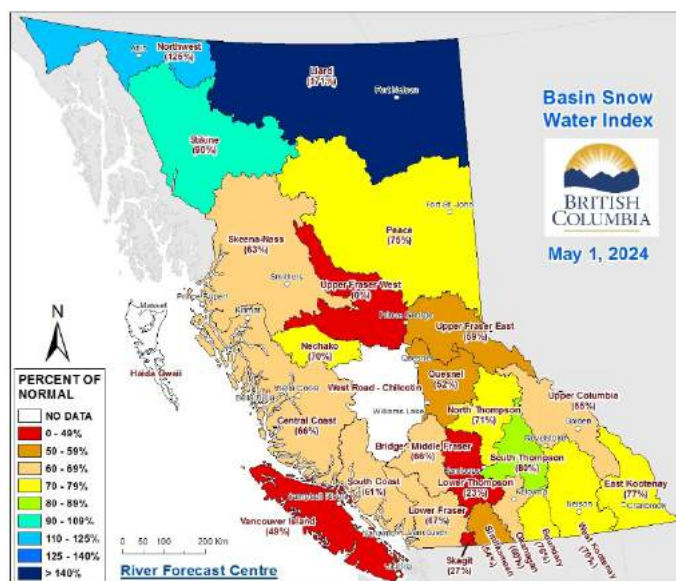


Figure 1. May 1st, 2024 Basin Snow Water Index Map of British Columbia. Larger and colour-friendly versions available in full report.

Table 1. May 1st 2024 Snow Basin Indices in B.C.

Basin	% of Normal	Basin	% of Normal	Basin	% of Normal
Upper Fraser West	0	North Thompson	71	South Coast	61
Upper Fraser East	59	South Thompson	80	Vancouver Island	49
Nechako	70	Fraser River	66	Central Coast	66
Middle Fraser	59	Upper Columbia	65	Skagit	27
Lower Thompson*	23	West Kootenay	70	Peace	75
Bridge*	66	East Kootenay	77	Skeena-Nass	63
Chilcotin*	N/A [#]	Boundary	76	Liard	171
Quesnel*	52	Okanagan	60	Stikine	90
Lower Fraser	67	Similkameen	54	Northwest	125
		Nicola	34	Fraser @ Hope	63
British Columbia 66% of Normal					

* Sub-basin of Middle Fraser [#] Insufficient data to calculate a Snow Basin Index Normal Period (1991-2020)

Next scheduled snow bulletin release: May 23, 2024

Four Pillars

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT RESOURCES
FOR COMMUNITIES



Ministry of
Emergency Management
and Climate Readiness

[For best viewing, read online](#)

Four Pillars is a monthly newsletter from the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness. Read on for important updates, funding program information, resources and ways to connect with staff.

With the arrival of spring, many of us are excited to get outside to work on our yards, visit local garden centres and start planting. Read about how spring [garden work can reduce your wildfire risk](#) in one of our new blog posts.

Emergency Preparedness Week 2024: Using technology to enhance preparedness

Recognizing the major role technology plays in our lives, as well as how it's used for emergency management, this year's theme for Emergency Preparedness

Week in B.C. is “using technology before, during and after emergencies.” Emergency Preparedness Week is a nationally recognized week held every year during the first full week of May to raise awareness about the importance of preparedness. [Learn about preparedness and how you and your loved ones can stay safe.](#)



New! Interactive Emergency Ready Planner

Home emergency planning just got easier, now that the ever-popular [PreparedBC Home Emergency Plan](#) has gone digital! Follow the prompts in the new [Emergency Ready Planner](#) and you'll receive a personalized home emergency plan, including customized resources and information based on your unique household needs. Your completed plan can be printed or saved to a mobile device, tablet or computer.

Read more about how making a home emergency plan is easy on [the emergency management blog](#).



Emergency Management Exemplary Service Award

Nominations are now open for the **Emergency Management Exemplary Service Award**. Led by Public Safety Canada, these awards are a partnership between federal, provincial, and territorial governments and a great way to recognize the efforts of those contributing to advance emergency management.

Nominations should be for initiatives and achievements undertaken in the past two calendar years (2023-2024) under these five categories:

- resilient communities
- search and rescue volunteers
- search and rescue employees
- youth

- outstanding contribution to emergency management

The deadline to submit a nomination is August 1, 2024. Learn more by reviewing the [Nomination and Selection Processes](#).



