

VILLAGE OF VILNA NEWSLETTER July, 2014

COUNCIL NOTES

- COPS (Citizens on Patrol) have been monitoring the Trail Washrooms. They have reported that there still is some vandalism, and occasionally they are still being used as a place to sleep. Grateful appreciation to the COPS members for their efforts. A special thanks for the work on trees and landscaping!!!!
- X-RAY Deputy Mayor Barry and CAO Loni Leslie attended several meetings with representatives from Alberta Health, Alberta Health Services, Alberta Municipal Affairs, Alberta Seniors, the Council on Aging, and the Community Health Council to express the Village's concern about not having an operational X-Ray machine at the Vilna Health Centre. We still don't have an answer from the Minister of Health in response to our many pleas to have the equipment replaced. Council has asked for a meeting directly with Minister Horne. No date has been set yet.
- SENIORS' BUS - The County has chosen to no longer retain ownership of the Seniors Transportation Bus. Ownership will be transferred to the Vilna Seniors Recreation Society and they are taking responsibility for its maintenance, scheduling, licensing and use. Thanks to the Seniors for stepping up to continue to provide this greatly needed service.
- FIRE DEPARTMENT / Village Staff - Members of the Village staff have chosen to serve the community as volunteers on the Fire Department. This may result in the office being closed when volunteers are needed to respond to an emergency. Council recognized this dedication and has put a policy in place authorizing this action.
- UTILITY RATE BYLAW. The Regional Water was connected on May 13, 2014. In order to address the new costs, Council has amended the Utility Rate Bylaw.

WATER

- A Base Rate to cover basic operational costs;
- Maintenance Costs set at **\$1.30** per cubic meter;
- Usage Rate set at the cost the Village is charged for the water. Currently the cost is **\$1.73** per cubic meter.

A review of the Charges and Costs will be made by year end if adjustments are needed, it will be done then.

MAKING VILNA GREEN Test program

Part of your garbage charges cover the cost to have the garbage transported to the Regional Landfill at Lafond and part of it covers the cost of the operation of the regional landfill site including digging and burying of the waste. A very small portion of the bill covers the cost of picking up your garbage and running the transfer site.

In an attempt to reduce the amount of garbage being hauled to the Regional Site for disposal, we are testing a "waste Reduction" program. Starting on Monday and every Monday thereafter your recyclables will be picked up. There are 4 categories of waste reduction:

Household hazardous waste:

- Spray cans,
- Solvent and household chemicals;
- Compact/florescent bulbs;
- Batteries – disposable and Rechargeable
- Plastic jugs, oil, windshield waster, weed killers, soap & rinse.

Metals:

- Satellite dish
- Small Household appliances (i.e. toaster, lamps stereos, coffee pots, etc.)
- Tin cans (**rinsed**)
- **Empty** paint cans.

Compost:

- Grass clippings *in bags* (no plastics or non-compostable materials added in)
- Household – vegetable scraps & potato peels.

Burnables:

- Cardboard (should be flattened and bundled)
- Paper (bundled)
- Clean wood (no furniture, upholstery, plywood or painted wood).

REMEMBER: Mondays are Recycling Days.

Place your recyclables beside garbage cans (not in them) for pick-up. With your cooperation maybe we can reduce the amount of waste going into the waste stream and keep our costs down. The program will end if there is not enough participation

Special Thanks to Mrs. Pelech and her Vilna School class for doing a Main Street Clean-up. What a wonderful example you have set for us all.

Wow, Thanks to the crew of volunteers (including some Veselka moms and more!) and donors for the lovely plants and planters on Main Street for the WILD PINK YONDER Ride for Breast Cancer visit in August. Your initiative and enthusiasm have brightened our down town. A really BIG thanks to Mrs. Jen Soch who has volunteered to water them all summer!! AND...to the person or persons who felt the need to steal the flower pots from the Cultural Centre, We hope each time you look at them your conscience eats at you.

