



# Resort Village of Shields

## Fall Newsletter

Available on Shields Website – check out [www.shields.ca](http://www.shields.ca)

Editor: **Debbie Heidt** (email – [dd.heidt@explornet.com](mailto:dd.heidt@explornet.com))

September 2016

### *Message from the Mayor:*

Our recent 'Canada Post' presentation and Q & A session provided us with the necessary information to take to our Council table for further discussion and resolution. From the folks that came out for coffee and information, there is support for proceeding with the community mailbox project. There is more information enclosed within this newsletter.

This summer, inclusive of the many rain events, has proven to be a challenge with our roads and drainage, however we continue to work within our budget and are beginning to see the benefits. Our plans include grading of streets and roads, however this remains contactor and nature dependent. Our road use survey was very helpful, not only for our own use, but to assist our municipal partners to evaluate and update road maintenance agreements. The results of our survey are contained within this newsletter. We are strengthened to continue budget and lobby efforts to the ultimate goal of building the South Access road to #211.

We continue to work with our municipal partners in our regional planning endeavours. The cooperation and forward thinking from this group is inspiring as we move forward with the planning created by rapid growth of our region and the demands that come with that growth. Various infrastructure requirements, to schools, to recreation, to police services, and emergency services are on the agenda.

We have had several compliments on the work of our staff this year. Now that school and university classes are about to resume, the workload will fall back to fewer hands, thus we appreciate the volunteer efforts of many who willingly assist in keeping our village a 'tidy place'. There are tree planting events that are upcoming, thus watch for people with rakes and shovels as they whistle down the road to help add to our tree inventory.

If you haven't seen the renovations that have happened in the community center, by all means come out to our 'Spirit of Volunteers Event' that is coming soon . . . we wish to thank all those involved in the planning and creating of this very nice asset for community use.

We wish to extend a '*welcome to Shields*' to our newly arrived families to homes in our village and to extend '*good health and success*' to those who have moved on from our village. This season has witnessed many and ongoing changes in the makeup of our community.

A special welcome to Ryan Pasitney, our new Council member. Ryan brings a very good perspective to discussion and resolution of a growing number of challenges in local and regional governance. Also thanks to Cheryl Robson for her past years of service on Council.

As this Summer of '16 passes to Autumn, we wish you and yours health and happiness.

*Eldon Mackay, Mayor*

**Parks, Culture and Recreation Board (Rec Board)**

**Shields Super Heros Celebrate Canada Day  
Playground / Generations Park  
Friday July 1, 2016**

The Canada Day event went well with about 120 adults and 30 children attending. Children thought the bouncing castle was fabulously fun; face painting and tattoos were also a big hit. Children and adults were very creative at the craft table. Culture Club 2017 provided the concession and every one enjoyed the barbeque. A downpour prior to serving cake put a damper on things, but another time was set-aside at the Community Centre for cake and ice cream.

Thank you to all the volunteers who made the event a success, to the Culture Club 2017 for joining with us and to our event sponsor Heritage Canada.

**Upcoming Events**

Reserve the following dates for events that are in the works:

- **September 23, 2016 Celebrate Our Volunteers - the Spirit of Shields**

Join us to celebrate the contributions of our volunteers to the activities and programs within our village. The event will take place at the hall on Friday Sept 23rd starting at 5:00 p.m. This casual event will include a barbeque with burgers and hotdogs as well as some salads. Refreshments will be available for the children as well as some for the adults. All past, present and future volunteers are invited to this get together for an evening of fellowship and gratitude to Shields Heroes – our Volunteers.

- **December 4, 2016**

Children's Christmas Party and Lighting of Memory Trees. More information will be available closer to the date.

*Chair of Recreation Board*

**The Blackstrap Minnows Soccer Team**

The blackstrap minnows had a second successful year at soccer. This year we had 20 youngsters ages 5 – 1 ½. Everyone did great and might have even learned a new skill!

Highlights of the year were the juice boxes and the playground! As well as playing soccer in a sprinkler on a hot day.

Thank you to Tim Horton's for donating a soccer ball and medal to each of the children!

I look forward to next season!

*Coach – Carrie Hart*

**Information from Village Office****E Bills**

The first batch of electronic utility bills sent out at the end of June had some issues. If you had requested that your utility bills be sent by email, please remember to print your notice, as a copy will not be sent by regular mail. If you would like to be added to the email-billing list please forward approval to the Village Office for that to occur. Hopefully we will be sending out taxes by email next May – watch for approval forms in the spring.