Insurance: Why it matters

Whether you rent or own, insurance is one of the best ways to protect yourself and your family in the event of an emergency.

Having insurance in place can help protect you from having to pay full replacements costs in the event your home, appliances, furniture and valuables are destroyed from fire, flooding, earthquake or other emergency events.

Read more on the [emergency management blog](#) and share this important information with your community.



Communities encouraged to share emergency response locations

The [Community Response Locations portal](#) is an online tool that allows local authorities and Indigenous governing bodies to share emergency response locations with the public during weather emergencies and other emergency events.

The location data entered into the portal is shared directly on [EmergencyMapBC.ca](#), the Province's centralized map of public safety conditions and emergency events.

With warmer weather on the horizon, local authorities and Indigenous governing bodies are encouraged to log into the portal to add and update their community's location data for:

- Emergency Cooling Centres

- Public Cooling Spaces
- Emergency Support Services (ESS) Reception Centres

Access the portal directly by visiting www.responselocationsportalbc.ca

If you're unsure what your login credentials are, contact your [local regional office](#).

Coastal communities participate in High Ground Hikes

In April, more than 20 communities participated in a High Ground Hike! Kudos to all for participating and taking an important step in tsunami preparedness.

These events help raise awareness about B.C.'s tsunami risk and give people in coastal areas the opportunity to practice reaching a tsunami-safe location at high ground. Read more about it in our [latest blog post](#).



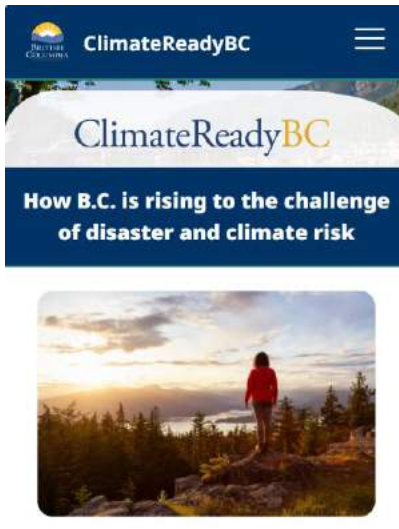
Increasing preparedness with regional emergency exercises

The Province is taking action to prepare for the upcoming wildfire season by conducting “tabletop” and Emergency Operations Centre exercises with First Nations and local communities.

Drawing on feedback from the [Premier’s Expert Task Force on Emergencies](#), the Province is strengthening its response to wildfire emergencies by reaching out to communities and working with them to create exercises that simulate possible events that could occur. Training and practice sessions are also being done in preparation for the summer fire season.

[Click here to learn more about the provincial emergency exercise program.](#)





Understand disaster risk with ClimateReadyBC

ClimateReadyBC is an online tool to help communities understand and reduce disaster and climate risk by providing information, including hazard data and maps, resources, and funding information.

Visit the [website](#) today to learn more about tools and resources that can help your community gain insights and plan for the future.

Connect with us

Contact your [Regional Office](#) for support or to find out about opportunities to connect near you.

Funding Program deadlines

**Monday,
September 30**

FireSmart Community Funding and Supports

The **FireSmart Community Funding and Supports** program provides funding to local governments and First Nations to increase community resiliency by undertaking community-based FireSmart planning and activities that reduce the community's risk from wildfire.

Opening Soon

Agriculture Water Infrastructure Program

The **Agricultural Water Infrastructure (AWI) Program** is funded by the province through the Ministry of Agriculture & Food. The program is delivered by the Investment Agriculture Foundation of BC (IAF). Through the program, primary and Indigenous Producers, conservation groups, water purveyors and Indigenous Communities will have access to cost-shared funding to adapt to climate change by investing in water infrastructure.

If you have received this as a forward, [subscribe here](#).

We acknowledge with respect that Emergency Management and Climate Readiness operates throughout British Columbia on the traditional territories of Indigenous Peoples. We invite you to learn which territories you work/live on and how to respectfully [acknowledge the land](#).

SHARE THIS EMAIL & FOLLOW US



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gov.bc.ca – The official website of the Government of BC

New tools will help people prepare, stay informed during emergencies



With many parts of the province experiencing warmer weather and British Columbia forecast to have an active wildfire season, the Province is introducing an interactive Emergency Ready Planner to help people create an emergency and evacuation plan for their family.

