

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTER- EST:

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- Snow Removal

## Snow Removal

The snowfall accumulations in the recent weeks have been nothing short of incredible. Our Village Works crew have worked diligently to maintain our streets. There have been a few challenges. The first involved a mechanical issue with the sand truck. More recently it has been determining what to do with all the snow. Our crews are doing their best but there are limits. With more snow forecasted, those piles of snow aren't going to get any smaller. With reduced site lines, please use extra caution as you exit your driveway or enter intersections. If you are clearing snow mechanically, please be considerate of your neighbours. Seniors driveways are cleared on weekdays and after all other snow clearing activities have been

## FROM THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

### Fraser Lake Community Vehicle:

Our Community Vehicle has arrived! On January 2<sup>nd</sup>, Mayor Lindstrom travelled to Kamloops, B.C. to pick up our new Community Vehicle; a Mercedes 11 passenger van. The vehicle will be used to provide safe and accessible transportation to the clinic, mall, Autumn Services, the Library and so much more. Two routes have been identified. Each route will operate on different days of the week with a morning pick up and afternoon return home. We have modeled the service after the Northern Health Connections service. Persons needing a ride must book by phone or email at (250) 699-1495 or [vfltransportation@fraserlake.ca](mailto:vfltransportation@fraserlake.ca). Please book your ride one day ahead. The Community Vehicle will arrive at the end of your driveway at a time consistent with the scheduled route. Initially, this service will begin without a fare, however, we will conduct a review of operational costs after six months and determine whether a fare is required to ensure sustainability of the service. **The Community Vehicle will operate on Wednesday and Friday.** We hope to start the service mid February. **On Wednesday mornings,** the Community Vehicle will travel along Francois Lake Road as far as the Parker Subdivision of the Glenannan Area. **The Wednesday route** includes travel through Endako and

Stellaquo. We anticipate morning routes will pick up passengers and deliver them to Fraser Lake. During mid-day, the Community Vehicle will be available to provide service within the Village of Fraser Lake. Then in the early afternoon, passengers will be offered a ride back to their homes along the designated route.

The Friday route will provide the same service to Lejac, Dry William Lake, Fort Fraser Lake, Nadleh, North Shore, Stellaquo and back to Fraser Lake. In each case, the Community Vehicle will pick up passengers in the morning and bring them to Fraser Lake.

**On Wednesday and Friday,** we would like to encourage our residents who need a ride within the Village to contact the driver to arrange for pick up and drop off around town.

Our Community Vehicle will travel these routes in response to **"requests for rides"**. We are asking you to call ahead for a ride. We will pick you up at your driveway. If you have mobility challenges and your driveway can be safely navigated, we'll endeavour to pick you up at your home. Our intention is to provide a service that is both personalized and efficient. We do expect that occasionally, persons needing a ride will wave down the driver and climb aboard.

**Our Community Vehicle** was made possible through generous contributions of the Province of BC and the Regional

District of Bulkley-Nechako. The Province's Community Vehicle Grant program provided funding to 12 Northwest BC communities to address each community's unique and diverse transportation needs. Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako's, Area D Director, Mark Parker topped up the funding needed to purchase the vehicle. The Village of Fraser Lake is the third sponsor. **Over the next three years,** the Province of British Columbia and Village of Fraser Lake will subsidize operation of our Community Vehicle. By that time, we hope to have a clear understanding of the need for this service in our area and the costs associated.

**Although this transportation initiative is intended to make it easier for all area residents to access safe and reliable transportation,** there is recognition that the fastest growing demographic in our area are residents age 65 and older. We believe that by developing a system that will benefit older travelers, people of all age and ranges of ability will benefit. We intend to publish and mail a brochure with the Community Vehicle routes, schedule, contact information and other relevant information to all mailing addresses within Area D. We are excited about this new service. We invite you to use this Community Transportation Service.

**New Administrative Assistant:**

Please join me in welcoming our newest Village employee: **Sylvia Hendriksen**. Sylvia has taken on the busy job of Administrative

The Village Office, Public Works and Village Arena Will be closed on Monday, February 12, 2018 to observe the BC Family Holiday.

**Our Equipment – Your Adventure**

Did you know that the Village of Fraser Lake has cross country ski equipment, canoes, and in 2018 we are introducing paddle boards? The equipment is available for rent through Par 3 Sports. For a very minimal fee you can use this equipment to write your own adventure. Pop by Par 3 Sports for more information.

**Winter Preparedness Safety Tips**

We are in the beginning of February, but still have a few more months of winter. Here are some safety tips and checks we should all be doing with our vehicles.

**Winter tires:** Look for the three-peak-mountain and snowflake symbol and have dedicated winter tires.

**Cold weather battery:** Look for a battery designed to provide reliable starts in cold temperatures.

**Wiper blades:** Not all wiper blades are created equal, ensure you have a set that can handle extreme cold. Maintain reg-

ularly, prevent snow and ice build-up.

**Windshield washer:** Use washer fluid that is effective up to -40C, regularly top it up, and keep extra stored in cargo area.

**Synthetic oil:** Is designed to flow better at low temperatures, making for better cold weather engine starts.

**Snow & ice clearing:** Clear all surfaces of ice and snow, including lights, safety sensors and cameras before you shift into drive. This not only improves your visibility, but also prevents flying snow and ice from dis-

tracting others.

**Winter safety kit:** Be ready for the unexpected with an emergency kit containing winter safety essentials such as jumper cable, roadside reflectors, a tow rope, candles, matches, flashlight, shovel, traction mat, phone charger and basic gear to keep you warm.

**Plan ahead:** Check your local weather forecast and Highway road conditions before venturing out. Adjust your driving to the road conditions, take your time, drive defensively and keep extra distance between you and others.



**Fraser Lake Family Day on the Lake  
Monday February 12<sup>th</sup>, 10am – 3pm**

Join us down at White Swan Park for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Fraser Lake Family Day on the Lake. There will be a free hot dog BBQ, hot chocolate, skating, hockey, cross country skiing, bonfire, and much, much more kicking off at 10am.

**Ammonia Use at the CH Foote Memorial Arena**

Following the tragic consequences of the ammonia leak in Fernie, B.C. on October 17<sup>th</sup>, Ammonia Refrigeration Plants have been on the minds of many. In early December 2017, WorkSafeBC conducted an inspection of our Ammonia Refrigeration Plant at CH Foote Memorial Arena. Because of

that inspection, our work procedures have been updated to reflect current safety standards. A new three stage alarm system has been installed and our staff has received training on newly acquired alarm testing equipment. For those interested in learning more about the Village's management of

our Ammonia Plant, we have placed an Information Bulletin on the Village Website [www.fraserlake.ca](http://www.fraserlake.ca). If you would prefer a hardcopy of the information bulletin, a copy can be obtained during business hours at the front counter of the Village Office.

**lovefraserlake.com**

Love Fraser Lake is a program where local independent business can sign up and receive an online presence, which showcases the owners, location, and product or services offered. Lovefraserlake.com has 27 local business-

es. In 2017 lovefraserlake.com had 4807 page views up from 3698 in 2016. 86.7% of these page views were new visitors to the website checking out what we have to offer in the area. These views came from Prince George,

Vancouver, Calgary, Surrey, and Europe just to name a few. If you have not visited lovefraserlake.com, I highly recommend it.