

# VILLAGE OF VILNA

## Newsletter

MAY 2020

### COUNCIL MEETINGS

It's hard to believe that we have gone from shoveling snow to being confined to our homes and now, being allowed to walk around the block as long as we social distance ... all within two months. It actually feels a lot longer than two months. But so far, Vilna has come through the Pandemic with no cases ..... YET.

***Let's not let our guard down.***

At the April Council meeting Council discussed the COVID-19 Pandemic and the affects it might have on the residents of Vilna.

- The province has mandated that until such time as the COVID-19 emergency is over, municipalities shall allow all delivery trucks to travel on all and any of the streets and roads in order to allow the efficient and necessary delivery of goods.
- Campgrounds that do not provide electricity and water services, and have an on-site manager that will enforce social distancing, shall not open until further notice.

*Although the province has indicated that some campgrounds may be opened for May 14<sup>th</sup>, we do not have an on-site manager, nor do we have water hook-ups at the sites. This issue will be again discussed at the next Council meeting.*

- The Province has mandated that utility services for electricity and natural gas cannot be shut off for non-payment, but the utility user can make arrangements with the service provider. This did not include water, sewer and garbage utilities. However, Council did pass a resolution that would provide assistance to those who are seriously affected by the Pandemic and are struggling financially.

*"That deferral of arrears for utilities can be considered if the service client is willing to make deferral payment arrangements, with the understanding that if they default on the payment arrangement, or if they fail to make deferral arrangements, the service shall be disconnected after June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020, and remain off until the account is paid in full.*

- The Province has put forward a deferral of the education portion of education taxes for commercial and industrial properties for a period of six months, or implement a combined municipal and education property tax deferral that is equivalent to deferring six months worth of tax.

Council resolved,

*"That a combined municipal and education property tax deferral be implemented for all tax payers with all taxes due and payable on July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020 with penalties added on August 1<sup>st</sup>.*

**Back Yard Hens ....** Council gave 1<sup>st</sup> reading to a Bylaw that would allow residents to keep a few hens in their back yards. The regulations require that anyone interested in raising hens must take the provincial course and obtain the certificate applicable to back yard hens.

- Provincial course on "Raising Chickens in Alberta"
- Must obtain a Premises Identification Number from the Province.
- You cannot sell the eggs
- You cannot slaughter the hens in the Village
- The coop must provide specific space per chicken
- The outside run **MUST** be fenced and separate from the back yard area, the hens shall not be given free run of your yard., etc. etc.

Council will consider 2<sup>nd</sup> reading at their next meeting.

A copy of the draft bylaw may be obtained from the office if you are interested in reviewing and commenting on it.

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***Where flowers bloom, so does hope ...***

Lady Bird Johnson

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**COVID-19 HAS NOT STOPPED THE THEIVES  
AND OTHER LOW LIFES.**

- Do not engage with unknown persons,
- Report suspicious persons/vehicles/activities to the police as soon as possible.
- Be an active member of your community and join the Rural Crime Watch or Bellis/Vilna Citizens on Patrol programs."

**RCMP – 780-656-3550 DAYS  
780-656-3691 AFTER HOURS  
EMERGENCIES – 911**

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**Village Office:**

Phone: 780-636-3620, Fax: 780-636-3022  
email: [vilna@mcsnet.ca](mailto:vilna@mcsnet.ca) webpage: [vilna.ca](http://vilna.ca)  
Address: Box 10, Vilna AB T0A 3L0  
5135 – 50<sup>th</sup> Street

***The Village website has a lot of information you may need, such as forms, Minutes, Bylaws, event information, local news. Consider checking the home page now and then for updates and information.***

**BYLAWS** (aka Earla's Rants )

We've been getting complaints about dogs and cats running at large. The solution is very simple .... For an extra \$10,000.00 each year we can hire a Bylaw Officer. The choice is yours. If you want your taxes to go up keep letting your pets run at large.

- Are you the neighbour who doesn't keep your dog on a leash when it's off your property?
- Do you bother to pick up the poop when your dog decides that the sidewalk, or your neighbour's yard is its new toilet?
- Does your cat use your neighbour's flower box for its sand box?
- Have you bothered to purchase a Dog License this year?
- Are you the resident who can't understand about putting your garbage IN the garbage can?
- Are you the parent who thinks throwing diapers in the alley constitutes putting your garbage in a garbage bag and INTO the garbage can.

• Did you know we DON T pick up your old furniture or appliances? They must go to Spedden.

**GARBAGE MUST BE IN PROPER GARBAGE BAGS and IN A SECURE CONTAINER!**

- Vilna Transfer Station (dump) is west about a mile west on the north village boundary road #594.
    - Open Tuesday and Saturday 9am to 5pm.
- # #####

Vilna is a beautiful place to raise a family and a quiet community in which to retire, BUT if people don't take responsibility, we will soon not be that lovely community.. AGAIN, THE CHOICE IS YOURS.

The solution is to RESPECT YOUR NEIGHBOURS AND TAKE PRIDE IN YOUR PROPERTY. It's time to clean up after winter and each make a little effort to .....

**KEEP VILNA BEAUTIFUL.**

WHILE YOU AND I HAVE BEEN SAFE IN OUR HOMES, SHELTERED FROM THE DEADLY VIRUS, THERE ARE THOSE WHO HAVE FREELY GONE TO WORK DAILY TO TAKE CARE OF THE SICK AND ELDERLY AND TO MAKE SURE WE ARE SAFE... TO THOSE DEDICATED WORKERS WE CAN'T EXPRESS ENOUGH GRATITUDE

"THANK YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATION"

**DO YOUR PART.**

- STAY SAFE.
- RESPECT THE SAFETY OF OTHERS
- ADHERE TO THE REGULATIONS
- GUARD AGAINST COMPLACENCY
- AND BE PATIENT.

**VILNA PUBLIC LIBRARY**

5431 - 50<sup>th</sup> Street (N. end Main St.)

COVID-19 has resulted in the Library being closed rather than extending the hours, as they had hoped.

WATCH THE NEWS FOR THE LIFTING OF RESTRICTIONS ON LIBRARIES WHEN IT OPENS, THE HOURS SHALL BE:

**Tuesdays and Thursdays  
3:00 P.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
& Sat 12pm to 4pm**

Computers & Internet - 780-636-2077  
Library Manager is Mandy Odynski

**Hope Mission WILL NOT BE OPEN UNTIL COVID RESTRICTIONS ARE LIFTED**

**At 5035 - 52 Avenue, Vilna**

**Gently used clothing, household items, and some food items are available if you need them.**

Do something today that your future self will thank you for.

All of our stores are open for groceries, medications and essentials

Our Restaurants are providing order and curb side pick-up services

**The Seniors Recreation Centre will be closed to all social functions until further notice.**

*"You don't have to be perfect to be amazing."*

**DON'T FORGET TO READ YOUR WATER METER at the end of each month and phone the reading to the Village Office 780-636-3620 & leave a message. Thank you.**

**NEXT COUNCIL MEETINGS**

**THURSDAY, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.**

**THURSDAY May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.**