



## COUNCIL NEWS

Council’s primary focus has been on budget , tax rates and receiving the audited financial statements. The Five Year Financial Plan 2023-2027 was approved by Council, and the tax rate is established by bylaw with the proposed 2.5% property tax increase. Council’s focus will now shift towards strategic planning. The strategic focus in 2023 is to complete carry over projects and have Council determine a plan forward to the next three years. This will be a multi step process that invites input from resident and staff before Council identifies the priorities. The process for resident input will be advised once it is established.

Emergency preparedness is another Council priority , reviewing Emergency Preparedness Plans, scheduling meetings with community stakeholders to establish emergency measures such as busses if needed or evacuation, meet with RCMP, BCEHS, Fire Department, industry and other agencies. Anticipating possible risk, identifying available resources and proactively coordinating plans for the safety of the community will enable us to enact the emergency plans quickly and efficiently with a focus on community safety and maintaining essential service delivery.

### Village of Ashcroft

Mayor and Council:

**Mayor:**

Barbara Roden

**Councillors:**

Jonah Anstett

Jessica Clement

Nadine Davenport

Doreen Lambert

### Council passed the following resolutions in the month of April:

- ⇒ Council approved a Grant In Aid request for the South Cariboo Elizabeth Fry Society and donation of a Family Season Pool Pass for the Annual Easter Scavenger Hunt
- ⇒ Council approved a Grant In Aid request for the Annual Ashcroft & District Fall Fair
- ⇒ Council approved responding to the Minister of Housing’s request to provide a list of municipally owned land that could potentially be used for housing by forwarding contact information from the Thompson View Manor Society as they are working on increasing housing capacity at their site
- ⇒ Bylaw No. 860, Village of Ashcroft Financial Plan, 2023 was read three times
- ⇒ Bylaw No. 861, Village of Ashcroft Tax Rates, 2023 was read three times
- ⇒ Bylaw No. 862, Growing Communities Reserve Fund Establishment Bylaw, 2023 was read three times
- ⇒ Bylaw No. 863, Village of Ashcroft Outdoor Burning Amendment Bylaw, 2023 was read three times
- ⇒ Council approved the 2022 Audited Financial Statements as presented
- ⇒ Council declared May 1-5, 2023 as Emergency Preparedness Week in the Village of Ashcroft
- ⇒ Council approved the Accessibility Advisory Committee Terms of Reference and amended the membership from 9 members to a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 7 members
- ⇒ Council adopted Policy No. C-01-2023 Council Code of Conduct
- ⇒ Council approved changing the location of the Visitor Info Centre from the booth at Heritage Park to the lobby of the Ashcroft Museum. Discussion: Consider inviting volunteers into the Museum strictly to meet and greet tourists and make themselves available to answer questions to tourists specifically seeking visitor info centre information



## FIRESMART & Heat Awareness

With the arrival of warm weather, Council encourages residents to be “firesmart” and heat aware. Simple things you can do to firesmart your home and property:

- ◇ Remove all dry grass, leaves/needles, shrubbery, and dead cedar trees;
- ◇ Store firewood, lumber, propane or other flammables away from structures;
- ◇ Irrigate grass at a minimum of once per week (please irrigate within water restrictions); and
- ◇ Keep you property free of clutter.

Heat awareness is not new to the residents of Ashcroft, but a reminder never hurts.:

- ◇ ABOVE ALL ELSE STAY HYDRATED;
- ◇ Wear cool loose fitting clothes;
- ◇ Be aware that infants, young children, elderly and people with chronic illness are at higher risk of heat related health effects;
- ◇ Plan strenuous work before 11:00 am;
- ◇ Take cool showers or baths to feel refreshed;
- ◇ Spend time in an air conditioned environment to allow your body to cool off.



## FRIENDLY WATER RESTRICTION REMINDER

As you are aware the Village is currently under Stage 2 Water Restrictions, which means you are able to irrigate twice per week. Even numbered homes may water on Wednesday and Saturdays and odd numbered homes may water on Thursday and Sundays between 6:00 am and 9:00 am as well as 8:00 pm and 11:00 pm for hose supplied sprinklers or between 12:00 am and 6:00 am for underground automated sprinkler systems.

We will move to Stage 1 restrictions as soon as the turbidity levels reach a manageable level. In the meantime, we appreciate your cooperation in conserving water to ensure reservoir levels maintain adequate supply for resident use and fire suppressions.

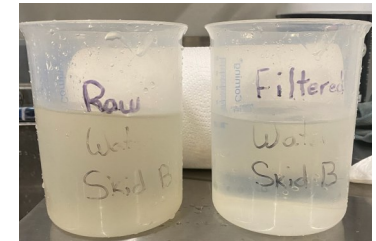
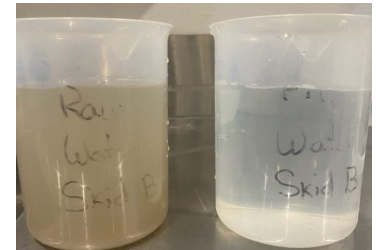
## TURBIDITY

With the onset of freshet and rising river levels the Thompson River’s turbidity has caused the Village to implement Stage 2 Water Restrictions as noted above. The average turbidity level is 1-5 NTU’s at its worst the turbidity spiked to 210 NTU’s which caused the Water Treatment Plant to self clean every 2-3 minutes. When the cleaning begins one of the filtration trains shuts down and the plant runs at 50% capacity. To maintain adequate water supply and fire suppressions levels Stage 2 Water Restrictions were implemented.

The turbidity is mostly organic matter caused by the fast snow melt and recent rain in the Bonaparte watershed and tributaries flowing into the Thompson River. Public Works is in constant communication with the health authority to ensure our water meets all safety requirements. You may notice a slight increase in chlorine during this time of high turbidity, as soon as levels return to consistent manageable levels, we will move the Stage 1 Water restrictions.

Special thanks to the Public Works crew, in particular Ed Aie, Ashcroft’s WTP Operator who has been diligently monitoring the situation and providing you with safe potable water!

The images to the right indicate the raw water turbidity levels are improving over the span of last week from May 2 to May 9, 2023.



### 2023 Events & Meetings

#### Council Meetings

May 23 - 6:00 pm

June 12 - 6:00 pm

June 26 - 6:00 pm

#### Ashcroft Pool

June 3 Opening!

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Village is seeking applications from volunteers for Board of Variance members and Accessibility Advisory Committee members! These are not time consuming commitments but will make a huge difference to the community.



### Board of Variance (BOV)

The Village is required to have a three (3) member BOV. Meetings are minimal and can vary from year to year with some years being no meetings. Appointments are for a three-year term which may be renewed for a further three years. If you are interested in sitting of this board, please submit a brief resume to the Village Office or email [cao@ashcroftbc.ca](mailto:cao@ashcroftbc.ca).

### Accessibility Advisory Committee

This Committee will help guide the creation of the Village of Ashcroft’s Accessibility Plan. Under the *Accessible BC Act* – Accessible British Columbia Regulation all local governments in BC must develop an accessibility plan and create a tool for the public to provide feedback on accessibility by September 1, 2023. The Committee will be tasked with providing advice to Council on the development of an accessibility plan to identify, remove and prevent barriers to individuals who are interacting with or in the Village of Ashcroft. To participate as a committee member you must be persons with disabilities, or individuals who support, or are from organizations that support persons with disabilities. Please complete the application form and submit to the Village office or email [ea@ashcroftbc.ca](mailto:ea@ashcroftbc.ca).

For more information on these committees visit our website [www.ashcroftbc.ca](http://www.ashcroftbc.ca).