



Shields News – Spring 2020

editor: Debbie Heidt

Mayor's Message

Our world order has been altered as never before - a global pandemic, thought to be subject of movies, has taken on the stark reality of being at our doorstep. In this community and our Province, we have been somewhat spared from the significant losses elsewhere. We must take time to thank all our healthcare workers, essential service personnel and leadership that have dedicated themselves to guiding us through these times.

"We must maintain our awareness of physical distancing, group gathering limitations, wearing masks and washing hands, it remains essential."

This Spring, as late as it seems to be, has our Operations and Council personnel developing plans for 2020. The initial challenges of maintaining a safe and secure workplace for staff has required some scheduling and awareness not previously experienced, however all seems to be in place.

This year our operating budget is challenged due to various public space closures, however essential infrastructure work will be maintained.

- * road repair and drainage areas that have been documented will be completed
- * gravel application and dust control are priorities as new products become available
- * signage for streets and entrances to the village will be completed
- * green space tree planting and tree nursery development
- * ongoing upgrades to our seasonal irrigation system will continue
- * we endeavor to find operational efficiencies that optimize the system

Our capital budget this year includes the standby generator for our potable water distribution system, completion of employee washroom and locker at maintenance building, and access road development.

There have been incidents within the village that are a concern to safety and security. To this end we have a bylaw enforcement initiative that is being developed. Along with this program, consideration is given to surveillance camera sites in order to assist in bylaw enforcement. These measures are made necessary from experience and advice from our community. We continue to request your awareness and participation in "Neighbourhood Watch".

The municipalities that formed the Dundurn & Area Waste Water Utility have agreed to separate and maintain their own infrastructure. The Utility will still own and operate the lagoon facility and aeration systems with each municipality contributing it's allocated share.

Council continues to negotiate road maintenance agreements with the RM of Dundurn. In doing so we also continue to investigate the access road to our community.

*A message to families and friends that operate off road machines / vehicles
"Please do not trespass onto local farmer fields"*

As spring 2020 unfolds, please be safe, secure and maintain your resistance to the COVID-19 challenge.

Eldon Mackay

Upcoming Events for 2020

The following is a summary of known 2020 events for the Village and their current status due to restrictions of COVID-19.

- Learn to Play **Soccer** – **Message from Coach Carrie**

"It's with great sadness that I will have to cancel the soccer season this year due to COVID-19. If there is time when restrictions are lifted, I will put together some scrimmage games in the summer!! Thank you for your support! And give all my little minnows a hug for me".

- Annual **Red Bin** Cleanup – May long week-end (COVID-19 permitting)

The following events have been **postponed**:

- The **public hearing** scheduled for April 22nd to receive submissions on the Bylaw for an Official Community Plan is being postponed until further notice.
- Annual Information Meeting** postponed to Fall 2020
- Shields Street Sign Auction** that was to be held at the Annual meeting is postponed to Fall 2020.



FUN IN SHIELDS DURING THIS TIME OF SOCIAL DISTANCING

It is nice to hear about the fun things that people are doing to keep their children and themselves active during this time of isolation and distancing which is hard for everyone, especially the little ones.



Families of Shields organized a Window Decorating Contest that was held on Saturday, April 4th. Twelve families participated in the challenge. Thanks to our newly appointed Fire Chief, Tom Wilms and First Responder Higginbotham who performed the judging and chose the 'creative winners' who received a supper delivered by Big Mur's Tavern from Dundurn!

Thanks for the fun adventure created by Melissa Bowen Jensen and her children who painted 25 rocks and placed them all throughout the Village and invited others (via Facebook) to have fun finding them! She asked people to take pictures of their findings and then to post them for all to see. Great idea Melissa!

There are many sources available on the internet from learning, games, DIY projects, virtual tours of museums and animal adventures. A very good site to learn about various birds and to see videos such as a Barred Owl hatching chicks is at [Wild Birds Unlimited](#) – Get Close to Nature Tab - Videos - Owl Cam.

Recognizing 2019 – Year in Review

Here we are in 2020, where did 2019 go and what did we do in the Village? It seems so long ago with all that is happening now with COVID-19. Let's celebrate 2019 and recognize the opportunities for the future.

Municipal 2019 Accomplishments:

- a. Street Sign Project – After 40+ years the street signs were replaced throughout the Village providing a fresh new look and bringing continuity throughout our neighborhoods.
- b. South Memorial Drive road development was completed which met a commitment that was made when South Shields was developed and eliminated the risks of using an undeveloped road that was hindered with obstructions which made it unsafe for regular use.
- c. Dust Control was implemented throughout the Village.
- d. Operations completed many seasonal irrigation line upgrades to unreliable areas as part of the Village's focus to upgrade the non-potable water lines.
- e. To support Village communications, a new 'texting' service was made available to residents in December.
- f. Communications Project completed a Shields website review and Council approved the implementation of a new Village website in 2020.
- g. An Official Community Plan was drafted and will be presented for public input in 2020.

