



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Council met April 8th and 22nd. Here are some highlights from those meetings:

- ⇒ Council agreed to providing an “Explore Ashcroft” themed gift basket containing local and artisan items for the annual SILGA (Southern Interior Government Association) Convention
- ⇒ Council passed a resolution implementing Stage 2 Watering Restrictions due to the existing drought conditions, reduced snowpack levels, and declining water table conditions
- ⇒ Council approved the Council Remuneration and Expenses report as presented
- ⇒ Council approved the Ashcroft Farmers Market and Artisan Co-op’s request to close Railway Ave. on Sundays from 7:45 am-2:00 pm beginning May 12th to October 13th, 2024
- ⇒ Five Year Financial Plan Bylaw No. 867, 2024 was introduced and read three times
- ⇒ Tax Rates Bylaw No. 868, 2024 was introduced and read three times
- ⇒ Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 869, 2024 was introduced and read three times
- ⇒ Council requested 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
- ⇒ Council has tasked the Economic Development & Tourism Working Group to execute the Branding exercise outlined in the 2024-2026 Strategic Plan
- ⇒ Council directed staff to approach local artists and solicit advice on the required repairs for the Japanese mural in Heritage Park
- ⇒ Council approved a letter of support for the Bonaparte Watershed Stewardship Society’s request for their grant application to install Beaver Dam Analogues in the Bonaparte Watershed
- ⇒ Mayor Roden, Councillor Anstett, Councillor Clement and CAO Dyck attended the SILGA Convention held in Kamloops April 30th through May 3rd, 2024. Mayor Roden wore “two hats” at this convention as she was representing the Village as well as the TNRD in her capacity as TNRD Board Chair. Many different workshops were attended throughout this 4-day convention as well as important networking with fellow delegates from other interior municipalities.

Village of Ashcroft

Mayor and Council:

Mayor:

Barbara Roden

Councillors:

Jonah Anstett

Jessica Clement

Nadine Davenport

Doreen Lambert

TOWN HALL

**Presentation of
the 5 Year Financial Plan and Tax
Rate Bylaw**

Monday

**May 13, 2024 at
5:00 pm**

Council Chambers

POOL OPENING SLIGHTLY DELAYED

After extensive advertising and promotion, the Village is pleased to confirm that the pool will be operational for the summer season. Opening day will be slightly delayed and hours of operation and services provided may be somewhat restricted, but WE WILL BE OPEN! STAY TUNED FOR UPDATES!

If becoming a lifeguard is something you would like to pursue, please contact Kris Hardy at the village office at 250-453-9161. We hope to provide



RE-BRANDING—What makes Ashcroft unique?

HAVE YOU SEEN OUR NEW LOGO?

**new village
logo here**

NEITHER HAVE WE!

Your input is key!

**Community meetings and survey
announced later in May.**

Stay tuned for times and dates.

We’d love to hear from you before we develop a new visual brand for our community.

The Ashcroft logo is about to be updated and we would love you to be a part of it by telling us what makes Ashcroft so unique.

Over the next two months we will be developing a new visual identity for the Village of Ashcroft. Your input is key and we will be inviting all to contribute via a survey or in-person meeting. The survey and dates for guided community input meetings will be released mid-to-late May. Stay tuned for times and dates!



Effective May 1, 2024 the Village of Ashcroft will be moving to an immediate **STAGE 2** water restriction. This restriction will be observed in all parks and public areas, except for the Cemetery. At this time, business owners may continue to operate as usual, but must follow the watering restrictions.



**STAGE 2 WATER RESTRICTION
IN EFFECT**

Council appreciates your cooperation in adhering to the water usage regulations outlined in the by-law.

Even civic address — Wednesdays and Saturdays

Odd civic address — Thursdays and Sundays

Daily hand watering of gardens, flowers, shrubs, and trees is permitted.

PUBLIC WORKS is FLOW TESTING

You may observe public works employees flushing hydrants despite Stage 2 water restrictions being in place. This is necessary for the flow testing project, which was scheduled before the restrictions were implemented. During this period, you may notice a temporary increase in turbidity in the water, but it will clear up. The flow testing is essential for obtaining crucial information for fire suppression and assessing the water flow capacity for future developments.

2024

Upcoming Council Meetings

May 13 Town Hall 5:00 pm
May 13 Regular 6:00 pm
May 27 Regular 6:00 pm

Public Re-Branding Sessions dates to be determined

June 10 Regular 6:00 pm
June 24 Regular 6:00 pm

The HUB Online Network records and live streams most meetings.



SHOUT OUT TO THE ASHCROFT TERMINAL!

Thank you for helping the Village out of a tough spot. Our packer broke down in the middle of a patching project and ATL came to the rescue!

This is the best part of small community living, neighbours helping neighbours. WE APPRECIATE THE HELP, THANK YOU ATL!



Stage 2 Water Restrictions and the Village FireSmart Initiative

Stage 2 water restrictions go hand in hand with the Village's FireSmart initiative. It seems like the Village has been talking about FireSmart for some time with little action behind the scenes, but this is about to change!

Exciting Developments Ahead—Recently, the village submitted a grant application for FireSmart funding. If successful, this grant will allow us to develop a Community Wildfire Protection Plan, hire a FireSmart Coordinator (a contracted position), continue public education, and begin community assessments.

The Link Between FireSmarting and Water Conservation –FireSmarting principles are closely tied to water conservation, particularly in landscape management. During times of drought, especially in the hotter months, conserving water is imperative. It's not only essential for potential fire suppression but also as part of our responsibility towards environmental stewardship.

Change Begins at Home—Council is taking a stand, not only to implement a FireSmart program but also to promote water conservation and better environmental management. While we may have a river flowing by, giving the illusion of an unlimited supply, using water for household needs and watering flowers, trees, shrubs, and gardens should take priority over watering grass.

The Importance of Rethinking Water Use—Grass does not require as much water as gardens and other vegetation. Even if it turns brown during dry spells, it will come back lush and green when the weather cools down. While green grass is aesthetically pleasing and enjoyable for recreation, Ashcroft is in a desert climate, and we need to rethink our water use, landscaping, and fire protection strategies.

Do Your Part to Support Environmental Leadership—Please do your part and support Council as they provide environmental leadership and work toward safeguarding Ashcroft. Together, we can make a difference in preserving our environment and protecting our homes from the threat of wildfires. Remember, our collective efforts toward water conservation and FireSmarting play a vital role in keeping Ashcroft safe.

Please Note: Because of the strong winds in Ashcroft and the absence of windbreaks in the wide-open fields, Desert Sands Community School, Ashcroft Pool Park, Hollis Rd. Hay field and the Ashcroft Cemetery will follow an Odd-Even watering schedule until further notice. All other parks will adhere to Stage 2 Restrictions. ~ Thank you