

VILLAGE OF VILNA

Newsletter

MAY & JUNE 2022



COUNCIL NOTES

It's May! Only 3 months until the Community's Centennial Celebration.

Our Centennial Home-Coming is schedule for AUGUST 20 & 21.

MAY IS SPRING CLEAN UP MONTH

- Vinette Salvage has placed 2 huge disposal bins behind the Village Office. One for regular garbage and one for metals. If you have garbage that shouldn't go to our transfer station and you can't haul it to Spedden, take advantage of these bins for **FREE** through the month of May.
- When we all work together, *the beauty of our community can shine through.*
- Lend a hand to your neighbours, *share your strengths.*



Unightly Premises

- The Village is asking that everyone make an effort to clean your properties and make your block the Pride of Vilna.
- **Effective June 1 the Village will be posting Unightly Premises Notices. If the properties are not cleaned within the given time the Village will hire someone to take care of the issue and you will be charged for the work. If the invoice isn't paid it will be attached to the property taxes.**

Animal Control

- It is the pet owner's responsibility to keep your dog on your property or on a leash. When the dog defecates you are obliged to pick up the excrement.
- **If your dog is running at large you shall be notified. If the issue is not rectified and the problem continues, you will be charged for the infraction. If not paid, the fees will be charged against the taxes.**

VILNA CELEBRATES VILNA CENTENNIAL

and

VILNA AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

50TH ANNIVERSARY

AUGUST 20 & 21, 2022

We've had a couple more meetings to plan for the Centennial Celebration.

- The Ag. Society will be holding their events at the Cultural Centre Friday and Saturday
- The Centennial Celebrations will be focused on Sunday with small venues through the weekend:
- A Time Capsule
 - Breakfasts
 - Food: (*many cultures and culinarians in Vilna*)
 - Movie in the Park (in the school)
 - A Jamboree
 - A Car Show



Fire Pit Standards And Regulations

11.1. A fire pit means an outdoor receptacle used for recreational fire that meets the following specifications:
11.1.1. The location is at least

4.5 meters (14.8) feet from any building, property line or combustible material;

11.1.2. The opening does not exceed 82 cm (32 inches) in width or in diameter;

11.1.3. The installation has enclosed sides made of non-combustible material;

11.1.4. It has spark arrester mesh screen cover with an opening no larger than 1.25 cm (1/2 inches);

11.1.5. Is not located over any underground utilities or under any above ground wires.

11.2. When using a fire pit there shall be no burning of grass, weeds, leaves, tree limbs, garden refuse, garbage or other material and not anything contrary to federal, provincial or municipal legislation or regulations.

11.3.1. Only dry or seasoned wood intended for recreational purposes is used;

11.3.2. A means of extinguishing the fire is kept on hand at all times while the fire is burning;

11.3.3. The flames from the fire do not exceed 1 meter in height at any time;

11.3.4. The fire is supervised at all times by a responsible person;

MAKE CERTAIN FIRE IS COMPLETELY OUT when done.



KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE ...

Community Engagement Concern#1: Are there enough officers on duty to help me in a timely fashion should I need it?

Answer# 1:

Our number one priority is the safety and security of the public and of our officers. We are committed to providing the most effective, efficient policing possible. The Smoky Lake detachment, like all RCMP detachments, has a set number of resources that we deploy as efficiently as we can; *We do the best we can with the resources we have.*

- Like all police services, the RCMP prioritizes calls to ensure that situations which pose an immediate or potential threat to life are urgently dispatched. Our first priority is to immediately respond to situations where there is a threat to personal safety. Once the immediate threat has ended, our officers might focus efforts on finding the suspect rather than immediately attending the scene of a crime.
- Crimes which do not pose an immediate or potential threat to life, for example where a theft had already taken place before it was discovered, are dealt with as lower priorities. This being said, the expectation, is that members engage with a complainant and advise when a member will respond. The average response time of these lower priority crimes are in no way an indication of how quickly the RCMP will respond to an urgent high priority call for service.
- In response to rural concerns, the Alberta RCMP has instituted the "Closest Car" policy, where the nearest car will respond to an urgent call, regardless of which jurisdiction the call is from.

Concern#2: Opportunities to engage with officers socially, visit with officers at the station and in community events.

Answer# 2:

Over the past 2 years, the pandemic has caused us all to change the way we do business and live our day to day lives. The Smoky Lake RCMP has always enjoyed being engaged with the citizens and involved in the community. The pandemic has definitely had a huge impact on our ability to do so. Now that restrictions are easing, we look forward to slowly, and cautiously picking up where we left off.

You've asked- we've answered! The Smoky Lake RCMP has started a "Coffee with a Cop" initiative, in which we invite community members to come to various locations in the Smoky Lake County to have coffee with your local Smoky Lake RCMP members. The purpose of this initiative is simply to engage with the community, there's no agenda or speeches, just a chance to ask questions, voice concerns, and get to know your local RCMP officers.

Additional Information:

What can people be doing to help the RCMP with prevention or enforcement?

Policing is only one aspect of community safety. We all need to work together on both the prevention side and the enforcement side. Effective policing begins with communities working in partnership.

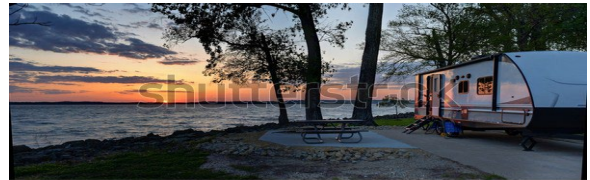
A simple way of doing this, is to get involved in your community; get involved with your local crime prevention association such as Rural Crime Watch or Citizens on Patrol. These groups are *critical* in crime prevention and in solving crimes. Rural Crime Watch and Citizens on Patrol volunteers support our Crime Reduction Strategy by acting as an extra set of "eyes and ears" in the communities, in addition the extra dynamic of local knowledge.

Reporting Crime: Why should I report crimes when it's a 'catch-and-release' system or the suspects won't be located or identified anyway?

We need people to report crimes and we are committed to being responsive because reporting *all crime* and suspicious activity provides the most accurate data and allows our resources to be deployed appropriately in the areas that need it most.

The RCMP has recently implemented an Online Crime Reporting platform, in which select property crimes under \$5,000 can now be reported through our Online Crime Reporting system to ensure people are able to report crimes in whatever way is most convenient and accessible to them.

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



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BONNIE LAKE CAMPGROUND

For bookings, email or message:
bonnielakecampground2@gmail.com
780-656-8984

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next Regular Council Meetings
Wednesday, May 12th & June 8th, 2022
at 5:30 p.m.



BHCFE Seeks New Board Members

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