



## Emergency Preparedness

The month of June was very unusual this year, we didn't get the usual rains that help us manage the dry months of July and August. In addition the recent heatwave is unlike any weather we have experienced before. All of this has increased the risk of wildfire which is causing anxiety for many residents in the area. Council and staff are working to safeguard the community and anticipate as best as we can, the potential risks to be mitigated.

### What are we doing?

- Staff is staying informed, monitoring wildfire activity in the region, participating in conference calls and meetings with other levels of government.
- Refreshed the fire guard in collaboration with the Fire Department on the Mesa Subdivision.
- Participated in a table top exercise hosted by the TNRD for Emergency Operation Center Training.
- Updating the Emergency Plan with current contact information and best practices.
- Developing checklists and procedures for all Emergency Operations key positions.
- Contacting property owners with fire hazards on their properties, asking for mitigation efforts to reduce the risk.
- Staff training for emergency situation management.
- Maintaining reservoir levels for effective Fire Protection.

### What can you do to be prepared?

- Remove fire fuels near your home.
- Prepare a "go bag" in case of emergency. Be sure to include any medicine, important documents such as insurance, passports, etc.
- Have an emergency plan and share it with other family members.
- Check on your neighbours.
- Stay informed
- Register for Voyent Alert. The Village sends alerts in emergency situations that cause risk to the community only.

## Covid-19 Pop Up Vaccine Clinic in Ashcroft

Interior Health (IH) is hosting a pop up vaccination clinic at Heritage Park on July 22, 2021 beginning at 11:00 am ending at 6:00 pm.

The clinic is intended for those wishing a first vaccination; however, if you required a second dose that will be accommodated as well.

## 2021 Property Taxes & Home Owner Grants Due July 15

This is a friendly reminder that 2021 Property Taxes are due by 4:00 pm July 15, 2021. We accept Debit, Cash or Cheque at the Village Office. Alternately you can pay your taxes at your financial institution, keep in mind payments must be received at the office prior to opening July 16, 2021.

If you haven't claimed your Home Owner Grant you must do so online this year at: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/property-taxes/annual-property-tax/home-owner-grant>; by phone at 1-888-355-2700 or come see us at the Village Office and we can help you. In order to apply for the Home Owners Grant you need your Tax Notice and your Social Insurance Number.

We encourage you to claim your Home Owner Grant even if you are not paying the taxes at this time, as a 10% penalty is charged to the balance owing.

### Village of Ashcroft

Mayor and Council:

**Mayor:**

Barbara Roden

**Councillors:**

Marilyn Anderson

Jonah Anstett

Nadine Davenport

Deb Tuohey

### Commit 2 Conserve



#### Amended STAGE 2

#### WATER RESTRICTIONS

Even numbered houses should only water on even calendar days, odd numbered houses should only water on odd calendar days.

#### Odd /Even Days

Hand watering only from 6-9am

Sprinkling 8-11pm

In-ground irrigation systems 3-6am

HEAT EXHAUSTION	HEAT STROKE
Faint Or Dizzy	Throbbing Headache
Excessive Sweating	Sweating Stops
Cool, Pale, Clammy Palms	Temperature Over 103 deg.
Nausea or Vomiting	Nausea or Vomiting
Rapid, Weak Pulse	Rapid, Strong Pulse
Muscle Cramps	Loss of Consciousness
<b>TREATMENT OPTIONS</b>	<b>CALL 9-1-1 Immediately</b>
Get to a cooler, air conditioned area	Reduce Temperature Until
Drink water if fully conscious	Emergency Services Arrive
take a cool shower	
use a cool Compress	

## What has Council been up to?

- Council approved the Public Engagement Policy
- Council approved the Commercial Filming Policy
- Council approved a Grant in Aid to the South Cariboo Sportsmen Association for \$500
- Council approve a Grant in Aid to WRAPS for \$500
- Council hosted a Committee of the Whole meeting to discuss the Outdoor Burning Bylaw
- Council approved the Zoning and OCP Amendment Bylaws to rezone the old Rodeo Grounds for Residential use.
- Council sent a letter to the Minister of Health, Adrian

