

## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Council met on March 9th & 23rd — Council approved, endorsed, and directed the following:

- ◇ Community support requests (including Community Hall fee waivers, DSCS Travel Club donation, and Lions Club event)
- ◇ Referral of the Grant-in-Aid Policy to the Policy Review Committee
- ◇ Endorsement of the “Forestry is a Solution” initiative
- ◇ Direction to staff to send correspondence to MP Caputo identifying the North Ashcroft reservoir twinning as the Village’s primary funding priority
- ◇ Support for the City of Prince George public safety petition
- ◇ Approval of UBCM membership renewal
- ◇ Endorsement of the District of Peachland SILGA resolution
- ◇ Intent to participate in the TNRD Invasive Plant Program (2027)
- ◇ Direction to explore an inter-community business license framework
- ◇ Invitation to the B.O.S.S. Enrichment Centre to participate in the Community BBQ
- ◇ Approval to prepare a SILGA gift basket (up to \$200 value)
- ◇ Appointment of Tami Jones and Cliff Marsh to the Accessibility Advisory Committee
- ◇ Approval of a \$500 Grant-in-Aid contribution to the B.O.S.S. Backpack Program
- ◇ Endorsement of Spring 2026 Grant-in-Aid allocations:
  - ◇ Ashcroft 4-H – \$500
  - ◇ Twisted Desert Music Society – \$500
  - ◇ Ashcroft & District Lions Club – \$500
  - ◇ Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) – \$380

As a reminder, Council meeting agendas and minutes are available for detailed review on the Village website at [www.ashcroftbc.ca](http://www.ashcroftbc.ca).

### Village of Ashcroft

Mayor and Council:

**Mayor:**

Barbara Roden

**Councillors:**

Jonah Anstett

Jessica Clement

Nadine Davenport

Cam Tedford

### UPCOMING

**Council Meetings**

***Special Meeting***

**April 13—6:00 pm**

***Community Forum***

**April 13 — 7:00 pm**

**Council Chambers**

***Regular Meeting***

**Apr. 27 — 6 pm**

## MESA PARK PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT—BEGINS

With the arrival of spring, work is getting underway on several 2026 projects, including the long-anticipated renewal of the Mesa Park playground. This project has been in development for some time. While the Village had initially hoped to complete a full park upgrade following the removal of the trees, external funding was not approved. As a result, the project has been thoughtfully refocused into a phased approach, starting with what is most needed. Phase 1 will focus on replacing the playground equipment, which has reached the end of its lifespan. Future phases will look toward enhancements such as field improvements, tree replanting, upgrades to the basketball court, pathways, and parking.

We recognize the importance of restoring trees to the park. Unfortunately, the recent years of extreme heat and drought have limited our ability to replant at this time. That said, tree replacement remains a priority for Council as conditions allow. Work is scheduled to begin in the first week of April. During this time, the playground area will be closed to ensure public safety while crews remove the existing equipment and prepare the site for the new installation, including a rubberized safety surface.

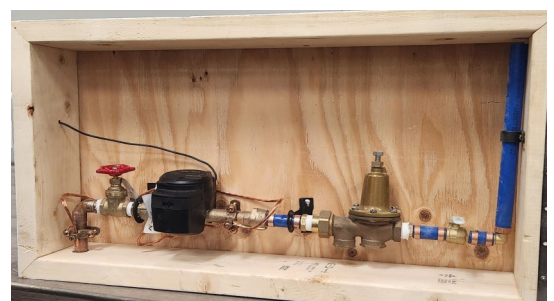
Council and staff appreciate the community’s patience as this work gets underway and look forward to welcoming families back to an updated and refreshed playground by the end of June—just in time for summer.



## WATER METER PROJECT—INSTALLATION UPDATE

As a follow-up to the recent letters sent to residents, the Village would like to share that residential installation work for the Water Meter Program is scheduled to begin April 4. Commercial properties will follow, with some preliminary infrastructure reviews taking place in advance of installation.

