

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

- This month had Council meeting three times and here are some highlights of those meetings:
- ⇒ Council adopted Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw No. 871, 2024
 - ⇒ Council adopted Grants Policy #C-05-2024 and repealed Policy #C-06-2021 Annual Unconditional Grants Policy and Policy #C-01-2022 Grants In Aid for Organizations/Individuals
 - ⇒ Council approved the Accessibility Plan as presented and acknowledge that it will be amended as necessary over time to meet evolving needs and requirements
 - ⇒ Council supported the Village of Ashcroft submitting a grant application to UBCM’s Community Emergency Preparedness Program—2025 Volunteer and Composite Fire Departments Equipment & Training Fund up to \$40,000 to enhance Ashcroft Fire Rescue (AFR)
 - ⇒ Council supported the inclusion of the HUB Society property in the Village’s Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw, recognizing the valuable community services provided by the HUB
 - ⇒ Council approved establishing a Conditional Grant in Aid up to \$5,000 per year to assist with lawn maintenance, irrigation and snow removal expenses at the HUB; and further the Village will incur a one-time capital expense and purchase a ride on mower and trimmer to be donated to the HUB not to exceed \$10,000
 - ⇒ CFO Bhalla gave the quarterly Financial Update noting the Village is in a good financial position.
 - ⇒ Interior Community Services request for free Community Hall use on Wednesdays at 9:00 am for the seniors walking program with the option to expand the program to additional days if necessary was approved
 - ⇒ Council has directed staff to submit a grant application to VisionZero to leverage the costs of purchasing two LED Variable Solar Radar Speed Signs and the installation of two speed bumps on Ranch Rd.
 - ⇒ Council directed staff to move forward with the installation of three 15-minute parking stalls on 3rd Street. One in front of the Bakery and two in front of the Liquor Store
 - ⇒ Council approved providing a letter of support for Yellowhead Community Services to include a call for the immediate suspension of BC Transit’s regionalization initiative, pending further consultation with rural transit operators; a recommendation for the inclusion of rural representation on the BC Transit Board of Directors; a request for a review of BC Transit’s leadership to ensure that rural and urban transit needs are equally considered; a request for a review and revision of BC Transit’s funding formula to account for the demographic and geographical challenges unique to rural areas
 - ⇒ Council approved the submission of the Rural Economic Development and Infrastructure Program (REDIP) for the Revitalization of Heritage Park and improved economic development in the downtown core.

Village of Ashcroft

Mayor and Council:

Mayor:

Barbara Roden

Councillors:

Jonah Anstett

Jessica Clement

Nadine Davenport

Doreen Lambert

PUBLIC WORKS

This year we had two summer students join the Public Works team, Dallon Tomey and Brody Taylor. The students did an excellent job keeping public property mowed, trimmed and learned many other tasks. Below is crew leaders Oscar Battel teaching the boys the finer skills in irrigation maintenance.



EXCELLENCE in GOLD COUNTRY AWARDS

Gold Country Communities Society hosted the **Excellence in Gold Country Recognition Evening** on Saturday November 2, 2024 at the Cache Creek Community Hall to celebrate business achievements throughout the region. What a wonderful evening celebrating the success of the business community and other organizations! Congratulations to all the nominees and the category winners! The Village of Ashcroft won in the categories of Favorite Municipal Park—Heritage Park and the Museum was voted favorite Historical Attraction or Site.



WINTER PLOWING AND SANDING

As we enter the winter months, we want to remind everyone of the importance of keeping our boulevards clear of vehicles, RVs, utility trailers, and other obstructions. Snow clearing and sanding operations are essential for maintaining safe and accessible roadways during winter storms. When boulevards are blocked, it not only hinders our ability to effectively clear snow and apply necessary treatments, but it can also obstruct sight lines for drivers on side streets, creating additional hazards. We appreciate your cooperation in keeping these areas clear to ensure safe and comfortable travel for everyone throughout the season.



SIDEWALK SNOW REMOVAL

This is a friendly reminder that if you have sidewalks in front of your businesses or homes, it is your responsibility to clear the snow by 10:00 AM on any given day following a snowfall. Keeping sidewalks clear ensures safe passage for pedestrians and helps maintain a welcoming environment in our community. We appreciate your cooperation and commitment to keeping our neighborhoods safe and accessible!

WORKING GROUP UPDATES:

Enhancing Parks and Recreation— Our Parks and Recreation Working Group is dedicated to enriching the quality of life for all residents through thoughtful enhancements to our community spaces. A recent highlight includes a substantial grant application submitted to the Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program, aimed at supporting the redevelopment of the front area of Heritage Park.

This project is envisioned as a catalyst for the revitalization of Railway Avenue and a powerful draw for tourism, bringing more vibrancy to our downtown core. The redevelopment plan features expanded opportunities for markets, festivals, vendors, and events—both at Heritage Park and throughout the downtown area—encouraging a lively and connected community atmosphere.

The grant application, which requests \$790,000, requires a \$200,000 commitment from the Village. While Heritage Park is the immediate focus of this application, staff are actively pursuing additional funding sources to support redevelopment efforts at Mesa Park as well. Other improvements are also underway: essential repairs to the community pool are in progress, and new doors were installed in the arena washrooms during the offseason. These projects reflect our commitment to enhancing facilities across the community, ensuring accessible, enjoyable spaces for everyone to gather, play, and celebrate year-round. Stay tuned for updates as we continue working toward a vibrant, revitalized community!

Speed & Safety— Community Feedback on Speed Zones: Survey Update

Thank you to everyone who participated in the recent community survey regarding speed zones. The working group sought your input on possible changes to speed limits, including increasing limits from 30 km/h to 50 km/h in some areas and implementing traffic calming measures in others. The survey closed on October 31, 2024, and the collected data is now being compiled. A report summarizing the findings will be presented to the working group, which will then make a recommendation to Council at an upcoming meeting. For transparency, the survey data will also be available on the Village website for community review. Thank you for helping shape a safer community!

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2024
Upcoming Council
Meetings

November 12 Regular 6:00 pm
November 25 Regular 6:00 pm

Arena is OPEN!
Public Skate Hours
Mon. & Wed. 3:30—4:45
Friday 7:00—8:30
Saturday 3:30—5:00
Sunday 5:30—7:00

