Saprae Creek Newsletter

July 2018

# SAPRAE CREEK NEWSLETTER July 2018





Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo

www.rmwb ca

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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August Newsletter Deadline: July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018

#### SAPRAE CREEK RESIDENTS SOCIETY

AnnMarie Hintz, Chair	780-881-2958
Tracy Unger, Vice-Chair	780-743-3360
Tanya Poulin Secretary	780-715-6867
Marilyn Rustad, <i>Treasurer</i>	780-715-4960
Brittany lanetti, Youth Director	780-881-4061
Shannon Sherk, Director	

Saprae Creek Residents Society 215 Freestone Way, Fort McMurray T9H 5B4

Email: sapraecreek@gmail.com



Municipal Switchboard 1-800-973-9663 RCMP 780-788-4000

By-Law: 780-762-5858 Pulse Line: 780-743-7000 Fish & Wildlife: 780-743-7200 SPCA: 780-743-8997 Health link: 811

For Septic Services: Call Andrew March @ Day Time :780-743-7000 After Hours: 780-598-6025



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# **Councillor Report**

#### July 2018 Saprae

Happy Canada Day! As the trees and grass are enjoying the wet weather the last few days, I hope that everyone will be enjoying the festivities at MacDonald Island.

Congratulations to all of the students who are moving on to the next grade, received honours or are graduating. You should be proud of your accomplishments and hard work.

I attended the FCM conference last month in Halifax and although it is geared toward all municipalities in Canada, it felt like the focus was more toward the larger centres in central Canada. I felt that the AUMA and the RMA (AAMDC) conferences in Alberta were more productive. I did get to listen to all the party leaders as they addressed the members. All three were well spoken and carried themselves with dignity.

As representatives of the RMWB, we hosted a thank you breakfast for the mayor and council of the region of Cape Breton, NS. The communities in Cape Breton raised over \$250,000 for the RMWB during the fire and evacuation of 2016. We wanted to show our appreciation and say thank you. We had a lovely breakfast and presented them with a dish made from glass recovered after the fire.

There is only one more council meeting before summer break and I believe we're off until the end of August. I'm staying in the region for most of the summer and as always available via phone or email.

Please have patience with the extensive construction in Saprae and watch out for each other. Remind your young people to be cautious around the heavy equipment as the operators may not see them. Finally, if you see a bear on your travels, please let the workers know, so they are aware.

Until next time Sheila



Rural non-residential small businesses can now apply to receive new tax savings. Qualifying rural non-residential small businesses can receive a 25 per cent reduction from the rural non-residential tax rate. To qualify, properties must meet criteria outlined in provincial regulation, specifically:

- Currently taxed as rural non-residential;
- Property must be owned or leased by a business (properties subleased are excluded);
- Business must hold an RMWB Business Licence as of December 31, 2017\*;
- Business must have fewer than 50 employees across Canada; and
- Business must not be a designated industrial property as identified by the Provincial Assessor.

\*If your business is located within the rural service area and provincial legislation does not require you to hold an RMWB business licence, please contact Philip Schofield, Regional Assessor, at <u>philip.schofield@rmwb.ca</u>.

For more information or to apply, please visit rmwb.ca/taxes.

# RMWB <u>Online Payments</u> NOW AVAILABLE!

You can now pay your RMWB utility (water) bills, ambulance bills and general trade invoices online by credit card. Visit **pay.rmwb.ca** to learn more or make a payment today.







# CALL FOR ARTWORK

The Municipality is seeking artwork submissions that interpret the **94 Calls to Action** from the **Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Calls to Action Report.** 

Selected artwork will be digitized and used in the Municipal Response to the TRC Calls to Action report. This project aims to support reconciliation efforts and initiatives between the RMWB and Indigenous peoples within the region.

The call for artwork is open to artists of all ages. Applicants must be a current resident of Wood Buffalo. The deadline for submissions is Friday, August 31 at 4 p.m.

To find complete details, the entry form or to submit your artwork online, visit rmwb.ca/TRC. For more information, contact trc.art@rmwb.ca or 780-762-3669



#### Bylaw Services: Nuisance Property Bylaw

In keeping our region beautiful, Bylaw Services reminds residents of their responsibility as home and business owners to ensure the upkeep of their property.

Unkempt properties are not only unsightly, they're hazardous to the property owner and those who enter and surround the area. They can also be costly; if a property doesn't meet the standards of the Municipality, property owners can be fined under the **Nuisance Property Bylaw**.

What justifies a property being a nuisance? Under the bylaw, the broad definition of nuisance is any activity upon property that is offensive to any person, or has/may have a detrimental impact upon any person or other property. The

specifics of nuisance properties include:

- a) Failure to cut grass or weeds.
- b) Failure to destroy restricted weeds, control noxious weeds or prevent the spread or scattering of nuisance weeds.
- c) Growth of trees or shrubs in such a manner that they interfere with or endanger visibility to street signage or sidewalk and roadway clearance.
- d) The causing of opaque or dense smoke and permitting such smoke to be emitted into the atmosphere for a period more than six minutes in any one hour, or at a point other than the opening to the atmosphere of the flue, stack or chimney, unless specifically authorized by Council by resolution or bylaw.
- e) Generation of excessive dust and permitting such dust to escape from the property.
- f) Use of any pesticide or herbicide that has significant detrimental or environmental effect on surrounding areas.
- g) Failure to control or eliminate insect pests harmful to the growth and development of trees and shrubs or any vegetable or plant life.
- h) Storage or accumulation of dilapidated vehicles or the storage of vehicles more than the number of vehicles permitted under the Land Use Bylaw.
- i) Storage or accumulation of or failure to dispose of discarded or dilapidated furniture or household appliances, scrap metals, scrap lumber, tires, and motor vehicle parts.
- j) Failure to dispose of any rubbish or garbage accumulated upon any property.
- k) Posting or exhibiting of posters, signs, billboards, placards, writings or pictures upon any fence or wall or any other property or parked vehicle, where the same are accumulated and become dilapidated and unsightly.
- l) Any litter.
- m) Failure to control any offensive odour.
- n) Failure to remove any animal waste or defecation.