This is part of a suite of new-and-improved tools released during Emergency Preparedness Week to help keep people safe through wildfires, drought, floods and earthquakes.

“We’re taking strong action to help you and your family prepare and have the information you need during emergencies,” said Bowinn Ma, Minister of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness. “Being prepared and feeling ready starts with having a plan. We encourage everyone to make an emergency and evacuation plan, and the new tools launched today make planning easier and will help people stay safe.”

New and improved emergency preparedness tools and resources include:

- the Emergency Ready Planner, an online, interactive tool to help people create a personalized emergency and evacuation plan;
- major upgrades to the BC Wildfire Service app to better connect people to the latest wildfire and fire ban information; and
- updates to the Drought Information Portal to better inform people about drought levels and watershed conditions around the province.

In an emergency, knowing what to do, where to go and who to contact reduces stress and keeps people focused and safe. The Emergency Ready Planner makes it faster and easier to create an emergency and evacuation plan that is tailored to household needs and local hazard risks. The planner helps people identify emergency meeting places; list important contacts, medical and insurance information; recommends supplies for emergency kits and grab-and-go bags; and includes FireSmart steps to protect homes from wildfire.

When wildfires happen near communities, people want up-to-date information. Improvements to the BC Wildfire Service app make it easier for people to get the latest information on mobile devices, tablets and computers. The wildfire dashboard has more features, including a provincial situation report and easier access to fire ban information. People are able to submit fire reports when out of cell service range. The app is available on the App Store and Google Play.

“During wildfire season, we want to make sure that British Columbians have access to fast, reliable information when they need it most,” said Bruce Ralston, Minister of Forests.

“That’s why we have taken action to improve the BC Wildfire Service app and put it at the fingertips of more people around the province. Starting today, the newly improved app will be available on more devices and will include the most up-to-date wildfire information that will keep people safe and informed this summer.”

The Drought Information Portal helps communities, farmers and businesses understand how drought could affect their region so they can prepare and take action. The portal provides current and historical drought levels, watershed conditions, and other precipitation, snowpack and groundwater data by geographic region. Each region is assigned a drought classification level using a 0-to-5 scale with 5 being most severe, based on water supply and risk of adverse effects to people, fish, animals and the environment.

In 2023, a severe drought hit British Columbia, which was worse and more widespread than ever before. Communities and businesses are encouraged to take water-conservation measures early this year to prepare for potential drought conditions.

“B.C. experienced serious drought last summer, and we continue to get less rain and snow than usual. That’s why we are taking strong, early action to prepare, including strengthening the information people have on hand,” said Nathan Cullen, Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship. “In communities across B.C., people, businesses and governments are already taking steps to follow local restrictions and help save water. Small changes make a big difference when we do them together.”

The newly streamlined BC Drought Portal has been upgraded to make it more user-friendly across platforms. The portal will be updated weekly, providing information for the public, media and key partners about preparing and responding to drought, understanding provincial drought conditions and regulatory actions that are underway. The BC Drought Portal will be updated with information as the drought season progresses to help communities plan ahead and take action to reduce the impact of drought conditions. In addition to the portal, a refreshed drought website has been launched where people can find information about water conservation tips, conservation rebates and incentives, and specific resources for farmers and food producers.

British Columbia is expected to experience an active wildfire season due to the persistent and ongoing drought. In the coming days, many parts of the province are forecast to experience warm and windy weather, which increases the risk of spring wildfires when grass and trees are still dry. This time of year the majority of wildfires are human-caused so extra precautions are needed when recreating and working outdoors. People should also be aware that the first high temperatures of the season can lead some people to overheat because they are not accustomed to warmer weather.

Launching the new Emergency Ready Planner and improving the BC Wildfire Service app are in line with recommendations from the Premier's Expert Task Force on Emergencies to provide quick and direct access to clear and reliable information to help people plan for and act during an evacuation.

Quick Facts

- Emergency Preparedness Week, May 5-11, 2024, is an annual reminder for people to take steps to be better prepared for an emergency.
- During the 2023 wildfire season, approximately 2.8 million hectares burned, more than 600 residential structures were destroyed or partially damaged, and as many as 48,900 people were under evacuation order with 137,000 on evacuation alert.
- Since 2017, more than \$217 million has been provided to communities through the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund to enhance their ability to respond to emergencies and mitigate future climate-related risks.
- More than half of the funding has been distributed since 2022 demonstrating the Province's commitment to ramping up defences against climate emergencies.