## Voyent Alert

We officially launched the Voyent Alert for Ashcroft Residents in February 2021, since then, we have had over 450 residents signed up choosing the type of notification that works best for them: App, Text Message, Email or Phone Call (cell phone or landline). Granted, there were some hiccups along the way, some of which were program based and others administration. Staff has addressed these issues working with the developer and residents to verify correct enrollment for app, text or phone call notifications. It is crucial when signing up online or by app on your smart phone that Residents select the Village of Ashcroft and not the Thompson Nicola Regional District (TNRD). If you select the TNRD by mistake you will not receive notifications from Ashcroft. If you need help to verify and to sign up, please feel free to call the Village Office at 250.453.9161 or stop by, we are happy to help.

We have been using the Voyent Alert App and other forms of communication (Facebook, mail outs), to alert Ashcroft Residents of emergent situations; for example, the Grass fire in May, change of Water Restrictions and the Heatwave. The system is designed to inform residents of alerts and emergencies within the boundary of the Village of Ashcroft. If events outside of the boundary pose a threat to the Village, an alert will be sent to inform our residents. We understand the recent tragedy in Lytton, has caused many residents to be on edge in regards to wildfires in the surrounding area and is fueling anxiety. We want to ensure when alerts are sent they are in regards to emergent situations such as fires, mudslides, derailments, water restrictions, etc. The alerts are intended to be meaningful and make residents aware of the situation so that everyone can be prepared.

Sending alerts about events that don't pertain directly to the Village, could cause unnecessary stress and frustration, and might even go so far as residents turning notifications off and then when it matters, won't be notified. If you have any concerns or questions, please come see us at the Village Office or give us a call. We are here to help.

## Bylaw Enforcement Officer

The Bylaw Officer will begin work in our community on August 15, 2021. Council is excited to move this process forward and begin by building bylaw awareness in the Village.

PO Box 129  
601 Bancroft St.  
Ashcroft, BC  
V0K 1A0

Phone: 250-453-9161  
Fax: 250-453-9664  
E-mail: [admin@ashcroftbc.ca](mailto:admin@ashcroftbc.ca)



### Mesa Vista Fire Guard



Public Works staff and Fire Department clearing the fire guard.

### Events & Meetings

**Council Meetings:**  
July 26 - 6:00 pm  
Livestream by HON  
July 26 - 6:00 pm  
Livestream by HON  
**COTW: Tentative**  
July 26 - 5:00 pm  
**Museum - Open**  
**Legacy Park- Open**  
**Pool- Open**

### TEMPORARY STAGE 4 WATER RESTRICTION

July 13, 2021 from 10:00 am—2:00 pm

July 14, 2021 from 10:00 am—2:00 pm

The contractors are ready to install the Sand Separators at the Water Treatment Plant.

We hope this is the last temporary water restriction and thank you for your patience.

Reminder for a Stage 4 restriction, please limit your indoor water use to minimal and temporarily stop all outdoor water uses.

Thank you!

## Why—Water Restrictions

The recent water restrictions have caused quite a lot of concern for many residents, we hope this information helps to clarify the restrictions.

Each year on May 1—September 30 the Village is on Water Conservation restrictions, this is when everyone is asked to water on odd/even days with allocated watering times. Recently the Village experienced a bit of a perfect storm, the Water Treatment Plant is quite automated and notifies the Village 24 hours per day if something is not functioning properly. During the intended Sand Separator installation, the notification system malfunctioned causing the reservoirs to be depleted, add to that a heatwave and everyone watering to keep gardens and lawns alive and we reach a critical low in water reserves.

The two day Stage 4 restriction enabled the village to replenish the reservoir and the **Amended Stage 2 Restrictions** are helping us maintain acceptable reservoir levels to meet resident use and fire protection.

Many of you are alarmed at the condition of the Pool Park, like you, the Village reduced our watering by 50% at the park. Although the grass is dry on the surface, it is watered every second day for a shorter period of time. Staff and Council feel that the Village should adhere to the same restrictions that residents are asked to abide by. We agree that green lawns assist with fire risk; however, the Village must maintain adequate water supply for fire fighting purposes to protect the community and reduce liability risk.

