



Your *Village* Voice

The Village of Bawlf Newsletter
Volume 6, Issue #5 (May, 2010)

Next Council meeting:

May 19th at the Village
Office, 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 May 13th to
arrange a time.

Mayor's message by Mayor Jerry Iwanus



2010 is a year in which old is new again. In Bawlf, we used to have a series of flat taxes, which are a set amount that everyone pays for specific services, such as **parks and recreation, fire protection, and street maintenance.** These were eliminated some years back in order to re-jig the mil rate so that we would be eligible for certain grants that were available at that time.

The idea of the flat tax is that everyone should pay a minimum amount of tax regardless of property value because everyone is entitled to the same minimum level of service. Now, our flat taxes (as per **By-law 569/09**) have not been set nearly as high as those in some other municipalities but, in the interests of fairness, we thought that some level of minimum tax is necessary. The bottom line is that many people will see either no (or very little) tax increase, while some of the smaller or older houses (including ours) will see some increase this year.

However, with regard to taxes, I think it's important that everyone realizes the role that the Provincial Government has played in any increases to which you might be subjected. I know I sound like a broken record because I found myself having to say the same thing last year. However, in 2007, the Province rolled out its Municipal Sustainability Initiative, which would consolidate a number of grants into two payments: one for operating and one for capital projects. These were designed to provide some consistency and dependability in municipal funding. Yet, in the past two years, there has been either a cut to MSI funding, an increase to the education portion of the property tax, or both. **This year, the combined cut to MSI and increase in the education tax amounts to about \$14,000, which is a huge amount of money for a small municipality; this is an average of \$82 per household in Bawlf.**

Council and I feel that, if the Province needs to balance its books via a combination of cuts and tax increases, it should do so directly, and not via the municipalities. While the Provincial Government will tell you that they've not raised taxes this year, the fact is that they have: they're simply doing it through the municipalities and leaving us to handle it and explain it to our ratepayers.

If this is a concern to you, I strongly urge you to contact either Mr. Griffiths, our MLA (780-422-5369 or 780-842-6177), or Premier Stelmach (780-427-2251 or 780-632-6840) – they need to know how these decisions affect us.

Bawlf School Recycling Drive

(paid recyclables only -- including plastic milk jugs!)

Date of this month's pick-up: Wednesday, May 26th

Items to be at the curb in front of your house by 11:45 AM. Area rural residents who wish to participate can bring their items to the door of the bus storage shed north of the school.

Questions? Call Bawlf School at 780-373-3784

Village Clean-Up and Community Barbeque will be held on Tuesday May 4th or, if the weather is poor, Thursday, May 6th. *Come lend a hand & join us afterward for a hot dog!*

- Bawlf School students will once again go around the village during the day and pick up garbage.
- If anyone has old appliances or something they would like picked up, please call the Village Office at 780-373-3797 to make arrangements. All landfill fees for fridges and deep freezes will be charged to the owner.
- We will require volunteers to help pick up the garbage the students have collected and to help load appliances and various other items. We will load the Village trucks with items to go to the Camrose landfill, but we would appreciate people bringing their personal trucks to help haul the garbage bags to the Kelsey Transfer Site.
- We'll gather at the Fire Hall at 6 PM, where the Village will be serving hot dogs & ice cream throughout the evening.

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Bawlf School Kindergarten Registration - Kindergarten is for children who will be five years of age before March 1, 2011. *Please come and register your child at the school office or call the school office at 373-3784 for more information as soon as possible. Birth certificates are required* as part of the registration package.

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Congratulations to Bawlf High School's 2010 graduands! Students at Bawlf School continue to make our community proud and we wish this year's graduating class all the success and fulfillment they could ever imagine. **Class farewell will take place on Saturday, May 22nd in the School gymnasium, 7 PM.**

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By-laws that were given first reading at the April 21st Council meeting:

By-law 572/10: a by-law to establish several rates of taxation for 2010 (mil rates)

By-law 573/10: a by-law to authorize borrowing for upgrades to the sewer lift station

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.