Learn More

To get prepared and make a plan at, visit: <https://PreparedBC.ca/EmergencyReady>

To see the Emergency Ready Planner and Drought Information Portal and BC Wildfire Service app digital demonstration, visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5K2by3RWWQE>

To see the refreshed drought website, visit: <https://www.gov.bc.ca/drought>

To learn more about the BC Wildfire Service and get the app, visit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/wildfire-status>

To monitor current drought levels, visit: <https://DroughtPortal.gov.bc.ca>

To get emergency and evacuation alerts, visit: <https://EmergencyInfoBC.ca>

To learn about BC Centre for Disease Control health information on risks from wildfires and smoke, visit: <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/prevention-public-health/wildfire-smoke>

To see an interactive map of cooling centres and hot-weather resources in B.C., visit: <https://governmentofbc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=950b4eec577a4dc5b298a61adab41c06>

Three backgrounders follow.

Backgrounders

New tools and improved resources

Emergency Ready Planner

During an emergency, knowing what to do, where to go and who to contact helps to reduce stress and keep people focused and safe.

The Emergency Ready Planner is an interactive online tool that makes it fast and easy to make a personalized emergency plan in about 30 minutes. Once complete, the plan can be saved as a PDF and printed out to store in an emergency kit.

The interactive online planner helps people:

- identify local hazards;
- choose emergency meeting places in case of evacuation or separation;
- document emergency contacts, medical and insurance information; and
- get tips for turning off/on utilities and protecting homes from wildfires.

Access the Emergency Ready Planner to create your plan here: <https://PreparedBC.ca/EmergencyReady>.

BC Wildfire Service Mobile app

The Province is taking action to keep people and communities safe and informed during wildfire season. People can now get up-to-date information on wildfire events and conditions throughout the province on the updated BC Wildfire Service app that has multiple features, including:

- improved user experience on all devices – mobile, tablet and computer – with a better look, feel and functionality; and
- more features and information:
 - interactive map with wildfire perimeters, weather, smoke and road conditions, and evacuation information;
 - wildfire dashboard with incident stats, updates and daily situation reports;
 - ability to customize notifications and save location and incident information; and
 - ability to report a wildfire in-app or offline if not in cell service range.

The BC Wildfire Service app is available on the App Store and Google Play.

Drought Information Portal

Drought is a long period with below normal rain or snow that may result in shortages of the water needed to drink, grow food, and keep fish, animals and the environment healthy.

The Drought Information Portal is a tool to help communities, farmers and businesses understand how drought could impact their region so they can prepare and take action.

- The portal is a single source for current and historical drought levels, watershed conditions, and other precipitation, streamflow, snowpack and groundwater data by geographic region.
- Each region is assigned a drought classification level using a 0 to 5 scale, with 5 being the most severe, based on water supply from snow, rain and rivers and risk of adverse impacts.
- Adverse impacts to people and the environment at drought level 3 are possible, level 4 likely, and level 5 almost certain.
- Local conditions within a region may vary depending on water storage, supply and demand in each community.

In 2023, 80% of the province experienced severe drought conditions. As of May 8, 2024, 40% of the province is already classified with drought levels between 3 and 5.

For more information about regional drought levels, visit: <https://droughtportal.gov.bc.ca>

Seasonal emergencies and preparedness

Current conditions

As of May 8, 2024, there were 109 active wildfires burning around the province, three of which were classified as out of control. This time of year, the majority of wildfires are human-caused, but despite the dry conditions, B.C. is below the 20-year average for new wildfire starts. Wildfire activity is forecast to increase in the coming weeks and months if there continues to be limited precipitation throughout the province. After receiving less than half the normal amount of rain in April, underlying fuel conditions remain extremely dry in the southern and central Interior as well as throughout northeastern B.C. Category 2 and 3 open burning prohibitions are now in effect for:

- Prince George Fire Centre;
- Cariboo Fire Centre;
- Kamloops Fire Centre; and
- parts of the Northwest Fire Centre.

As of May 1, 2024, the provincial snowpack was extremely low averaging 66% of normal across B.C., based on the average from 1991 to 2020.

