



# COUNCIL 2014 SPRING NEWSLETTER

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**Council Notes...**

***Crystal Springs Boat Rally***

*Save the Date: Saturday, August 9th, 2014*

Electronic versions of our newsletters are currently available by subscription on our web site. For those without computer access, the Newsletter is available for pick-up at the Summer Villages Office or by mail upon request.

***Happy Spring Everyone!***

Spring is so late this year that we even missed the usual date to get out the semi-annual Council news. We hope you don't mind waiting a few weeks because the extra time allows us to include news of recent events as well!

***Annual Information Meeting***

The Annual Information Meeting **has been rescheduled Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.** at the Crystal Springs Day Park. Last year the AIM scheduled for August owing to a possible election was moved up to July when council was acclaimed. We apologize to residents who missed the change in date. If you cannot make it to the meeting, please feel free to contact any of us on Council; we're happy to talk with you about what's happening

***Regional Wastewater Collection Systems***

After numerous meetings and negotiations, it is finally happening. We can all thank the following Ministers for their assistance and hard work with our regional sewer project Phase 1:

Wayne Drysdale – Minister of Transportation

Dianna McQueen – Minister of Energy (previously the Minister of Environment)

Verlyn Olson – Minister of Agriculture

We would also like to thank all those on the Regional Sewer Committee and the staff of the County of Wetaskiwin (Lead Municipality for the project) for their time and hard work on moving this project forward.

Special thanks go to Frank Coutney, CAO of the County of Wetaskiwin for his assistance and expertise.

The tenders went out and were awarded for the project. Construction has started on Phase 1 Part 2. The first part of Phase 1, the Mulhurst lagoon expansion was completed last year, now we are moving ahead with Part 2.

Part 2 is comprised of 2 pump stations and the physical sewer lines. The lines will run from the Mulhurst lagoon around to Westrose, with the expectation for completion by the end of October/2014.

You should be able to see the pipe being directionally drilled and installed on HWY 13, between the 2 turnoffs for Mameo Beach. One of the pump stations is being constructed north of Westeros. See your village website or the PLWA website for more details.

### ***Local Wastewater Collection System***

Crystal Springs Council has been busy gathering necessary information regarding our local collection line. Conceptual engineering reports were completed in 2009 and given that they are now five years old we need more current information. To that end, after learning about available funding in December, Crystal Springs Council applied for a Regional Collaboration Grant, with Mayor Doris Bell presenting the concept to County of Wetaskiwin Council on January 7<sup>th</sup>. The County and Summer Villages of Ma-Me-O, Norris Beach, Grandview and Poplar Bay passed resolutions agreeing to participate and the grant for \$248,000 was approved this spring. The purpose of the grant is to complete plans for the six southside municipalities contemplating local wastewater services which will connect to the regional line. As mentioned in previous newsletters, four aspects of the local projects include engineering specifications, governance, financing and communications. We have been meeting more frequently lately as the group considers consultations needed to move this project forward. We hope to inform you of more progress at the Annual Information Meeting.

### ***AltaGas***

Another construction project that you will notice is the replacement of older gas lines. Deputy Mayor Churchill and Administration met with representatives early this year, reminding officials that our summer season is short, asking that construction take place before June and after August so that residents can enjoy our community during the summer vacation months. We are not hopeful they will be able to accommodate our request and have been assured they will restore any upheaval to the roads repaired last year. Given that there has been at least one failure in the gas line recently, the replacement is a timely project that will promote public safety and we thank AltaGas for initiating this capital project.

### ***Watermere Project***

One project that is difficult to support is the Watermere project on the northwest of the lake. Councilor Pratt attended the Leduc Council meeting that passed first reading of the project. A public meeting is to be held shortly and everyone is encouraged to attend and make your views about Watermere known.

### ***Noxious Weeds***

This is the 5<sup>th</sup> year of the Himalayan Balsam Eradication Project at Pigeon Lake. Considerable success has been made in removing this prohibited noxious weed from our watershed. It is expected that there will be some plants showing up this summer, so if you see any, remember to "pull, break and drop." Recently, another noxious weed has started to become established on our shoreline: Creeping Bell Flower. This is an escaped ornamental and is very persistent. If you have this plant on your property, please keep it controlled by picking it.

### ***Recreation***

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Boat Rally will be held on August 9<sup>th</sup>, and plans are well under-way for another fun year! Thanks to the Commodore and First Mate, you're sure to be welcomed aboard at the Day Park. How can you help? **Please get your tickets as soon as they are available** --- we had 250 in attendance last year and this may be the year laggards won't get a ticket!

### ***A Last Note***

For sale signs are part of spring at the lake, but we want to take a moment to say 'good-bye' to friends and neighbors who are selling. We have enjoyed getting to know you, enjoyed your company and want you to know you will be missed.

To those who have recently purchased a property in Crystal Springs, hello! We look forward to meeting you and having you as part of our community.

To all residents and property owners in Crystal Springs --- have a wonderful summer at the lake!

***Doris, Grant, and Kevin***