



Your *Village* *Voice*

The Village of Bawlf Newsletter
Volume 6, Issue #7 (July, 2009)

**Next Council
meeting:**

Wednesday, July 15th
at the Community
Centre, 7 PM

The public is welcome
to attend all Council
meetings. If you
would like to address
Council, please contact
the Village Office by
noon on
Thursday, July 9th to
arrange a time.

Mayor's message



Thank you, Mr. Bowie

Excerpt from Mayor Iwanus's remarks at the Principal Doug Bowie retirement celebration held at Bawlf School on June 12, 2009:

We at the Village of Bawlf want to thank you from the bottom our hearts, Mr. Bowie, for being so open and so willing to work with Council to strengthen our relationship so that both the School and the community benefit today and in the years to come.

There have been any number of projects on which we have collaborated, including the School participating in the Village clean-up, the Grade 6 "Mayor for a Day" contest, the beverage container pick-up, and many more. All of these show so clearly your unwavering belief that the School and the community are one and that good citizenship begins, not in adulthood, but in our most formative years.

On a personal note, I want to say that all that is good about the small rural school is plain to see when you stand on that stage at the Class Farewell every year and talk about each and every one of the graduating students on a personal basis and I know the reason you can do this is because you have spent the time *getting to know* those students. I have but one regret as we bid you farewell and it is that my daughter, Jillian, won't have the opportunity to share the stage with you when she graduates in 2014.

God bless you as you tackle the next stage of your life, and know that your legacy in both this school and this community will be cherished and celebrated for many years to come.

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Bawlf Public Library Children's Summer Reading Program

The Bawlf Public Library Children's Summer Reading Program will run July 20 to 23 from 2 to 3 PM at the Bawlf Community Centre. Fun crafts and reading activities for children ages 5 - 12. Register at the Village of Bawlf Office by July 13. Please note: the library will reopen in the fall once renovations are complete.

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Fire Ban Information

The fire ban in the Village limits has been lifted. On the basis of input from the Fire Chief, as well as Village residents, Council decided at its June 17th meeting that decisions on future fire bans would be made by the Village Manager in consultation with the Fire Chief. Residents would be informed via the Village website, the Village entrance sign, and a phone fan-out.

Education Property Tax Assistance for Seniors Program

The “Education Property Tax Assistance for Seniors” program provides a rebate to assist senior homeowners with the year-to-year increases in the education portion of their property taxes. The program is **not** based on income.

To be eligible for the program, you must be:

- 65 years of age or older,
- an Alberta resident,
- own residential property in Alberta, and
- you have had an increase in the education portion of your property taxes.

A “base year” is set to determine eligibility for a rebate. The rebate amount is the difference in the education tax amount between the base year and the amount in following years. For most seniors enrolled in the program the base year is 2004. If you turned 65 after 2004, your base year will be the year before you turned 65. In general, if you have moved since 2004, your base year will be established using your first full year’s property tax notice.

Senior homeowners who have never applied to the Alberta Seniors Benefit program should complete an application for the “Education Property Tax Assistance for Seniors” program (available either at www.seniors.gov.ab.ca/financial_assistance/eptasp/ or at the Bawlf Village Office). A copy of your property tax notices should be included with your application. You only need to apply once. Rebate cheques are mailed starting in the summer after the property tax notices have been issued.

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Lawn Watering Restrictions

Also a reminder with regard to watering restrictions in the Village of Bawlf (By-law 563/08): residents are restricted to watering their lawns between the hours of 7 PM – 10AM (i.e., no mid-day watering allowed). ***Violators will be subject to significant fines.***

There seems to be some confusion regarding the purpose of the watering restrictions. These restrictions are in place **to ensure that lawns are not watered in the heat of the day, when the water is wasted due to evaporation.** They are not meant to prevent people from washing cars or children from running through sprinklers. At this time, we do not consider it necessary to implement any other type of restrictions but as ever, common-sense conservation is strongly encouraged.

Did you know...

The members of the Bawlf Fire Department raised funds of their own accord in order to purchase a pressure washer, which they are each allowed to access for personal use anytime they wish. So, if you see members of the Department washing their own vehicles in front of the fire hall, please be aware that they are within their right to do so and are not using Village equipment.

