



Resort Village of Shields Spring Newsletter

Available on Shields Website – check out www.shields.ca

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April 2016

Message from the Mayor:

“Spring has Sprung!” The onset of the season has come upon us quickly this year.

However, the many projects that have been planned got off to a quick start. Planning is an important focus that prepares us for both near and long term objectives.

In 2006 we had a mail out strategic planning questionnaire from which Council was able to identify the priorities of our community. In that survey we received about a 36% response, which was apparently a good response rate. Now in 2016 we have the benefit of email and Survey Monkey software and the response rate after 7 days of the new survey launch is just over 50% return.

If you have not completed and returned the planning questionnaire we request that you consider it as a contribution to our rapidly growing community and complete by the deadline of April 30th.

In 2006 our SAMA village assessment was:	\$11,302,280.00
In 2016 our SAMA village assessment is:	\$47,952,180.00

We will share the results of the planning survey at:

THE INFORMATION EVENT - Saturday, May 21 - A NEW FORMAT

From 9:00 am to 11:00 am Council will feature a “ POSTER PRESENTATION”

- * members of Council will be present to respond to questions regarding their area of responsibility*
- * refreshments (coffee, juice) and donuts / muffins will be available*

Our Community Center is undergoing a renovation of kitchen and serving facility to be completed by May 20 - please come out to see ‘the changed look’.

Our resort communities of Thode and Shields have gained the positive experience of joint collaboration of operations management, capital equipment procurement, and human resources. This summer we will endeavor to provide local students with work opportunities within the villages. We also have various projects that will require some volunteer assistance, please watch for these requests for help.

We have had an early start to much of the surface water drainage and repair work to our roads. The issue of “frost boils” on all roads in the area has not spared our village, thus as the road bases dry up, grading can correct the inconvenience of this problem. Once completed, we have allocated resources to grade, gravel (where necessary) and provide the road enhancement material (dust control) to all of our streets.

We encourage everyone to enjoy our parks, beach area, golf course, or simply a ‘walk about’.

HAVE A GREAT SHIELDS SUMMER

Eldon Mackay, Mayor

Spirit of Shields Award

Do you know of someone who has made an exceptional contribution to our community?

Council is seeking nominations for the Spirit of Shields Award to be presented to one of those special people from our community. Nominations open on May 15, 2016 and close July 1, 2016. The Spirit of Shields Award will be presented at the Volunteer Appreciation event held in the fall.

Description of the Award, eligibility criteria, nomination process and nomination form are available on www.Shields.ca

Parks, Culture and Recreation Board (Rec Board)

Spring is here and it's time to organize the Shields' Canada Day Party! The celebration will be Friday July 1, 2016. Watch for more information as plans are finalized.

The Board would like your help with this fun event. We will fit your involvement to your schedule, available time, and interests. There are lots of activities to get done before the event so you don't necessarily have to work at the event. We want you, your ideas and your enthusiasm. Send an email or call Jessie to express an interest. Think about becoming involved and volunteer when Rec Board members ask!

Thank you to all the volunteers who planned and delivered winter activities!

Children's Christmas Party 2015

The annual Shields Children's Christmas party was held December 13. Children enjoyed games, craft activities, face painting and some tasty treats. As always the visit from Santa was the hit of the day!



Winterfest 2016

The all day event was held on February 20. Our mild winter weather and lack of snow challenged volunteers preparing the ice rink on the pond and planned activities in the snow. We thank the event organizers who enthusiastically delivered an event that was fun for everyone. The event began with a pancake breakfast, followed by games and crafts in the hall, and a hot dog lunch. During the afternoon, children's bouncer and horse draw wagon rides were favourite activities.

Activities wrapped up in the evening with a **chili cook-off**. As in 2015 when Aaron George won the event, competition was fierce. The 2016 Best Chili Award and bragging rights for 2016 went to Teresa Waldal.

Thank you to *Saskatchewan Lotteries* for their financial support



From the Community Centre Committee

Hall renovations are under way and are going well. Changes in the kitchen include new cupboards, a commercial dishwasher, microwave and a moveable island built for storage and extra counter space. A new refreshment bar will be located in the northeast corner of the hall and will include a sink. The outdoor lighting on the east side of the building is being improved. Minor repairs are also being completed. The plan is most of the renovations will be done before the end of May. The hall will again be available for renting after the renovations are completed. If you are interested in renting the hall, please refer to the website www.shields.ca under the Facilities area or contact Jessie.

Judy Rathie, Chair, Hall Committee

From the Golf Committee

The course opened up on Friday April 15, a bit earlier this year than normal. The greens wintered very well and off to a good start. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped with tarp removal and with picking up tree branches along the #2 tree row.

Rates have been updated and posted on our website, and as a reminder to make cheques out to Resort Village Of Shields if paying by cheque.

A two person scramble is being planned for Saturday May 14 and our annual Texas Scramble has been changed from the August long week-end and is now set for August 13 so keep those dates in mind.

Also don't forget Ladies night every Tuesday night and Men's night every Thursday night starting at 5:00 PM.

Garry Hovland, Golf Committee

Resort Village of Shields Joins South Saskatchewan River Watershed Stewards Inc.