Premier's Expert Task Force on Emergencies

The Province is taking several early steps to prepare for the wildfire and drought season, including working year-round with local governments and First Nations to help keep people and communities safe and informed.

This includes work stemming from the Premier's Expert Task Force on Emergencies, which released 31 recommendations in April 2024 focused on four key themes:

- enhancing the use of predictive fire technology;
- expanding wildfire training and prevention programs;
- strengthening local response co-ordination (including local and municipal fire departments); and
- supporting people with timely and accessible information about evacuation orders and alerts.

To read the full list of task force recommendations, visit: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-management/emergency-management/emergency-activation/em-taskforce>

Wildfire preparedness

The Province continues working with communities to prepare for wildfire season and implementing the task force recommendations, including these key steps already announced this year:

- launching a dedicated wildfire training and education centre at Thompson Rivers University to welcome the province's future wildfire fighters;

- increasing the use of new technology to better predict wildfire movement and growth;
- funding for communities to better support evacuees;
- readying more volunteers to support evacuees;
- boosting wildfire-fighting fleet and equipment; and
- enhancing wildfire recruitment tactics.

Since 2022, the BC Wildfire Service has increased permanent full-time staff by 55%, with more planned. Budget 2024 provides another \$38 million to support stable, year-round staffing, including fire-crew leaders and front-line staff who provide structure protection, prevention and risk reduction, and wildfire land-based recovery.

Drought preparedness

The Province is taking action to keep people and communities safe through drought now, and in the years to come, by:

- monitoring drought conditions so everyone has the information they need;
- supporting farmers and food producers with new ways to save and store water on farms, find feed for animals, and access other financial supports when they need it;
- making sure communities have water for people and animals;
- building better infrastructure to improve drinking-water systems, manage water levels in lakes and rivers, and keep watersheds healthy;
- protecting fish from long-lasting harm that could take generations to recover; and
- making sure industry is doing their part to use less water.

Actions people can take to prepare for emergencies

Be prepared

Emergency Preparedness Week is an annual reminder to plan and prepare for an emergency. Knowing what to do will reduce stress and help keep you and your family focused and safe.

- Identify the hazards in your community (wildfires, floods, earthquakes, tsunamis, etc.).
- Make an emergency plan for you and your family.
- Gather supplies to build an emergency kit and grab-and-go bags.
- Learn what happens in an evacuation.
- Prepare and protect your home.

Find guides, resources and the Emergency Ready Planner here: <https://PreparedBC.ca>

Wildfire

Current dry conditions and prolonged drought are setting the stage for another challenging wildfire season. At this time of year, human activity is the main cause of wildfires.

To help prevent wildfires:

- check for fire bans and restrictions;
- know the current fire danger rating in your area;
- use caution when open burning or participating in activities that could cause a wildfire;
- install spark arrestors on off-road vehicles to stop sparks from exiting the tailpipe; and
- camp responsibly:
 - keep campfires smaller than half a metre and create a fire break one metre around them;
 - never leave a fire unattended; and
 - make sure campfires are completely out and ashes cool to touch before leaving.

FireSmart your home to help protect it from wildfire:

- clean roof and gutters of leaves and pine needles;
- keep firewood, sheds and outbuildings at least 10 metres away from your home;
- remove bark mulch and other flammable landscaping from around your home;
- install weather stripping and screens to help prevent embers from entering your home; and
- relocate and safely store propane tanks and other explosive items.

If there is a wildfire in your area:

- Pay attention to updates and instructions from local officials.
- Follow all evacuation alerts and orders: <https://EmergencyInfoBC.ca>.
- Register at an evacuation reception centre or online to access supports: <https://ess.gov.bc.ca>
- Download the BC Wildfire Service app to get updates on wildfire activity.
- Don't return home until it's safe and then follow re-entry instructions.

For more tips to prepare for wildfire, visit: <https://PreparedBC.ca>

Drought

B.C. experienced a severe drought last year and remains at high risk this year. The Province is supporting communities, farmers and business efforts to prepare for drought and use less water.

Everyone can help save water. Small changes make a big difference when we do them together.