May, 2010 Calendar	Village of Bawlf Council Members
May 4: Village clean-up (Fire Hall, 6 PM)	<i>Mayor Jerry Iwanus</i> (780-373-2263 or jiwanus@bawlf.com)
May 6: Village clean-up (alternate date)	<i>Deputy Mayor Darrell Szott</i> (780-373-2517 or dszott@bawlf.com)
May 8: Village-wide garage sale, 9 AM to 4 PM	<i>Councillor Jody Yuha</i> (780-373-3806 or jyuha@bawlf.com)
May 9: Lions Mother's Day breakfast (Community Centre, 8 AM to noon)	<i>Councillor Reta Porter</i> (780-373-2448 or rporter@bawlf.com)
May 19: Village Council, 7 PM	<i>Councillor Gord Blatz</i> (780-373-3733 or gblatz@bawlf.com)
May 22: BHS Class Farewell (Gym, 7 PM)	* * * * * "If you, as community leaders, are not breaking precedents, then you're not really leading."
May 24: Victoria Day	<i>His Worship Mayor Lin Lawson, Town of Daysland</i>
May 26: School recycling drive (items at the curb by 11:45 AM)	

Council meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at the Village Office, 7 PM.

Website: www.bawlf.com **e-mail:** vilbawlf@syban.net **ph:** 780-373-3797 **fax:** 780-373-3798

News & Notes

Once again, the Bawlf Lions are hosting the **Mother's Day breakfast on Sunday, May 9th**, 8 AM to 12 noon at the Bawlf Community Centre. Adults \$7; Ages 6 to 12 \$4; Preschool Free.

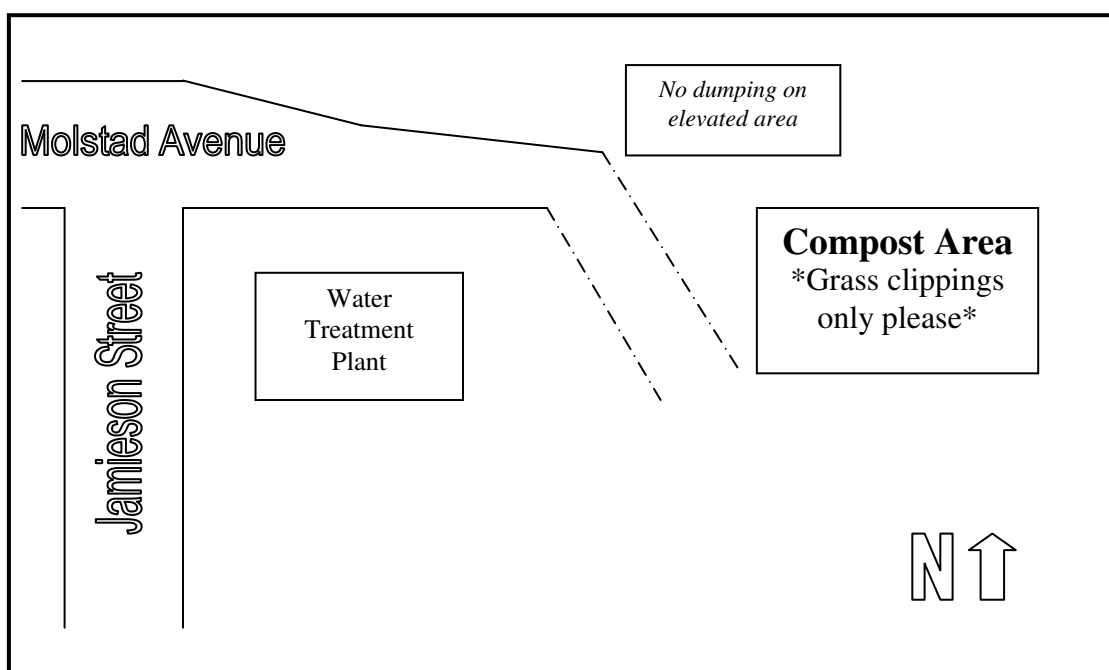
Thanks to everyone who attended the Village of Bawlf Annual General meeting on April 22nd. Unfortunately, due to a required change in audit requirements, the auditors were not able to have a completed 2009 financial statement ready for distribution at that time. **The audited financial statement should be available on line and at the Village Office by the middle of June.** Our apologies for any inconvenience that this has caused. For a copy of the **"State of the Village"** address, please contact the Village Office or go to www.bawlf.com, where the speech is available as a hard copy (viewable form to be posted within the next two weeks).