**Email**

There is a lot of info that is sent out only by email. If you are not on our email list to receive notices, please send Jessie your contact info at [shields@xplornet.ca](mailto:shields@xplornet.ca).

**Facebook Page – Village of Shields Community**

The Village now has its own Facebook page which will be used to provide Council and Village Administration with another method of reaching our residents with important notices. The Page was just launched at the end of August. If you have a Facebook account, go to the Shields Page called “Village of Shields Community” and do a ‘like’ on the page in order to see the Village updates and announcements. By liking the Page you may receive notices, etc. once a posting is done to the Shields Page.

**Golf Carts & ATVs**

Your Council has enacted bylaws to provide for the use of ATVs and Golf Carts within Shields on our streets. Unfortunately a few residents are abusing the intent of these bylaws.

ATVs are only to be operated by those with a valid Driver’s License who have obtained insurance on the ATV. Please do not allow your children to drive ATVs on our streets and alleys.

Golf Carts are intended to operate to & from the golf course during daylight hours (sunrise & 1/2 hour after sunset). The Vehicle Equipment Regulations require that any vehicle not capable of maintaining a speed of at least 40 km/hr must display a “slow moving vehicle sign”. Our speed limit is only 30 km/hr, but the sign is required. Operators of Golf Carts must have a valid Driver’s License.

Your cooperation regarding the operation of these vehicles is appreciated.

**Community Center Phone**

A phone has been installed in the Community Center for the purposes of emergency and convenience when there are meetings or events in the hall. The phone number is 306-492-3380 and does not allow any long distance calling, it is only for local calls.

**Rental Spots in Boat House Area**

We are asking everyone that has one of these spots to ensure their grass is cut and cleaned up before winter. Also please ensure that your belongings are in your own area and not encroaching on other lots or the public area.

**Shoreline Cleanup**

Council will be doing a walk about on the shoreline to identify docks/lifts/boats that have been left or abandoned on the shoreline for some time. It is a requirement that these items must be placed in and out of the water on an annual bases, the shoreline is not to be used as long-term storage. Any items that have been left will be tagged for removal and it will be the responsibility of the property owner to remove the item(s) from the shoreline.

Please remember that when removing your docks & lifts from the lake you may not impede the area for foot traffic. In order to be stored on municipal reserve all docks & lifts must have the name of the owner on the dock or lift with a tag or visibly written on the item. A 30-foot walking access must be left along the lake. If possible docks should be stored on your own property. Any items that are blocking this area will be moved.

Please ensure that you park your boat trailers (with or without boats) on your own property. These items when left on municipal land – green spaces or road allowances can be subject to a fine.

Thanks for keeping our streets clutter free

**From the Golf Committee**

The Shields annual Golf Tournament was held on Saturday, August 13, 2016. Tournament was full with 20 teams participating in a Texas scramble. Congratulations to Dwayne Heidt's team including Brandon Cooke, Brian Cooke and Debbie Heidt for lowest score. Thank you to all the volunteers that helped with the tournament and special thank you to Linda Tomlenovich for looking after the kitchen and coordinating with the 50 plus club.

We have had a very good turnout for men's night every Thursday night. Ladies night is every Tuesday night. Please remember that the course is booked for these nights, and if you would like to participate it is open to everyone.

Bench plaques are still available, contact Garry for more information and we also have a few Shields golf towels left, contact Linda Ellerington for details.

Linda has the course in excellent condition so if you have not been out yet, please go for a round to see the great asset our village has.

**Club Championship**

The club championship has been set for Saturday, September 17, 2016, which is open to men and women with golf season passes. The cost is \$20 a person and includes golf and burgers for the day. Contact Dwayne Heidt (306-492-2218) or Garry Hovland (306-492-2600) to register. Registration with fees paid must be completed by Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup> in order to play in the championship. If you have any questions regarding the tournament please call Dwayne or Garry.