The South Saskatchewan River Watershed Stewards is a community based, non-profit organization, whose goal is to ensure safe, sustainable water supplies for the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of the watershed and its residents. As residents along Blackstrap we have a keen interest in stewardship of the water resource, management of activities around the lake, and projects that address key watershed protection goals. A priority for the organization is the prevention of invasive species – Zebra and Quagga Mussels. These invasive mussels threaten aquatic habitats, recreational resources and have the capability to destroy water-based infrastructures like our seasonal irrigation. Once introduced, they are virtually impossible to eradicate.

Information from Town Office

The **2016 TAX NOTICES** will be mailed out on or before May 1. Discounts are listed on the bottom of the notice. Please ensure you are remitting the correct amount. If you are in doubt contact Jessie at 306 492 2259 for clarification. As with the utility notices, payments must be received by the due date. The computer program will calculate penalties & adjust discounts as of the 1st of the month. Post dated cheques are welcome to ensure that you do not receive a penalty or lose out on a discount. Email money transfers may be remitted to shields@xplornet.ca

The **2015 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT** is available on the website - www.shields.ca. A synopsis is enclosed with the tax notices.

The **ANNUAL INFORMATION MEETING** will be held on Saturday, May 21/16 from 9 to 11 a.m. Coffee and donuts/muffins will be available as you discuss municipal business with your Council members. Jessie will be in attendance to issue season golf passes and accept your tax payments.

The **SEASONAL WATER SYSTEM** will be operational as of May 1/16, conditions permitting. Please ensure that all outside taps that were opened to drain the system last fall are closed prior to May 1. We ask that anyone still using this non potable water supply in their homes cease immediately. This practice puts the potable water supply at risk and could result in shut down of the irrigation system. Your anticipated cooperation is appreciated.

FIRE BAN – As of April 21, 2016 a Complete Fire Ban has been implemented until further notice.

DUMPING OF DEBRIS - The RM of Dundurn has expressed concern over our residents dumping yard debris into the gravel pit area south of Shields. **PLEASE DO NOT DO THIS!** We pay an annual fee to the RM of Dundurn for access to their landfill so that our residents can haul tree debris to that site. Leaves can go into our compost pile.

SPEEDING - Your attention to the 30 km speed limit is appreciated. Remember that vehicles share the roadway with pedestrians.

PETS - Please remember that all pets - dogs and cats, are not permitted to roam freely in the village. It is your responsibility to ensure that your pet is confined to your property and is not disturbing your neighbours. Pets must be on a leash when walking throughout the village and all droppings must be picked up.

Responsibility for the **RECYCLING DEPOT** for beverage containers has been given to the Hanley School Culture Club. They appreciate your donations.

BOAT DOCKS AND LIFTS

Just a reminder to everyone as of May 31st all docks and lifts must be in the water or removed from the beach front/shore line area. This public reserve land is not to be used for storage in the summer, it is a privilege to be able to have our docks and lifts in the water so please everyone lets keep the beach area clean of debris. If you know of any lifts or docks that have been abandoned please advise Dwayne Heidt so we can have them removed. Thank you for your co-operation.

Memory Tree Fund Raising 2015

We would like to thank everyone that contributed to our annual Memory Tree fund raising for BEST – our fire protection services for Dundurn and surrounding area. This past year we raised \$1,720 and were able to light up all the trees in front of the Hall. We hope everyone enjoyed this display in memory of our loved ones. Looking forward to lighting up many more trees next time with your continued support.

SaskAlert-Public Alerting System

SaskAlert is Saskatchewan's Emergency Public Alerting program which will be used to alert the public in real-time of an emergency situation. SaskAlert will provide information that will enable residents and those traveling in the province to take actions to protect themselves when an emergency is occurring or about to occur.

SaskAlert provides single point entry of emergency alerts by trained users from participating jurisdictions including provincial, federal, local and First Nation organizations. Once an alert has been created it will be picked up and distributed to the public by various media distributors such as radio, TV, websites and apps. SaskAlert is part of the national public alerting system.

As jurisdictions, the Villages of Shields and Thode are working together to participate in the program. In the future if there was an immediate threat to our area, we would be able to leverage the SaskAlert Public Alerting System as another tool to notify our residents. SaskAlert is currently enhancing their website and developing an 'app' that residents will be able to download onto their technology which will provide easy access to alerts within the Province. Planned release is scheduled for June. Further information will be provided once the new website and app have been released.

The National Alerting System is required to test the alerting program on a regular schedule. A 'test alert' in the province of Saskatchewan is scheduled for May 4, 2016, which you will be broadcast through the various media distributors. This is a test and no action is required.

Emergency Preparedness Week – May 1 – 7, 2016

Emergency Preparedness Week (EP Week) is an annual event that commenced in 1996 and takes place each year during the first full week of May. The 2016 National Theme is: Plan. Prepare. Be Aware. Visit the Public Safety Canada website www.getprepared.gc.ca for additional information and resources including the list of items for a family "Ready Kit".

Also please refer to www.shields.ca and make yourself familiar with Shields Emergency Operations Plan under the Amenities and Services area on the website. Anyone wishing to be part of Shields Emergency Operations please contact Debbie Heidt at 306-492-2218.