

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

At its August 25, 2025 meeting, Council gave first and second readings to the *Good Neighbour* and *Notice of Enforcement Amendment bylaws*. Council endorsed the proposed application to the UBCM Strategic Priorities Fund for construction of the Pressure Zone Reservoir. Council approved free use of the Drylands Arena for the upcoming Annual Ashcroft & District Fall Fair. They reviewed the BEO's detailed quarterly report. Council also approved the Ashcroft Farmer's Market request to relocate to the lower softball field at the Pool Park, effective immediately. Council graciously accepted the donation of the *Elephant Hill* painting by Marilyn Anderson. Council meeting agendas and minutes are available for detailed review on the Village website at www.ashcroftbc.ca.

Village of Ashcroft

Mayor and Council:

Mayor:

Barbara Roden

Councillors:

Jonah Anstett

Jessica Clement

Nadine Davenport

1-Vacant

GOOD NEIGHBOUR BYLAW – A Fresh Approach for a Safer, Cleaner, and More Connected Ashcroft

The Village of Ashcroft is introducing a brand-new Good Neighbour Bylaw to help keep our community safe, clean, and enjoyable for everyone. This bylaw replaces and modernizes several older bylaws (including noise, unsightly premises, fireworks, and outdoor burning), bringing them together under one clear set of community standards.

Why a Good Neighbour Bylaw?

Over the years, Ashcroft has had a number of separate bylaws dealing with property maintenance, noise, and other neighbourhood concerns. Many of these bylaws were out of date, difficult to enforce, or didn't reflect the challenges we face today. By combining them into one Good Neighbour Bylaw, we:

- ◆ **Simplify the rules** – residents only need to look to one bylaw, instead of many, to understand what's expected.
- ◆ **Encourage civic pride** – by setting clear standards for yards, noise, and property maintenance, we can all enjoy a more welcoming community.
- ◆ **Reduce wildfire risk** – FireSmart principles have been built in, including new requirements for maintaining cedar hedges, vegetation, and yard waste.
- ◆ **Respond to new issues** – the bylaw now addresses challenges such as pigeon sporting events and abandoned birds, which have become concerns in our community.
- ◆ **Protect health and safety** – by dealing with waste management, nuisance odours, construction debris, and pest control, we're helping to keep Ashcroft safe and comfortable for all residents.

What's Covered in the Bylaw?

The Good Neighbour Bylaw covers a wide range of everyday matters that affect how we live together, including:

- ◆ **Property care:** yards must be kept free of junk, pests, and unsightly conditions.
- ◆ **Noise:** quiet hours, rules for construction, and vehicle muffler noise.
- ◆ **FireSmart yard care:** trimming vegetation, managing cedar hedges, and picking fruit to reduce fire and wildlife risks.
- ◆ **Waste management:** garbage and compost must be stored securely to avoid odours and animals.
- ◆ **Animals:** clear rules for hens, roosters, bees, pigeons, and other pets.
- ◆ **Outdoor burning:** restrictions on what can be burned, and how to do so safely.
- ◆ **Lighting:** preventing light trespass and ensuring outdoor lighting is safe. (excludes BC Hydro streetlights)
- ◆ **Public conduct:** disruptive gatherings, loitering, or disorderly behaviour in public spaces.
- ◆ **Environmental protection:** water conservation during restrictions and safe use of pesticides or herbicides.

How Will It Be Enforced?

The Good Neighbour Bylaw works hand-in-hand with the Notice of Enforcement Bylaw, which sets out the fines for violations. Most residents won't notice any difference — the majority of people already meet or exceed these standards every day. For those who don't, the Village will always try to encourage voluntary compliance first. Tickets and fines are a last resort when education and cooperation aren't enough.

What's Next?

Council is currently giving the bylaw its first readings. Once adopted, residents will be provided with a Good Neighbour Checklist — a simple guide to help households stay in compliance and avoid contraventions. The checklist will highlight the most common issues (like snow removal, waste storage, cedar hedge trimming, and noise) in plain language.

At its heart, the Good Neighbour Bylaw is about looking out for one another. By keeping our properties tidy, reducing fire and wildlife risks, and respecting the comfort of our neighbours, we can all enjoy a safer, cleaner, and more connected Ashcroft.

ASHCROFT BY-ELECTION – Thinking About Running for Council?

Have you ever thought about giving back to your community in a meaningful way? Now is your chance! The Village of Ashcroft will be holding a by-election on Saturday, October 18, 2025, and we are inviting interested residents to consider running for Council.

Nomination Period

- ◆ **Opens:** Tuesday, September 2, 2025
- ◆ **Closes:** Friday, September 12, 2025 Nomination packages will be available at the Village Office during regular business hours, or can be downloaded directly from the Village website.

What does it mean to serve on Council?

Serving as a Councillor is both an honour and a commitment. Here are a few things to keep in mind as you think about stepping forward:

- ◆ **Meetings:** At minimum, Council meets twice per month, plus additional committee meetings depending on your assigned portfolio.
- ◆ **Advocacy:** Councillors may attend 1–2 conferences each year, representing Ashcroft regionally and provincially, and advocating on behalf of our residents.
- ◆ **Teamwork:** Decisions already made by Council stand, but every new Councillor plays an important role in shaping the future of our Village.
- ◆ **Commitment to Community:** Councillors help set policy, approve budgets, and make decisions that affect daily life for all Ashcroft residents. They are not involved in day to day operations—those responsibilities rest with village staff.

Why run for Council?

- ◆ To help shape the future growth and direction of Ashcroft.
- ◆ To bring your perspective, experience, and energy to local decision-making.
- ◆ To represent your neighbours and ensure their voices are heard at the Council table.

Election Details:

General Voting Day: Saturday, October 18, 2025

Advance Voting: Wednesday, October 8, 2025

We encourage residents who are interested in local government and community decision-making to pick up a nomination package and consider running for Council. Your voice and perspective can help shape Ashcroft's future.

2025

Upcoming Council

Meetings

Sept. 8: COTW 5 pm

Sept. 8: Regular 6 pm

Council at UBCM

Sept. 22-26



CAMPFIRE BAN

in effect until noon Oct. 17/25 or until the orders are rescinded.



ASHCROFT & DISTRICT FALL FAIR

Sunday, Sept. 14/25

10 am to 3 pm

Drylands Arena



ASHCROFT FARMER'S MARKET

New Location!

Sundays

Lower Softball Field

Ashcroft Pool Park

Off Government Street

2025 COMMUNITY FIRESMART BBQ



**THANK YOU
TO EVERYONE THAT CAME OUT TO ENJOY
THE FREE BBQ, FREE SWIM AND LEARN MORE
ABOUT FIRESMART!**