To report unkempt properties or if you have questions or feedback on ensuring the beauty of Wood Buffalo neighbourhoods, contact Bylaw Services at 780-762-5858. To view the entirety of the Nuisance Property Bylaw, visit **rmwb.ca/bylaws**.

# *Thank You* for making it count!

Your census information is essential for delivering core services in our communities.

For each person counted in Census 2018, more than \$200 of grant money will flow into the region from the provincial and federal governments.



Thank you for taking part in the first municipal census since the 2016 wildfire. Official population figures will be shared publicly this fall.

Stay tuned for updates at rmwb.ca/census



#### **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

NOTICE is hereby given that the Council of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo has scheduled a Public Hearing to take place on Monday, July 9, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Jubilee Centre Council Chamber, Fort McMurray, regarding the following:

#### Cannabis Legalization in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo: Bylaw No. 18/014 – Land Use Bylaw Amendment – Cannabis Bylaw No. 18/015 – Smoking and Vaping Bylaw Bylaw No. 18/016 – License Bylaw Amendment

The Federal and Provincial governments have introduced legislation to legalize, regulate, and restrict access to recreational cannabis. In preparation for this pending legalization, the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo Administration has researched regulations and best practices in other cities in and outside of Canada, engaged with the public and analyzed available options for retail locations, as well as taking part as a member of a provincial round table regarding legalization. This work has informed necessary changes to the Land Use Bylaw, Smoke Free Bylaw, and License Bylaw.

#### Bylaw No. 18/014 - Land Use Bylaw Amendment - Cannabis

Bylaw No. 18/014 proposes to add several definitions to the Land Use Bylaw relative to the sale, use and production of cannabis, and outlines such things as the districts within which these uses are allowed, the minimum separation distances from particular amenities such a schools and hospitals, and the allowances for the growing of cannabis plants for personal use.

#### Bylaw No. 18/015 – Smoking and Vaping Bylaw

Bylaw No. 18/015 outlines the proposed regulations and prohibitions, required signage, penalties, and enforcement with respect to the consumption and use of cannabis in public places. This Bylaw also proposes to repeal and replace Smoke Free Bylaw No. 07/042.

#### Bylaw No. 18/016 – License Bylaw Amendment

Bylaw No. 18/016 proposes to add cannabis related business as a category of business in the License Bylaw. It further outlines regulations surrounding the approval of cannabis related business licenses, the requirements for operating a cannabis related business, definitions of offences, and business license fees.

A copy of the above-noted Bylaws and all related documents may be inspected by contacting the Planning and Development Department (309 Powder Drive, Timberlea Landing); or Legislative Services (7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Jubilee Centre), between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday. Bylaw Nos. 18/014, 18/015 and 18/016 are also available on the Municipality's website at <u>www.rmwb.ca/hearings</u>.

#### If you would like to appear before Council:

- You must forward a request to the Chief Legislative Officer, clearly stating your support or opposition of the Bylaws, along with any related information, by:
  - Registering on-line at <u>www.rmwb.ca/publichearingsubmission;</u>
  - Emailing <u>Legislative.Assistants@rmwb.ca</u>; or
  - Calling Legislative Services at 780-743-7001;
- Ensure that your correspondence includes your address, and a telephone number or e-mail address at which you may be contacted.
- All submissions must be received by the Chief Legislative Officer by **12:00 noon**, **Wednesday**, **July 4, 2018**.

# Please note any information you submit to Council for their consideration at Public Hearings is added in its entirety to the agenda, which is made available to the public and posted on the Municipality's website.

DATED at Fort McMurray, Alberta, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2018.

Audrey Rogers Chief Legislative Officer Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo 9909 Franklin Avenue Fort McMurray, AB T9H 2K4 Phone: (780) 743-7001 Fax: (780) 743-7028 Email: Legislative.Assistants@rmwb.ca Saprae Creek Newsletter

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# Saprae Creek Bike Safety Event

Where? Vista Ridge All Seasons Park

When? July 12<sup>th</sup> at 1pm

# Bring your bicycles and helmets!

Damaged and expired helmets will be replaced for free!

Hosted by Safe Community Wood Buffalo, a charitable organization focused on injury prevention in Wood Buffalo!



## **Community Calendar**

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1 HAPPY CANADA DAY	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 Bike Safety Event	13	14
15	16	17	18 Board Meeting	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Saprae Creek's ON-GOING FUNCTIONS:

**Mondays Nights:** Saprae Creek Volunteer Fire Department Training **Wednesday Mornings:** The HUB 10-11:30pm No programs for July.

\*\*\*BOARD MEETING July 18th 2018\*\*\*