

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

- CAO News
- Village Recreation
- Easter Holiday
- Utility Bills
- Covid-19 Links
- FL Public Library

**Village of
Fraser Lake
Recreation**

Has Been
Cancelled Until
Further Notice

**EASTER
HOLIDAY**

The Village Office
and
Public Works
will be closed on
Friday April 10th
and
Monday April 13th
for Easter
Weekend.

UTILITY BILLS

The Village utility
bills will be sent out
soon and are due
May 31st. Watch
for yours in your
mailbox.

Village News

APRIL 2020

FROM THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Interesting and Unprecedented Times:

These are uncertain and challenging times and I hope you and your loved ones are well. With the appearance of the Coronavirus, we are experiencing new challenges and significant changes to the way we work, attend school and interact in community settings. Over the past couple of weeks, the usual sights and sounds of people active in their daily routines have reduced to little more than a trickle of activity. I am thankful for our community's conscientious response to these circumstances.

As your local government, the Village of Fraser Lake is committed to our community's health and function. We have taken steps to ensure the integrity of community services such as potable water supply, sanitary sewer, garbage collection and road maintenance. We've ordered additional supplies in support of these services as a safeguard to any disruption in the supply chain. We've reviewed our staffing requirements to ensure we can sustain services. We are working to ensure our first responders are informed and equipped with the necessary personal protective equipment to safely perform their duties. Our information gathering includes what is happening both outside our community and within. We are regularly in touch with our local businesses to ensure we are aware of potential supply challenges. I am happy to report any challenges have been minimal. As a community we are doing well. We are well prepared.

As circumstances evolve, being informed is key to our success. Members of

Village Council and Staff participate in daily conference calls with Health Authorities, Emergency Management BC and other municipalities. This work helps us keep pace with developments, new initiatives and best practices from other communities. Maintaining this level of awareness will support the best outcomes for our community.

The measures required to support public health are impacting our local businesses. Prior to the Coronavirus, friends met for coffee or maybe even lunch. Families went out for dinner. Backyard projects and home renovations were planned and undertaken. Groceries and other commodities were a daily purchase. It is important to know our local businesses are still open for business. Our restaurants can rustle you up your favorite meal or treat for pick up or delivery. Both grocery stores are well stocked. Local delivery is available as you need it. Ace Hardware, the Medicine Centre, Post Office and Liquor Store are also open. I'm apologizing to those businesses not mentioned. The point I hope to convey is our local businesses are available to you. The way business is conducted may have changed due to Coronavirus, but our community is still open and in need of your business.

When participating on the various conference calls or watching the 6:00 pm news, I hear almost daily reminders of the importance of taking care of ourselves. These are stressful times. Ensuring you are eating well, getting enough sleep and getting daily exercise is important to your overall health. These good habits will moderate the impacts of any stress you may be experiencing during this time. Each of these can be accomplished while adhering to the requirements for social or physical distancing. Getting out for a walk, snowshoeing, a bike ride or

one of the many other forms of physical activity will lighten your day. We've been fortunate to have had some very sunny weather this month. For me, these sunny days recharge my internal battery. If you can, be kind to yourself. Get outside. Get active. Maintain your distance from others but ensure you maintain both your physical and mental health. We have received several phone calls from concerned parents about children not maintaining the recommended physical distances recommended by the Health Authorities while playing together. Although our playgrounds are covered in snow, as it recedes, playgrounds will likely become attractive places to meet up with friends. Some communities have chosen to close their playgrounds to offset the challenges associated with social distancing and regular sanitizing of the structures. Dr. Henry and Northern Health have not recommended the closure of outdoor playgrounds. Dr. Henry discourages large groups of children playing together. However, if your children are playing as a family unit, use of the outdoor equipment is thought to be fine; assuming you are practicing social distancing and good hand washing/sanitizing. Children of younger years do not always understand these expectations. I would ask parents to be vigilant in your supervision of your children to ensure the Public Health recommendations are maintained. We understand your concern for the health of our children. We are devoting time each day to remain current with Public Health recommendations. The Village of Fraser Lake is committed to take all steps recommended by the Health Authorities to maintain and support public health.

Continued on Page 2

Continued from Page 1

I feel lucky to live in northwestern British Columbia. As of March 25, 2020, there are only a few confirmed cases of COVID 19 in northern BC. If each of us continues to do our part in terms of maintaining social distance, good handwashing practices and careful management of those who are ill with a cold or the flu, we can support a positive outcome. If you are feeling unwell, please take steps to self

isolate. There has never been a more important time to stay away from work and public places if you are ill. Northern Health has initiated a “**Virtual Clinic**” that should be contacted if you are concerned you may have contracted COVID 19. The Virtual Clinic is contacted by phone: **1-844-645-7811**. This service will assist you in determining whether you need to seek further medical assistance.

Finally, when we learn of an informative and creditable source of information relating to the pandemic or Federal and Provincial supports, we post the relevant link(s) to the Village Facebook page and Village Website. If you would like more information, please visit the Village of Fraser Lake Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/fraserlake/> or www.fraserlake.ca.

To Flush or Not to Flush

This week two of our sewer lift stations seized due to accumulations of shop rags, disinfecting wipes and Kleenex that had been flushed down the toilet. Luckily, our Public Works employees were able to respond before the pumps burned out. Had the pumps burned out, the repair bill would have been \$8,000.00 per pump.

Please do not flush paper towels, shop towels, disinfectant wipes, Kleenex, or feminine hygiene products down the toilet. These items go into the trash. Toilet paper is the only paper product designed to break down or disintegrate when saturated with water. The items listed above accumulate in our sanitary sewer system causing blockages and damage to our mechanical equipment. Let's all work together to support and maintain a sustainable community.

Fraser Lake Public Library Closed until Further Notice

The Library will not be lending any materials at this time. We will allow adults by **appointment only** the opportunity to fax or use computers to transmit important documents such as EI, Income Tax etc.

We will be asking that everyone be respectful of staff and our community regarding the Covid-19 virus or any other colds and viruses as none of us want anything brought to the Library or Fraser Lake.

We will waive fines on materials currently out, but they can still be returned anytime.

Call 250-699-8888 to book your appointment to use the computers or fax documents.

We are sorry for any inconveniences this may cause.

Audrey Fennema
Chief Librarian
Fraser Lake Public Library

COVID 19 Useful Links & Phone Numbers

Please find below a list of important links and phone numbers that you may find useful.

PHONE NUMBERS:

Non-medical information about COVID-19 (7:30 am- 8:00pm 7 days a week) **1-888-268-4319**
Northern Health Online Clinic and Information **1-844-645-7811**
HealthLink BC **8-1-1**

LINKS:

Regional:

Northern Health <https://www.northernhealth.ca/>

Provincial:

BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) Coronavirus Information <http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19>

COVID-19 Online Self assessment tool <https://covid19.thrive.health/>

Self Assessment App (for Android or iPhone) <http://bc.thrive.health/>

COVID-19 Provincial Support and information:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support>