*Garry Hovland, Golf Committee*

## **Canada Post – New Community Mailbox**

On Saturday August 23, 2016 Canada Post representatives had a Town Hall meeting to provide a presentation and Q & A on the possibility of new Community Mailboxes in Shields. The driving force behind the request from Canada Post is to correct the overcapacity issues at the post office in Dundurn. The presentation was well received by the residents that attended and all were supportive of proceeding with the change. Council will be reviewing the information at next meeting and a decision will be made as to go forward. If approved, Canada Post has a process for implementation, which could take up to six months. If you have any questions or concerns on the possibility of community mailboxes in Shields, please contact the Village Office.

The following is a summary of the Q & A information that was presented by Canada Post:

- **Costs?** - There are no costs to the customer for this service. Free forwarding of mail will be provided by Canada Post for 12 months from date of implementation.
- **How often will delivery be?** – Delivery will be a regular business week, 5 days a week, Monday to Friday.
- **The mailing address will be the actual street address and Shields will be assigned their own postal code by Canada Post. Each physical address will be assigned a box in the new Community Mailboxes that will be located in possibly two sites in Shields.**
- **Each address will receive a set of 3 keys. Keys can be copied so the customer can produce as many as they need. Keys that are lost will be replaced at a fee of 29.00 plus taxes, which covers the cost of the new lock/ keys and installation**
- **Will a customer have the option to maintain their current mailing address?** – a customer wishing to maintain their current mailing address will be required to pay a yearly fee to the post office where they are getting their mail. Every address is entitled to one free “prime mode” of delivery and if community mail box implementation went ahead, then the community mail box would become the free mode for those customers, while any other mode would be at the customer’s discretion, but be considered “convenience” mode, which is a paid for service.
- **Where do parcels go?** – The community mailboxes come with two parcel compartments in each module. Any parcel that will not fit in the box will have a notice left for the receiver, and then be taken and available for pickup at the Dundurn Post Office.
- **Will Dundurn Post Office continue to provide postal services?** The Dundurn Post Office will continue to be a fully functioning, full service post office, and not be significantly impacted based upon what we discussed.
- **Will there be compartments for seasonal residents?** Canada Post will provide compartments for all addresses in Shields. Details on how seasonal residents could get their mail is dependent on a few different details. Seasonal residents wanting to have their mail forwarded to Shields should talk to their local post office official.
- **How many sites will there be?** – The number of sites will depend on discussions with Shields council. Currently 2 sites are being discussed with the possibility of one or two more. These numbers can change based on how many suitable locations there are based on Canada Post’s requirements along with council’s requirements and can be somewhat influenced by the total number of customers / addresses that are in play. Our current equipment can house up to a maximum of 16 customer addresses, per module.
- **Who manages snow removal and Graffiti?** –Canada Post has a nationally awarded supplier, with contractors that are required to provide safe access related to all snow directly in front of the site. Canada Post removes graffiti.

**ROADWAY AND COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS**

Village Council conducted two surveys over the last 6 months. 1) A General Survey for Community Input and 2) A survey specific to roadways.

**COMMUNITY SURVEY**

The purpose of the Community Survey was to get an overview of what is important to the Property Owners of the Resort Village of Shields. The information has been very useful for Council in updating the Strategic Planning Guidelines and also in setting priorities. The survey’s uptake was very positive with a participation rate of 55%, 199 surveys were sent out by email/mail and 110 residents responded.

**Demographics**

Of the respondents, 60.9% are full-time residents and 35.5% are seasonal with the remaining 3.6% being property owners only. Of the 60.9% of the full-time residents, 57.5% are a 2 person household, 11.3% a 3 person household and the remaining 13.9% range from 4-8 person households. Considering full-time residents only, households consist of children in the following age ranges 13 children under the age of 4, 17 children range from 5-9, 7 children from 10-14 years and, 5 children from 15 -18.

Of the residents responding, 63.9% commute outside the community to work. This indicator as well as the recreation services responses indicate that the resort is a community where the residents live, work and play. The survey responses regarding the need for improved roadways is also an indicator that we are a community on the move and require improved levels of service when it comes to roadways.

**Summary of Survey Data**

When looking at the items on the survey that are most important to residents the following table lists services offered or expansion/improvements to service in order of importance.

