

# Summer Village of Itaska Beach

#10 Norwood Close, Wetaskiwin AB T9A 1K2

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## 2014 PROJECTS

### Turn Around Expansion

The current turnaround area at the end of Itaska Beach was found to be insufficient to allow emergency vehicles and other large vehicles to safely turn and reverse their direction of travel.

Council worked with the Audubon Society to develop an Easement Agreement allowing the Summer Village to expand the turnaround area.

That area has been expanded to municipal standards. The majority of the work was completed in December, 2014, with finishing work, such as gravelling to be done in the spring of 2015.

### Widen Service Road

The access to the pump station for the sewer connection needed to be widened for service vehicles. Please note this area is not for private parking.

### Municipal Signage Project

We installed consistent signage to enhance the safety of residents and assist emergency vehicles to quickly find an address.

### Picnic Tables

New picnic tables were purchased for the annual picnic. A trailer has also been purchased to store and move the picnic tables. Looking forward to your helping setting up our new tables at next year's annual picnic on July 25, 2015!

## WEBSITE

- Need information on Council meeting dates, development permits, contact information?? Go to [www.itaska.ca](http://www.itaska.ca)

## GARBAGE CANS

- Please make sure to pull your garbage cans back onto your property after garbage collection, otherwise it interferes with snow collection. Thank you for your help with this!

## PLWA LETTER

- A copy of a letter received from the Pigeon Lake Watershed Association is included in this newsletter for your information on some of the work Council has been supporting and involved in regarding the health of the lake.



*Sample design of municipal sign*

## FERTILIZER BAN PENALTIES

Council originally wanted to make owners aware of the negative consequences to the environment and the lake by banning fertilizer use in Itaska Beach. That bylaw has been in place since 2008.

To help ensure that the fertilizer ban is followed, Council has now passed Bylaw #2014-02 which adds penalties if fertilizer is used in Itaska Beach. In order to give residents time to transition, if they have not

already done so, this bylaw will come into effect December 31, 2015. If you need help transitioning to a fertilizer free and healthy lawn, check out the resources at: <http://plwa.ca/pages/healthy-lake>

## HISTORY AS A LEADER

A current Council directive is to be a municipal leader—in finding or creating best practices and implementing solutions that benefit Itaska Beach as well as surrounding communities.

A few examples since I have joined Itaska to note include the work done with the Province during the potential dissolution of Summer Villages, the regional contracts joined through collectively working with neighbouring municipalities, the

Regional Emergency Management Agency, and the culture of Itaska residents overall—in their willingness to find solutions to help the lake, and to work together to help each other.

I recently discovered that Itaska Beach has a history of being a leader. Excerpt from the ASVA 2013 Annual Report: “On November 5<sup>th</sup>, 1958, supported by the Itaska Summer Village Council, Charles D. Denney organized the first meeting of 33 individuals representing eleven

summer villages. The organization known today as the Association of Summer Villages of Alberta (ASVA) was launched. Today, the ASVA has 100% membership of all 51 Summer Villages located in Alberta. Their Mission is Through Advocacy, Communication and Education, the ASVA empowers summer villages in achieving strong and effective local government.”

*The Minister’s Award for Smaller Municipalities was won by the Pigeon Lake Summer Villages REMP*

## AWARD WINNING REGIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

At the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association Conference, The 2014 Minister’s Awards for Municipal Excellence were given out by the Honourable Diana McQueen, Minister of Municipal Affairs.

The “Smaller Municipalities Award” was won by the Pigeon Lake Summer Villages Regional Emergency Management Plan (REMP).

The first of its kind in Alberta, the REMP demonstrates the

ability for several small communities to work collaboratively and successfully towards the completion of an important project. All 10 Summer Villages on Pigeon Lake have developed this partnership to ensure that they are prepared to meet emergency needs that exceed normal operating functions.

Together the summer villages have hired a Director of Emergency Management. The goal of the REMP is to prevent or minimize losses to people, property and the environment in emergency situations.





Pigeon Lake Watershed Association  
Box 1353  
Calmar, Alberta  
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October 23, 2014

Summer Village of Itaska  
10 Norwood Close  
Wetaskiwin, Alberta  
T9A 1K2

Thank you for your generous unrestricted donation of \$4,150.00 to the Pigeon Lake Watershed Association (PLWA). Your commitment to helping improve the watershed and the lake is greatly appreciated by us, and benefits all of the lake's residents and visitors, who live, work and play at Pigeon Lake.

We invite you to use the wealth of information about the lake and the on-going work for the lake at [www.plwa.ca](http://www.plwa.ca).

In addition to this donation, we acknowledge that Itaska demonstrates the on-going municipal leadership and collaborative participation in the work for the health of the lake that is required. With our latest grant application to the Alberta Ecotrust turned down your willingness to partner with us on a municipal grant application is even more critical, as two municipalities are now required. Rex's on-going participation on the PLWMP steering committee is valued for many reasons the least being that he demonstrates the partnership that needs to occur between the municipalities and the watershed for the health of the lake.

Please note that the 2015 AGM will be Aug 22<sup>nd</sup> and the date of the next annual Leaders' Session will be set at our next board meeting.

The PLWA will be producing our annual Progress Report for the municipalities to show where the contributions received will be used and come January will we be looking to set up our annual meeting with you and will welcome any suggestions that could enhance our collaboration at that time.

Again, **thank you**. Pigeon Lake is one of the most beautiful aquatic resources in Alberta, and the SV of Itaska's financial support will assist in ensuring that it continues to provide enjoyment for us all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Susan Ellis", is placed over a light grey rectangular background.

Susan Ellis, PLWA President  
On behalf of the Board, of the Pigeon Lake Watershed Association