CAMPFIRES AND FIREWORKS

Summer Season brings the wonderful opportunity for bar-b-ques and wiener roasts. Let's be mindful of the safety rules.

- Recreation fires are permitted as long as you contain the fire in a structured fire pit (regulations for size and site are in the Community Standards Bylaw ... check the Village of Vilna web page www.vilna.ca).
- Fireworks are not allowed within the Village without first obtaining a permit from the Fire Department. Fines will be issued.

DOGS

The Dog Catcher has taken 4 dogs to the pound because they were running at large. This was a drastic measure, but it seems that the owners have taken heed and are keeping their dogs closer to home.

WILD PINK YONDER The Alberta Cancer Foundation was quoted to say "Wild Pink Yonder is the largest grossing fundraising trail ride for the Alberta Cancer Foundation." Furthermore, it is one of the top ten community fundraisers in the Province of Alberta.

Wild Pink Yonder Trail Ride will be travelling the Iron Horse Trail in Smoky Lake County from Spedden to Warspite, stopping at each Village/Town. Part of the rider participation expectation is that they individually fundraise for the cause. Each community they pass through is asked to prepare a welcome celebration in combination with fund raising. Check out their website at <http://www.wildpinkyonder.com/>

The Ride will arrive in Vilna in the Afternoon of **Friday, August 22nd, 2014.** Keep your eye on the Trail for events that day!! The Vilna Ag Society ladies will host a **community supper from 5-7pm on Friday the 22nd, and a community breakfast from 9-11am on Saturday the 23rd, both at the Cultural Centre.** Come out and support the Ride!! All profits will be donated to Wild Pink Yonder for breast cancer research **Thank you** to them for volunteering their time and efforts!!! **Everyone welcome. (proceeds will go to the Cancer Society for Breast Cancer Research).**

Thank you to The Pool Hall Society for volunteering to donate the **Rider's bag lunches** for their ride west to Bellis!! And maybe **have a burger at the Pool Hall Saturday afternoon!!**

REMEMBER THE MORE PEOPLE WE HAVE OUT, THE MORE WE DONATE TO THE CAUSE!!!!!!

LET'S PINKIFY VILNA!!! 

LIBRARY NEWS

July is the beginning of the "21 Days To Healthy Eating" competition. Part 1.

July 17, 2014 (Thursday) is the FREE live Mary Lambert Concert, held at the library. 4:00 p.m. sharp.

August is "Random Acts of Physical Activity" challenge, Part 2.

Vilna Library is proud to introduce their new "No Money" fine program. Rather than paying a monetary fine, delinquent accounts can be paid by making a donation to the Food Bank.

If you have NEW or SLIGHTLY USED books that you don't have room for, consider donating them to the Vilna Library.

The Library is pleased to announce **Zinio Press Display** - instant access to newspapers throughout the world, and **Hoopla** - digital streaming service for online films, music and audio books.

NOTE: Library memberships have changed. All memberships are \$15.00 per person or family (regardless of the size of the family); Single Seniors, 65 or older, are \$10.00 per person.

August 31, 2014 Vilna COPS are hosting an Family Fun Event Day. Vilna COPS in collaboration with the Vilna Library are having a Bake Sale, with all proceeds to go to the COPS program.

The 4th Annual Cowboy Fest July 18-20 will feature Louisiana Hayride Show and a lot of wonderful local and western Alberta talent!! There are Posters all around town – come and check it out!!!! Go to www.vilnaagsociety.com for more information

♥ With heavy hearts we say goodbye to our friend and contract operator for the Village, Allan Marsh, who gave so much to Vilna in the short time he was here. Our deepest sympathies to his family.

The next Council Meeting will be July 28, 2014. There will be no August meeting. Regular Schedule of Council Meetings on 3rd Monday of each month will resume in September.

Cowboy Fest July 18 – 20, 2014
Boomtown Days August 16 & 17, 2014

Wild Pink Yonder Vilna – Ride for Cancer – August 22&23, 2014

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