



Association of
SUMMER VILLAGES
OF ALBERTA

2022 Winter Newsletter

Welcome to winter. It has certainly been a cold start to this winter. I hope you are staying warm and safe. At Sylvan Lake, the ice fishing huts are out in full force and there are a number of enterprising businesses ready to delivery hot meals directly to the huts. Like those entrepreneurs, the ASVA is staying busy during this time of year and below I will provide an update of some of our key activities and the issues we are following on your behalf.

ASVA Membership Fee

In 2022, the membership fee is \$.0262 x equalized assessment / 1000 and the maximum membership fee is \$975. The mil rate and maximum membership fee remain the same as 2021.

Boat Mooring Regulations - Town Hall

Based on member feedback, ASVA will host a virtual Town Hall in March to provide additional information on the Alberta Environment & Parks (AEP) Disturbance Standard for Temporary, Seasonal Docks and other Mooring Structures for Personal Recreational Purposes released in April 2021. We are pleased to announce that Gerry Haekel from AEP will be joining us. In addition to the AEP Q&A session, a number of members will share what their Summer Village has done to implement the new regulations and, in particular, their accommodation for Back-Lot property owners. Additional information on this Town Hall will be coming in early February.

Strategic Planning and Member Engagement

As part of reconnecting with the vision, mission and priorities of the ASVA, the Board of Directors plan to update the ASVA Strategic Plan in early 2022. The timing of this work is appropriate as the recent municipal elections resulted in new members elected to the ASVA Board and the beginning of a new four year term for the ASVA Board.

To ensure the Strategic Plan aligns with member expectations, the ASVA will create multiple opportunities for members to provide feedback on their priorities and those of their residents. Member engagement and feedback will help inform the ASVA on their priorities for Advocacy, Communication, and Educational efforts during this Board's four year term. Please watch for information on a membership survey in mid-February.

Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF)

The MSI infrastructure grants are very important to Summer Villages. It allows us to build and maintain the infrastructure our Summer Villages and residents need. The province is intending to replace MSI with the LGFF in 2024. For years the ASVA has been advocating for funding that is fair, equitable, and that is consistent with all other municipalities in Alberta. President Pashak is participating on an Alberta Municipalities committee that is working on an allocation method for the LGFF. The work of this committee will be completed in February and it will be used to inform the Government of Alberta on what municipalities would like to see as a predictable, sustainable, and adequate capital funding model.

Alberta Provincial Police Service (APPS)

APPS is a hot topic these days. In October 2021, the Government of Alberta released the independent report developed by Price Waterhouse Coopers LLP (PwC) that studied the feasibility of replacing the RCMP with the APPS; approximately 400 pages of information in three separate reports. Based on this transition study you likely received notice that the Government of Alberta is moving forward on engagements with municipalities on a new APPS. These engagement sessions run from mid-January to the end of March and are a combination of in-person and virtual meetings. The virtual meetings are currently scheduled from March 14 to March 18. The relevant reports and information on the provincial engagement can be found at <https://www.alberta.ca/provincial-police-service-engagement.aspx>

This issue has the potential to significantly impact service levels, governance, and costs associated with policing in Alberta. The ASVA has been following this issue and look to participate with Alberta Municipalities to create position statements and advocacy efforts. The work that Alberta Municipalities will do on this issue is a prime example of the value that Summer Villages receive as being a member in Alberta Municipalities. To that end, Alberta Municipalities will be hosting a webinar, tentatively scheduled for January 19 at 6 pm to inform members about what is happening, solicit feedback to help establish a position, and provide information and questions that may be helpful for those that are attending the provincial engagements. Monitor your emails for further information on this important event.

Final Thoughts

As the ASVA President, I am the Summer Village representative on the Alberta Municipalities Board of Directors. I am also happy to advise that I have been appointed to the Alberta Municipalities Small Communities Committee. Mayor Ren Giesbrecht from the SV of West Cove was also appointed to that committee and together we are committed to ensure the interests of Summer Villages are brought to the table and will strongly advocate on your behalf.

We continue to update the website and regularly circulate information to our members on a variety of topics or as things are updated or changed. We offer fan-out support by sending out questions and queries to your CAO's. Job postings are sent out to members as well as posted on our website.

The ASVA is very proud to state to the provincial decision-makers and all other stakeholders that our membership is supported by 100% of the Summer Villages. If you have any questions, suggestions or comments, please never hesitate to call or email our Executive Director, Sherry Poole at 780-236-5456 or execdirector@asva.ca or info@asva.ca

Warmest Regards.

Mike Pashak

President, ASVA