- In many areas, residents are the largest water users. Imagine how much more water could be saved if every person in took these easy actions to save water at home:
 - water lawns only one hour a week, save 37,000 litres a month;
 - turn off the tap to brush teeth, save 11,000 litres a year;
 - cut showers by a minute, save 2,700 litres a year;
 - fix a leaky toilet, save 350,000 litres a year;
 - skip the car wash, save 260 litres a vehicle; and
 - wear clothes more than once, save 200 litres per load.
- Other ways to save water, if you're able:
 - plant drought resistant gardens and lawns; and
 - invest in water-efficient taps, toilets and washers or install rain barrels to collect water; many communities offer rebates or incentives.

Most importantly, follow local water restrictions. Check with your community for details.

For more tips and to learn how B.C. is preparing for drought, visit: <https://gov.bc.ca/drought>

Heat

People are encouraged to prepare for hot weather and make a plan to stay safe:

- Know ways to cool down – take cool baths or showers, drink plenty of water.
- Find cool places inside and outside the home – libraries, community centres, cooling centres.
- Check on loved ones at higher risk – older adults, people with chronic health conditions, especially if they live alone.

For more tips, review the Extreme Heat Preparedness

Guide: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/embc/preparedbc/preparedbc-guides/preparedbc_extreme_heat_guide.pdf

Translations

- [EmergencyPreparednessWeek_Chinese\(traditional\).pdf](#)

Actionable Motion and Task List Tracker 2024

APRIL					
Motion No.	Motion	Staff Responsible	Comments	Time line	Status
	2024 MOTIONS				
R-2024-62	THAT, Council direct staff to assemble an “Explore Ashcroft” basket with local and artisan items Friendly amendment – Include a succulent xeriscape item	CAO	CAO to put together		completed
R-2024-63	THAT, on May 1st the Village of Ashcroft move directly to a stage 2 watering restrictions	CAO/EA/EDT	LED/Mailout/Social Media/Website		completed
R-2024-65	THAT, Council approves the Ashcroft Farmers Market and Artisans Co-op’s request for the road closure of Railway Ave. on Sundays between 6th and 7th Street from 7:45 am – 2:00 pm beginning May 12th and ending October 13, 2024.	CAO	Notify Farmers Market of approval for road closure for Railway Ave.		completed
R-2024-70-72	Five Year Financial Plan Bylaw No. 867, 2024 read three times	EA	Update Bylaw readings		completed
R-2024-73-75	Tax Rates Bylaw No. 868, 2024 read three times	EA	Update Bylaw readings		completed
R-2024-76-78	Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 869, 2024 read three times	EA	Update Bylaw readings		completed
R-2024-79	THAT, the Village of Ashcroft make a request to the Ashcroft Communities in Bloom Society to return the balance of funds remaining in the CiB account to the Village at the end of the 2024 season;	CAO	Request sent		completed
R-2024-80	THAT, Council tasks the Economic Development & Tourism Working Group to execute the Branding exercise outlined in the 2024-2026 Strategic Plan for the Village of Ashcroft.	CAO/EDTC	EDTC Working Group to begin this		completed
R-2024-81	That Council direct staff to approach local artists and solicit advice on the required repairs for the Japanese mural.	CAO	Once the scope of the project is identified, an invitation could be extended to the artists of Bifuka to participate in the repairs. Consider repairs to other Bifuka/Ashcroft art installations.		completed
R-2024-82	THAT, Council approves the Bonaparte Watershed Stewardship Society’s request for a letter in support of their grant application to install Beaver Dam Analogues in the Bonaparte Watershed.	CAO	Letter of Support sent		completed

COUNCIL COMMITTEE AND LIAISON REPORT

DATE: May 13, 2024
TO: Council
FROM: Councillor Lambert

Deputy Mayor – November 1, 2025 – October 31, 2026

Assigned Committees/WG:

Ashcroft Fire Rescue
Communities in Bloom
Finance Committee
Seniors
Water to AIB
Street Safety

Alternate:

Cache Creek Environmental Assessment
HUB Society

The Strawberry Tea will be held on Saturday, June 15th at the Seniors' Centre. Doors open at 12:30 pm and tea served at 1:00 pm. There will be a craft and bake sale as well as a door prize.

Planning for day trips using the local bus service.

The walking group and crib games are going well. Everyone is welcome.

A \$500 bursary will be presented to a 2024 grad student.

Next meeting to be held on Thursday, June 20th.

Respectfully submitted,

Doreen Lambert,
Councillor