

## Fire Smart Your Property and Home

The recent house fire in Ashcroft has prompted Council to remind the public about fire safety and the obligation that each person has to Fire Smart their home, property, and neighborhood. Fire Smart is a program that most people have heard of and it is something that people should familiarize themselves with before the wild fire season arrives this summer. In fact, this is the perfect time to begin to fire smart your own property and to coordinate your efforts with your neighbors. <http://www.bcwildfire.ca/prevention/firesmart.htm> is a great place to start to get the information you need. You can download the Fire Smart home owner's manual and see what you can do to get started.

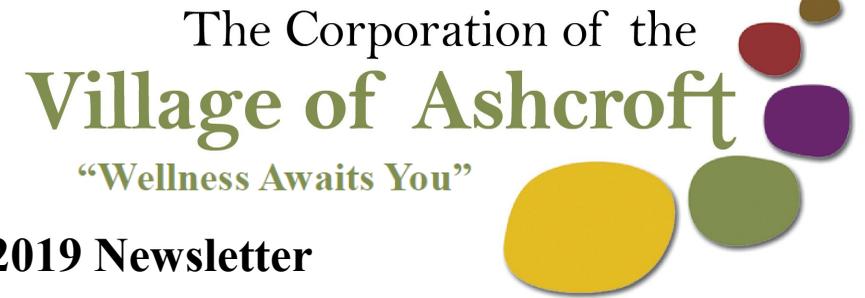
Fire Smart asks that residents to form their own work parties to tackle tasks; the more people working together the easier the task. Neighbors can help neighbors, especially those lacking the physical ability to do the work on their own. Helping your neighbor helps protect your own home. Fire Smart is ongoing and requires yearly attention.

Here are a few tips taken from the Fire Smart manual you can do to protect your home. The ignition zone—"Zone 1" requires your immediate attention and is vital to protecting your home. Zone 1 is the initial 10 meters around your home structure:

- **Remove leaves and flammable debris accumulating in corners of the house structure. Do not store trimmings of any kind within Zone 1.**
- **Coniferous shrubs/trees are considered extremely flammable and should not be planted in Zone 1.**
- **Wood piles need to be stored outside Zone 1, or inside a fire proof structure.**
- **Clean out eaves troughs regularly as this debris can ignite.**
- **Skirt in decks to prevent embers and debris from accumulating.**
- **Keep grass mowed to less than 10 cm or consider xeriscaping and using non flammable mulches (wood chips, cedar mulch are all flammable and should not be used in Zone 1).**

### Your Mayor and Council:

Mayor: Barbara Roden; Councillors: Marilyn Anderson—Jonah Anstett—Nadine Davenport—Deb Tuohey  
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## January 2019 Newsletter



***Mayor Roden & Council urges everyone to enjoy Family Day activities.***

## Community Update

Mayor Roden and Council would like to take a few minutes of your time to tell you about a number of things they have been working on as well as some past community events:

- Council resolved to have staff apply for a grant through the BC Museum Association to fund a free family movie afternoon on Feb 17 at the HUB.
- Council resolved to provide a letter of support to Gold Country for their funding application to expand the number of geocaches in the Gold Country Geocache program to 150.
- Councillor Tuohy was appointed as the Village representative to the Community Online Channel Project, with Councillor Davenport as the alternate.
- Council approved a work plan for a Subdivision and Development Servicing bylaw.
- Council passed a short term loan authorization bylaw in the amount of \$2 million for the Water Treatment Project.
- Sgt. Kat Fitzgerald provided Council with a quarterly update on the local RCMP detachment activities.
- Mike LoVecchio of Canadian Pacific Railway Government Affairs made a presentation to Council on the overall rail activities.
- MLA Tegart attended the Jan 14 meeting and congratulated Council on their election and advised that her office is always there to support the Village with their initiatives.
- Council donated the use of the Community Hall to the Community Resource Society for the 2019 Christmas Hamper Drive.
- Council approved the hotel marketing study and authorized staff to release the document to interested parties.
- The Village has submitted a grant application to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program for the replacement of the Ashcroft Pool hot tub.



## Upcoming Community Events and Notices



**Feb 18**— The Village Office will be closed for the Family Day Statutory Holiday.

**Feb 25**— Committee of the Whole is held at 6 pm and a Regular Meeting of Council is held at 7 pm in the Village Council Chambers, everyone is welcome.

**Feb 25**— Digital Mobile Mammography is coming to the Ashcroft IDA pharmacy, please call 1-800-663-9230 to make an appointment.

**Mar 3**— Annual Heritage Event at the Cache Creek Community Hall

### Utility Bills

Did you get your Utility Bill? Utility bills were sent out during the second last week of January. To qualify for the 10% discount, please pay your bill no later than April 1, 2019—otherwise bills are due December 31, 2019.

**\*\* If you have not received your utility bill, please contact the Village Office 250-453-9161 \*\***

### Arena Season Ends in March

The Arena season ends in March but not before some exciting events take place to cap off another great season:

#### **Beer Belly League Tournament is March 1—3, 2019.**

Come out and watch our “local talent” as they host teams and compete during this fun and entertaining event.

#### **Last Public Skate is Wednesday, March 6, 2019.**

#### **Bantam Minor Hockey Playoffs March 8, 9, and 10, 2019.**

Ashcroft is hosting this season’s Minor Hockey Playoffs which includes our home team. This is going to be an exciting event. Please come out and cheer on our local team, your support is always appreciated.