Municipal Projects Brought Forward to 2020:

- a. Street Sign Project - place permanent road control signs and review entrance signs to the Village
- b. South Memorial Drive - plant trees on east side
- c. Dust Control - throughout village and along Memorial Drive
- d. Seasonal Irrigation Lines - continue required upgrades to waterlines
- e. Communication Project – Implement new website

Parks, Culture and Recreation Board Events

The following events occurred during the year which were very successful due to the volunteers that helped make it happen and to the many residents and family that came out to support these events. It is the support from our residents that makes the effort worthwhile!

- a. Winterfest – March 2019
- b. Soccer Windup – June 2019
- c. Shields Celebrates 50 Years – July 2019
- d. Volunteerism & Spirit of Shields Recipient Celebration – September 2019
- e. Children's Christmas Party – December 2019
- f. Sport Court Fundraisers: Fishing Derby, Go Out and Play, Sign Painting, Roughrider Party
- g. Multiple Golf Tournaments: Jack & Jill, August Fundraiser, Club Championship



2019 was a fun year with lots to celebrate for a successful year!!

Shields Response to COVID-19

In accordance with the Government of Saskatchewan / Government of Canada COVID-19 restrictions, the Village has implemented the following:

- The municipal office and maintenance shop are closed to the public until further notice.
- All playgrounds, Community Centre and washroom remain closed until further notice.
- Shields was advised the golf course must remain closed to the public as in Saskatchewan it is classed as a recreational facility. We will be able to landscape and maintain the course with staff following the two meters (6 feet) social distancing during their activities. This allows operations staff to get prepared for a golf season when the Government of Saskatchewan or the Government of Canada lifts COVID-19 restrictions.

As COVID-19 situation evolves and the provincial and federal government provide further restrictions or changes to required protocols, we will review all closures of our public facilities and information will be provided to residents. Thank you to everyone for your cooperation and understanding. Stay safe everyone.

Municipal Election

2020 is the year for Municipal Elections for mayor and councillors which is currently set for Saturday July 25, 2020. The election date is currently under review by the government due to COVID-19. As more is known, material on the nomination process and voting process will be sent out.

Safety Lights

Safety lights have been installed on the maintenance building. When the lights are on, this will indicate that machinery and workers are backing out of the maintenance building onto Memorial Drive roadway and to be cautious when passing this area.

Spirit of Shields Award

Do you know someone who is a sports coach, always volunteers for community events, always participants, is there to help their community and their surrounding area, is full of enthusiasm and excited about Shields? If you know such a person then you know someone who could be nominated for the Spirit of Shields Award.

Council is seeking nominations for the Spirit of Shields Award to be presented to one of these special people in our community. Nominations open May 15, 2020 and close July 1, 2020. The award will be presented at the Volunteer Appreciation event held in the fall. Description of the Award, eligibility criteria, nomination process and forms are available on www.shields.ca.



2020 Property Taxes and Electronic Notices

Property Tax notices are being sent out at the end of April via email or by regular mail if you have not signed up by email. During this time of isolation, distancing and being careful as to what we come in contact with by touch, it is the perfect opportunity to sign up to receive notices from the Village via email (no external contact involved)! The email consent form can be found on the website or contact Jessie to sign up.

Boat Docks and Lifts on the Shoreline

With the uncertainty of COVID-19, there may be challenges this year to get docks and lifts into the water by a specific date. However, it is important that all docks and lifts on the shoreline are clearly marked with your name and phone number so that when Operations completes their review of the shoreline, that the equipment is not deemed as abandoned and removed. If you have challenges getting your lifts and docks into the water this year, please contact Fred Fehr, Operations or Councillor Dwayne Heidt (306-492-2218) to advise accordingly. Thank you for your co-operation in keeping our shorelines clear of debris and help to maintain the beauty of our Village.

Administration Encouraging Payment by E-Transfer

Jessie in the Administration Office very much appreciates receiving bill payments by E-transfers, versus mail so that she does not have to wonder who may have touched the envelope that she is opening and what their health status was! If able, lets help her out and start using a cleaner and more efficient payment process via E-Transfers.

Shields Text Messaging

Just a reminder if you haven't already, subscribe to Shield's Text Messaging to receive Operational Notices via text. Simply text the word **shields** to 306-400-5594 (do not include a 1) and follow the prompts to complete the sign-up process.

Access to RM of Dundurn Transfer Station

All residents of Shields can access and use the Transfer Station in the RM to dispose of tree debris, burning pile, compost pile and metal disposal. The Village of Shields pays RM of Dundurn a fee of \$10/household annually for the access to their Transfer Station.