Neptune Technology Group, the Village’s installation contractor, will be reaching out directly to property owners to coordinate access and schedule appointments. If you haven’t yet been contacted, you can expect to hear from their team in the coming weeks.



As a reminder, all work will be scheduled in advance, and there is no cost to property owners for installation. The Village and Neptune will continue to work with residents to make the process as smooth and minimally disruptive as possible.

We appreciate everyone’s patience and cooperation as this next phase gets underway.

## BOOKING YOUR WATER METER INSTALLATION WITH NEPTUNE

All residences have been sent a notice from the village and a second notice from Neptune Technology Group in anticipation of commencing the water meter installation.



You can **BOOK ONLINE** at: [watermeterappt.com](http://watermeterappt.com) or by scanning the **QR code** in this article.

Start online by entering your reference number which is located on the notice sent to you by Neptune next to your address details. Type in the verification code and click get started, instantly view available appointments and book your preferred time slot.

Or **CALL 1-800-667-4387**

Contact Centre hours are Monday to Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Fridays 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. **Eastern Standard Time.** APPOINTMENT REQUIRED

## SPRING INTO FIRESMART

With spring underway, it's the perfect time to get outside, tidy up our yards, and take a few simple steps to reduce wildfire risk in our community. Ashcroft is located in a high-risk wildfire area, and with Environment Canada forecasting 2026 to be one of the hottest years on record, early preparation is more important than ever.

### Community Clean-Up & Chipping Days

- **Chipping Event:** April 20–21
- **Spring Clean-Up:** April 22–23

These events make it easy to clear dry brush, branches, and other flammable materials from your property—helping reduce risk across the community.

### What You Can Do

FireSmart is about simple, practical steps:

- Remove dry grass, leaves, and debris
- Trim trees and shrubs (especially cedar and juniper)
- Keep a clear space around your home
- Clean gutters and roofs

Working together as neighbours makes these efforts even more effective.

### Building Momentum

Ashcroft's FireSmart program continues to grow, with strong community interest and ongoing education and support. The Village is also applying for Year 2 funding to expand this work, including home assessments and neighbourhood initiatives.

### Looking Ahead

Taking action now helps reduce risk later. A little effort this spring goes a long way toward keeping Ashcroft safe and resilient through the summer.

## COMMUNITY FORUM

### COUNCIL INVITES YOU TO JOIN THEM

**Monday April 13, 2026 at 7:00 PM**

**In Council Chambers**

**For the presentation of :**

**The proposed 2026 budget and upcoming projects.**

This is the third open meeting to discuss the budget and last opportunity to ask questions, share ideas, and provide feedback to Council prior to the final presentation of the 2026 Budget on May 11th, 2026 at the Town Hall Meeting.

If you are unable to attend the meeting in person you can tune in via live stream on the HUB Online Network Facebook page.

## Attention!

### Friday, April 3rd Garbage Pick-up



**Friday's regular garbage pick up for Residents in North Ashcroft, as well as all Commercial businesses, will be on Thursday, April 2nd.**



**\*\* Please have your garbage curbside by 7 a.m. to ensure pick-up \*\***

## COMMUNITY CHIPPING EVENT

Village of Ashcroft FireSmart



**FREE SERVICE**

**APRIL 20 & 21, 2026**

#### HOW IT WORKS

- Our chipper comes to you - free of charge!
- Stack your piles at the road no later than 7:00am on April 20th
- Registration is required - call Village of Ashcroft FireSmart coordinator 250-819-5276 or 250-453-9161

#### ACCEPTED MATERIALS

- All branches & tree limbs no larger in diameter than 8 inches with roots removed. No stumps!
- Cut ends facing the road - neatly stacked
- Cedar and Juniper shrubs

## SEEKING POOL STAFF

Are you a certified lifeguard, swim instructor, aquafit or other water sport instructor and are interested in a seasonal position at the Ashcroft Pool.

### WE ARE HIRING!

Contact the Village office at: [admin@ashcroftbc.ca](mailto:admin@ashcroftbc.ca) or call us at **250-453-9161**

We would love to hear from you!