Bawlf Community Builders planting work bee and meeting, Thursday, May 20th. Meet at 7 PM at the Village Fire Hall, where we will be putting together 6 pots of flowers and placing them on Hanson (Main) Street. **We have formed teams to tend to the garden areas at the Village entrance sign, the post office, and the Village Office/Library.** BCB meeting afterward at the Bawlf Country Store. There are many ways to help, either occasionally or on a regular basis. We would also like to encourage all residents to support the beautification of Bawlf in our own yards, in our own way, this summer! For further information, contact Michele Iwanus at 780-373-2263.

On that same note, a reminder to residents, now that spring is here, to clean up your yard. This refers to, among other things, mattresses, appliances, equipment, old vehicles, etc., much of which can be removed via community assistance on Village clean-up day, May 4th. (Unightly premises and nuisances are governed by **By-law 558/08**, which contains a complete list of items or situations that could constitute an infraction. The bylaw is available at the Village Office or at www.bawlf.com). Village policy is to prosecute infractions **only** on the basis of written complaints; i.e., with the exception of some specific situations, the By-law Enforcement Officer is not authorized to issue a citation for By-law 558/08 on his own initiative. However, **the Village itself can lodge complaints if it deems it in the public interest to do so.** We all want to live in a village of which we can be proud. Do *your* part to make it that way.

Composting Area

Grass clippings will be accepted directly east of the Water Treatment Plant. Please remove the plastic bags and/or boxes that you transported your clippings in. If you are able, please spread the clippings out for ease of roto-tilling.



Did you know? – Centra Cam provides residents of the region with the opportunity to **recycle used electronics**. However, they accept only computer monitors and televisions. Other working electronics can be donated to the emergency shelter.

DAYSLAND PALACE THEATRE

Movie Information Line: 780-374-3774

SHOW TIMES: Friday & Saturday 8 PM Sunday 7 PM

May 7, 8 & 9

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON Rated: PG (Violence)

Animated adventure. A young Viking finds that dragons may not be the enemies the other villagers believe them to be.

May 14, 15 & 16

SHUTTER ISLAND Rated: 14A

Coarse language, disturbing content, not recommended for children

Starring: Leonardo DiCaprio, Mark Ruffalo

Drama/mystery. In 1954 two U.S. Marshalls investigate the mysterious disappearance of a patient at an island institution for the criminally insane.

REEL ALTERNATIVE

Thursday May 20 8 p.m.

FOOD INC. Rated: G

Documentary. An unflattering look inside America's corporate controlled food industry.

May 21, 22 & 23

THE BOUNTY HUNTER Rated: PG

Violence, Sexual content

Starring: Gerard Butler, Jennifer Aniston

Action/comedy. A bounty hunter receives the assignment to bring in his ex-wife, a reporter trying to uncover the truth behind the death of a police officer.

May 28, 29 & 30

ALICE IN WONDERLAND (2010) Rated: PG

Frightening scenes, not recommended for young children.

Starring: Johnny Depp, Anne Hathaway, Mia Wasikowska

Fantasy. When Alice falls into Wonderland, she finds not only the strange creatures from her recurring dreams, but also that she has a destiny to fulfill

Bawlf's Annual Community Garage Sale Saturday, May 8th, 2010, 9 AM to 4 PM

Please call the Village Office prior to May 5th
to register your sale and/or to book a table
in the Bawlf Curling Rink (\$10.00 per table)

Maps with the location of all registered sales will be printed and copies will be available at each registered sale. For more information, please call the Village Office at 780-373-3797

Note that the Bawlf School Band executive has booked a table for the community garage sale, with monies to go to band clinic for next year

The Band executive is desperate for items to be donated. Donated items (already priced) can be dropped off at the Bawlf Curling Rink on Friday, May 7th, 4-8 PM

The Band executive is also looking for parents & students to volunteer manning the table on Saturday from 9 AM to 4 PM

For further information, contact Michelle Beattie at 780-373-3447

Community bridal shower for Dustin Welch and Tanya Terway on May 7th at 7 PM at the Bawlf Lutheran Church. Ladies Please bring Lunch.

Council meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at the Village Office, 7 PM.

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