Regional Children’s Centre Update

No official announcement yet. Keep watching this space or check the Village website.

Questions? Contact Tammy Albers at 780-373-2421 or Christine Ginther at 780-672-8262.

Hey, kids! Summer in the Park is coming to Bawlf again!

Thursdays: July 9th, 16th, 23rd, & 30th and August 6th & 13th. 10 AM to 2 PM. Come to the Park for arts & crafts, games, leadership activities, and so much more. The program is FREE. Children must be 5 by June 30, 2009; there is no upper age limit. For further information, call 780-672-0141. Registration is already underway and continues throughout the summer program (please have child's AHC#). CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS ARE WELCOME.

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News and Notes

A reminder to keep your lawns mowed. Those who do not maintain a reasonable level of yard maintenance could be subject to fines under By-law 558-08 (nuisances and unsightly premises). *Everyone is also reminded that it is each resident's responsibility to mow lawn on boulevards and in alleyways adjacent to the property in which you are residing or for which you are otherwise responsible.*

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Also a reminder to those who are tempted to use excessive speed on any of the roads within Village limits, particularly gravel roads: did you ever consider that, aside from the fact that the gravel and dust that you kick up ends up in other people's yards, you stand a serious risk of hitting someone's child or pet? *Is this a risk you're willing to take?* Be aware that, if you are seen disobeying the law in this way, there's a pretty good chance that you'll find a uniformed visitor at your door. **PLEASE CONSIDER THE SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF YOUR FELLOW VILLAGERS.**

By-laws that were given first reading at the June 17th Council meeting:

By-law 567/09 - a by-law to authorize the borrowing of funds to undertake repairs to the Village wastewater lagoon.

The Village invites comments on proposed by-laws after first reading. Copies of these by-laws are available on the Village's website at www.bawlf.com or at the Village Office.

July, 2009 Calendar	Village of Bawlf Council Members
July 1: Happy Canada Day!	<i>Mayor Jerry Iwanus</i> (780-373-2263 or jiwanus@bawlf.com)
July 9: Summer in the Park, 10 AM-2PM	<i>Deputy Mayor Darrell Szott</i> (780-373-2517 or dszott@bawlf.com)
July 15: Village Council, 7 PM	<i>Councillor Jody Yuha</i> (780-373-3806 or jyuha@bawlf.com)
July 16: Summer in the Park, 10 AM-2PM	<i>Councillor Reta Porter</i> (780-373-2448 or rporter@bawlf.com)
July 20-23: Library Children's Summer Reading Program, 2-3 PM	<i>Councillor Gord Blatz</i> (780-373-3733 or gblatz@bawlf.com)
July 23: Summer in the Park, 10 AM-2PM	* * * * *
July 30: Summer in the Park, 10 AM-2PM	"A search for what we can get from life is never as fulfilling as a search for what life expects from us."
* * * * *	Dr. John Izzo
<p><i>A very Happy 60th Wedding Anniversary (July 31st) to Kore and Lil Bohmer from Village of Bawlf Council and Administration. Many happy returns!</i></p>	

Municipal Sustainability Community Consultation a Resounding Success

The Municipal Sustainability Plan Community Consultation, held on June 23 at the Bawlf Community Centre, was a resounding success. Attendees offered many excellent suggestions and displayed a true appreciation of our Village and the way of life that it represents . Thank you to everyone who took the time to attend and offer their opinions on securing Bawlf's future. We will keep everyone informed regarding the Municipal Sustainability Plan's progress over the next few months.

LOOKING FOR A JOB?

Visit the Camrose Service Canada Centre for Youth (SCCY)!

- Access to Internet, fax, and phones;
- Job postings from employers in Camrose and area;
- Assistance with résumés, cover letters and interview skills;
- Information on Government of Canada programs and services, wage rates, health and safety in the workplace and employment standards.

**Visit the Camrose SCCY
between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm at
4901 50 Avenue (above the Post Office)
Call 780-672-0505 Fax 780-672-1440
Email: sccy.camrose@servicecanada.gc.ca**