<b>Service Offered or Suggested Expansion/Improvement</b>	<b>Very Imp</b>	<b>SW Imp</b>	<b>Not Imp</b>
Roadway improvements within the village	72%	23%	5%
Community Safety and Security	68%	27%	5%
Roadway drainage improvements within the village	61%	30%	9%
Roadway improvements to Highway 11 to village	65%	24%	11%
Usage of golf course	55%	24%	21%
Participating in ongoing recycling projects.	50%	39%	11%
Availability large bins in the spring	48%	34%	18%
Yearly Council Meetings	45%	41%	13%
Development of Waterfront walking pathway	23%	33%	44%
Summer Employment Opportunities for local students	22%	50%	29%
Additional Recreation Development within the Community	19%	39%	43%
Commercial Development in the Community	12%	34%	54%
<i>Very Imp - Very Important</i>			
<i>SW Imp - Somewhat Important</i>			
<i>Not Imp - Not Important</i>			

The following table shows the level of agreement amongst residence as to what improvement of services they would like to see.

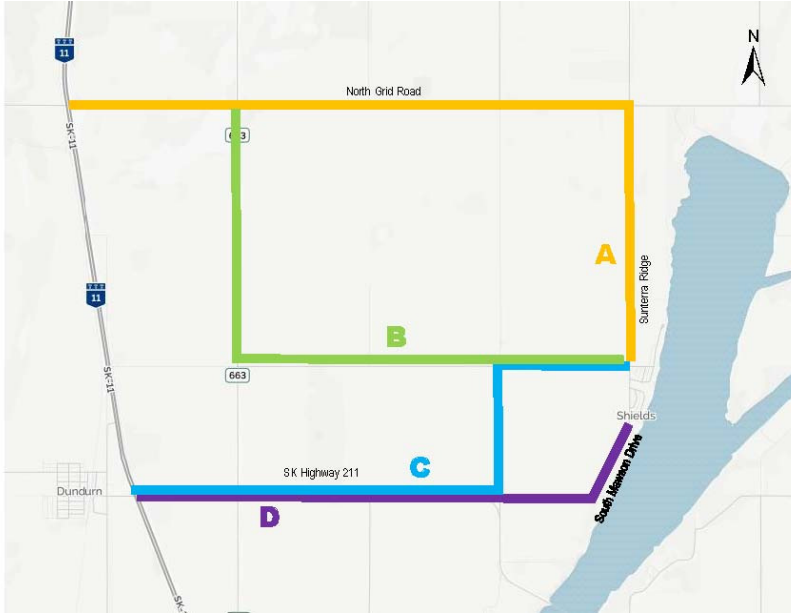
Service Provided	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
Recreation services in the community are adequate	48%	45%	8%
Generation Walking Path should be cleared in Winter	17%	59%	25%
Golf Course should be expanded	28%	47%	24%
Trees for Windbreaks and Beautification needs further Development and Maintenance	56%	39%	5%
The Roads within the Village			
Are Well Maintained	41%	26%	34%
Require annual Dust Control	54%	28%	18%
Require a long-term Plan for Paving	32%	30%	38%
The Access Roads to the Village			
Are Well Maintained	30%	32%	37%
We would be willing to pay the R.M. for enhanced service	26%	40%	33%
We proceed with upgrade of the south access Road to #211	53%	23%	24%
We proceed to investigate funding strategy for paving	43%	23%	34%
We require more regulation on land development around Black Strap Lake	41%	45%	14%
Residents should be allowed to use storage containers (sea cans) as permanent structures on their residential Lots	18%	20%	61%
We support the Concept of a Blackstrap Regional Development Authority -made up of 4 local municipalities.	50%	35%	15%

The following is a summary of some of the services provided by the community and the % of respondents that participate or use the services.

Services Provided by the Community	% Usage
Use the Community Beach, Playground and Park	76%
Use Recycling facility that the village provides	75%
Use Golf Course	70%
Attend events in the Community Centre	63%
Use the Community Centre	58%
Volunteering your time within the Community	44%
Sitting on any of the Community Committees	19%
Rented the Community Centre this past year for a private function	15%

**ROADWAY SURVEY**

The Roadway Survey was conducted from August 2 to August 19, 2016. The purpose of this survey was to get an estimate of the usage on each of the roadways that were identified on the following map.



The intention of Council is to consider this information when developing a road maintenance plan. The survey asked for travel frequency and which routes residents take to get to Highway 11.

The survey's uptake was very positive with a participation rate of 41%, 199 surveys were sent out by email/mail and 81 residents responded.

The results reported 59,800 trips taken annually by residents to get to Highway 11 with 9% using roadway A, 16% using Roadway B, 32% using roadway C and 43% using roadway D.