

VILLAGE OF VILNA

Newsletter MARCH 2023



COUNCIL NOTES

- Your Council is working toward bringing Vilna out of the “perceived” plateau we’ve been experiencing. With 3 new business owners on Main Street, there is a sense of (growth? Enthusiasm? Moving up?). If you want to be part of this movement?, now is the time.
- We’ve heard from people about what they don’t want to see in Vilna. Now we need to know **WHAT YOU DO WANT**.
- Your Council has been having conversations over the past few months, here are some of the ideas that have come forward:
 1. Health Centre:
 - Long Term Care or Recovery Care,
 - Mental Health and Addiction Care & Counselling
 - Grief Counselling
 - Therapy Centre & Physiotherapy
 - Dietician / Nutritionist,
 2. Enticing local professionals to live in the community, i.e. teachers, nurses, RCMP
 3. Better Highway Signage
 4. Film production attraction
 5. Housing development
 6. Tourism marketing
 7. Solar, Wind, Hydrogen Technology
 8. Grow Mushrooms
 9. Increase Bylaw Enforcement
 10. Boardwalk Markets to support Farmers Markets
 11. Encourage branches of service and social clubs
 12. Security cameras along the streets
 13. Make Vilna a destination for tournaments
 14. Get out of the shadow of larger communities
 15. HISTORIC VILNA *A door to the past with a window to the future.*

NOTES FROM MARCH 8, 2023 COUNCIL MEETING

The meeting was going to be normal:. Discussion with representatives from Northern Lights Library; Have a Chat with Cpl. Genereux from the RCMP; Appoint a new Director of Emergency Management; Discuss the Intermunicipal Development Plan and get 1st reading on the Bylaw; Pay some Bills and Review a couple Bylaws.

What a surprise when 22 people arrived with another item to discuss. ***Thank you, everyone who participated. The energy in the room was positive, helpful and engaging.***

On February 8th, Mayor Kunyk and the CAO met with representatives from the County, the Town of Smoky Lake, Rural Health Professional and Alberta Health Services to brainstorm ideas that might be feasible in Vilna and Smoky Lake.

Your Council has been making lists of ideas of ways to grow Vilna.(See items 1-15 on the adjacent column). One of the ideas was to make better use of the Health Centre. Many of the ideas discussed are on the opposite side of the page under item #1. But not all the items discussed were recorded there, Just the ones that should be given serious consideration.

There were a few items that Council didn’t think would work in Vilna. One of them was *“Specializing in a specific service, the possibility of becoming a “Controlled Opiate Dosing Facility”*. There has been a program provided through pharmacies and at-home-dosing. Alberta Health Services has stopped that program and wants to set up centres where people with opioid addictions can go to have their doses administered by a professional.

This was not an initiative that Council felt would fit in Vilna, so it wasn’t considered when they were drafting their priorities list. However, it wasn’t specifically addressed or official ruled out.

Based on the feelings of the delegation at the meeting, it was agreed that a formal negative resolution should have proposed for this specific suggestion.

You’re voice has been clearly heard, and Alberta Health Services will be notified that the proposal for a *“Controlled Opiate Dosing Facility”* or a *“Supervised Consumption Site”* are **NOT** an acceptable services for the Vilna community.

SPRING CLEAN UP begins May 15th.

Once again bins will be available behind the Village Office. One for waste and one for metals only. Take full advantage of these.





BYLAW CORNER:

Pet Ownership Bylaw is being reviewed. Currently the bylaw allows 2 dogs, 3 cats or 6 hens or a rabbit.

Perhaps 6 hens is too many. Should it be reduced to 4?

Did you know that you need to take an on-line course on raising urban hens? You also need to apply to the province for a Premises Identification Number. Once you have done that, come to the Village Office for your permit.

Please don't let your dogs run around off your property. They're much easier to control when you have them on a leash. Don't let them loose unless you have a fence around your yard and they are contained. *Think about trying to clean the defecation off the blades of your snow blower And with summer coming, it's an awful mess on your lawnmower blades.*

If your dog is rambunctious it can scare kids when he runs toward them. Be respectful.

Unless you have purchased a Life-Time license. The 2023 licenses are due NOW. \$10.00 for a neutered dog, \$20.00 for un-neutered. I'll be expecting you.

COMMUNITY STANDARDS BYLAW *commonly known as the Unsightly Premises Bylaw.*

This Bylaw defines what the average person would appreciate in their neighbourhood.

5.2. A Person shall not cause or permit a nuisance or unsightly condition to exist on Property they own or occupy.

5.3.1. excessive accumulation of material including Building materials, appliances, household goods, boxes, tires and vehicle parts whether of apparent value or not;
5.3.2. loose litter, garbage, garden or lawn waste, refuse or animal feces, whether located in a storage area, collection area or elsewhere on the Property;

5.3.3. unkempt grass or Weeds;

5.3.7.1. the significant deterioration of buildings, structures, fences or improvements, or portions of buildings, structures or improvements;

5.6 No more than two (2) dilapidated, derelict or inoperable Motor Vehicles, whether or not insured or registered, may be allowed on any Property.

VILLAGE OFFICE
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Email: vilna@mcsnet.ca
Office: 780-636-3620
Public Works: 780-521-7124



Drive Happiness – Senior assisted transportation

DO YOU LIKE TO DRIVE? DO YOU APPRECIATE SENIORS? WE ARE LOOKING FOR YOU!

Drive Happiness is looking for generous, compassionate individuals to volunteer their time driving seniors in the areas we serve.

- You choose when, where, and how often you drive
- Create your own volunteer schedule
- We provide a gas reimbursement
- Meet friendly and appreciative seniors
- Make a difference in your community

A community that improves the quality of life for people of all ages by strengthening and improving the means by which the community protects, sustains and nurtures its elders; in turn, contributes to the well-being and foresight of that community.

Call Drive Happiness today to volunteer as a driver.
1-888-336-4503 or 1-780-424-5438

KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE ...



DidYouKnow Identity theft is the most common type of fraud in Canada? Criminals often steal a person's identity to commit other crimes like applying for loans or credit cards, opening

bank accounts, transferring bank balances, buying goods and services, or getting a government ID to receive benefits. Your identity is at risk of being stolen online and over the phone, but it's important to remember your identity can also be stolen through more traditional methods like mail theft. Always shred personal and financial documents before putting them in the garbage, and pick up mail on a regular basis to limit the possibility of it getting stolen.

#FraudPreventionMonth

If you think your identity may be compromised, it's important you know the right steps to take. Learn more here: <https://bit.ly/2YYLYHh>

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

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Wednesday – April 12, 2023 – 5:30
Wednesday – May 10, 2023 – 5:30