Mayor's Message



April 27, 2020

The covid-19 pandemic and the resulting physical distancing by now has fostered "cabin fever". This is likely made worse by the great improvement in the weather and our current spring conditions. And I am sure many Albertans are eager to get back to work, open up shops and businesses, get a haircut, grab a movie or have a meal in their favourite restaurant.

By all means get out in the garden and let the children play in the yard. But please continue to follow the recommendations of our provincial health officials. As eager as we may be to be out and about, social distancing, constant hand hygiene, not touching your face, eyes, nose or mouth, remain best and safest practices.

Be patient, maintain daily routines, get exercise and a good night's sleep.

Stay safe. Stay healthy. Stay home.

Gordon Drybrough, **Mayor**

April 20, 2020

I have participated in each of the weekly Premier's teleconferences for municipal leaders. Alberta has rolled out financial aid packages to individuals and businesses, as has the federal government. Your Summer Village Council has approved a thoughtful deferral plan for 2020 property taxes.

It seems Alberta, and indeed Canada, have taken a cautious approach to easing physical distancing and other restrictions. We all need to be patient and strong in our resolve to get through this pandemic.

Continue to phone, email or participate in face time with friends, neighbours and relatives. Look after yourself and those closest to you. Please stay safe, stay healthy and stay home.

On another matter Sandy Beach express its profound empathy with the tragic events that unfolded in Nova Scotia. Please support the Blue Ribbon Campaign **Blue Ribbon - Nova Scotia** which is on our website under NEWS.

Gordon Drybrough, **Mayor**

April 13, 2020

Adapt. Improvise. Overcome.

Words used to describe military actions (and taken from an old Clint Eastwood movie about US Marines). Anyway, as I see on the news youngsters using their 3-D printers to churn out face masks, and other children sewing home-made surgical masks, and then all the car cavalcades celebrating drive-by birthdays, and yesterday indoor, family only Easter egg hunts - I am reminded of the tremendous adaptability and resilience of Albertans as we deal with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Be safe. Stay healthy. Stay home. And think of ways to improvise at home when performing your daily routines.

Gordon Drybrough, **Mayor**

April 6, 2020

For those of you in the Village who are essential workers - truck drivers, delivery people, grocery and pharmacy employees, hospital staff, and first responders - thank you for your service in keeping us all safe, fed and protected. If you are maintaining contact with your neighbours by phone or face time, and assisting in delivering needed food and medical supplies, let me offer a very big thank you.

And to those who are simply staying at home, avoiding contact with others, thank you for keeping us safe.

Being isolated from others and out of our regular daily routines is difficult to accept and challenges us to develop new, novel and useful coping strategies. If you are experiencing real difficulty, contact one of the many agencies/services. There is the Province wide mental health line at 1-877-303.2642, **or contact Anxiety Canada, and now in Edmonton you can contact at the University of Alberta the Centre for Online Mental Health Support.**

We all need to be apart for now so that down the road we can get together. Be patient, be healthy, take care of yourselves and your families.

Gordon Drybrough, **Mayor**

March 30, 2020

For Albertans and indeed for Canadians, the current **COVID-19** pandemic means this is not business as usual.

For those residents who have experienced a recent job loss or reduction in hours, I am sorry for your situation. Both the federal and provincial governments have issued information on financial assistance available to employees who have suffered a job loss as well as for small and medium size businesses. For assistance in paying monthly rent or mortgage payments, check with your financial institution and your landlord. Again, some provincial assistance may be available and includes deferral on utility payments (interest free) and low or no interest charge bank loans.

Thank you for respecting contacting the Summer Village only by phone, fax or email. Council will be meeting electronically and information on how members of the public can join those meetings will be published once we have confirmed a viable method for electronic meetings.

In the meantime, please stay safe and healthy. Stay at home, but do take time to be outdoors in your yard for some fresh air and sunshine. If you do venture out, maintain physical distancing (2 hockey stick lengths) from others. Wash your hands often, and wash with soap and warm water after 5 applications of hand sanitizer (it builds up on your hands and becomes ineffective). You can visit Alberta Health Services website and complete a diagnostic test. If you are experiencing any symptoms of the **COVID-19** virus, contact 811, provide your information and follow their instructions.

Be patient as government services, call centres and websites, are extremely busy.

Again, if you or a neighbour needs assistance in obtaining groceries or medicines and are without friend, family or neighbour support, contact the

Summer Village office and we will attempt to connect you with the necessary assistance.

As Albertans we have experience in managing through tough times. We are in this together. Be patient, be cooperative and above all, be kind to each other.

Gordon Drybrough, **Mayor**

March 23, 2020

We are all receiving information from the federal and provincial governments as well as the health department concerning the **COVID-19** virus. As the Village has posted this information on our website, we will continue to provide updated information as it becomes available.
It is important to practice basic precautions, such as frequent hand washing and maintaining safe social distancing. Most recently we have all been urged to increase self-isolation and I recognize that this may be difficult in a community such as ours.

Within our Village we likely have individuals who are either ill or wish to stay at home, and this may also include some returning snowbirds or other travellers who are self-isolation.

As neighbours and friends, I am asking that if you are aware of such folk, to kindly contact them by telephone or Internet, and offer to run errands on their behalf, obtain their prescriptions, medicine, groceries or other necessary items, and deliver it to their home.

We can and should maintain reduced face-to-face contact but please continue to have regular contact with your family, neighbours and friends, using social media and telephone. Thank you for your understanding during these difficult times. The Village will update you on a regular basis.

Gordon Drybrough, **Mayor**