RM of Dundurn No. 314 TRANSFER STATION RATES

NO CONTRACTORS allowed to dump

NO TIRES

Regular Household Garbage (Bags)	\$2/bag (standard black bag)
Household Garbage 1/2 Ton Truck	\$25
Household Garbage Over 1/2 Ton Truck	\$50
Whites (Fridges, Stoves, Freezers, etc.)	\$25 Each
Couches, Mattresses	\$25 Each
Shingles, Gyproc 1/2 Ton Truck Load	\$200
Chair (Livingroom type)	\$15
Painted Lumber 1/2 Ton Truck	\$25
Painted Lumber Over 1/2 Ton Truck	\$50
Barbeque Tanks & other Metals	FREE
Non-painted wood	FREE
Composting	FREE

Used oil accepted in pails of 20 lt & under NO DRUMS unless you have a pump



WINTER HOURS
NOV 1st to APR 30th
Saturday's 9 am - 4 pm
Sunday's 10 am - 2 pm

Parks, Culture & Recreation Board

Thank You to Our Volunteers and Supporters of our Activities

Thank you to **all volunteers** who planned and delivered winter activities – Sport Court Project fundraisers, flooding and maintaining ice rink on the pond, and organizing Go Out and Play activities. And thank you to all the **supporters** of these activities that helped to make them a success! You are all appreciated by our community!

Have an idea for a future project or activity for the Village:

Parks Culture and Recreation Board would love to hear from you and encourages you to contact any of the following:

Council Rep:

Grace Strasser
306-492-3665

Golf Committee:

Scott Coulson/Todd McEwan
golf@shields.ca

Parks, Beach, Playground and Ball Diamond Committee & Sport Court Chair:

Amanda Thiessen
306-361-7478

Green Spaces: Council Rep

Ryan Pasitney
306-230-5950

Member at Large:

Judy Rathie
306-492-4955

Co-Chair and Secretary:

Terri Pasitney

Beach, Playgrounds & Sport Court Committee

Shields Sport Court Update

The second annual Blackstrap Fish Derby was a huge success! The weather was beautiful and we got a lot of positive feedback from the changes made and how the event was run. We made a total of \$6,888.41 and a big thank you goes out to every volunteer who helped make this possible and also every resident who attended. Looking forward to next year's event!

I also want to congratulate our amazing community for placing 2nd in the Go Out and Play challenge and being gifted \$5000 towards our sport court! Thank you to everyone who helped us achieve this milestone – 2 years in a row!

To date our funds for the sport court are...

Donations:	\$ 6,044.75
Grants:	10,000.00
Fundraisers:	35,828.01
In kind:	7,000.00
Village Recreational Reserve:	30,000.00
Total:	\$88,872.76
 Goal:	 \$90,000.00
Funds needed:	\$1,127.24

So I think it's safe to say that we have reached our goal and the court project will be on its way to being built! Stay tuned for details as we navigate this through the current restrictions of COVID-19.

If anyone has any questions please don't hesitate to call me, Amanda Thiessen at 306-361-7478.

Parks, Beaches and Playground Update

We normally have a spring cleanup date set for the parks but due to the current situation, that has been cancelled. I encourage anyone walking around the Village to take this opportunity to pick up garbage or clean up a space with your family if time permits you to do so.

Amanda Thiessen; Parks, Beaches and Playground Chair
306 361 7478 amoseson@yahoo.com

Golf Committee

Spring is around the corner and we're preparing to open the course for the upcoming 2020 season. We are exploring all options to open the course as soon as possible in accordance to the COVID-19 isolation and distancing measures that are currently in the place. The course will be ready as soon as we get the green light to play!

Garry Hovland has stepped down as golf committee chair; we extend a sincere thank you to Garry for his many years of service! Todd MacEwan and Scott Coulson have agreed to co-chair the committee moving forward. We also have a new email, golf@shields.ca, for course bookings and other requests.

We have several projects planned for the year. These include continued irrigation upgrades and cart path upgrades throughout the course.

We have tentatively planned the Jack & Jill tournament for June 6, the Fundraiser Scramble tournament for August 8th and the Member Championship for September 12th.

Looking forward to seeing you all out on the course!

*Todd MacEwan / Scott Coulson
Golf Committee Co-Chairs*

Emergency Measures Organization - EMO



LET'S BE PREPARED

Being prepared for an emergency in the Village could save lives! The Emergency Response Organization for the Village needs your help!

Block Captains

We have a number of volunteer Block Captains, however we are need of more to ensure the Village is fully represented and all areas are covered effectively.

The role of the Block Captain is to:

- Contact everyone in their assigned block during an emergency
- Keep track of those notified and
- Assist the EM Organization and Coordinator as needed.

EMO Planning Committee

We are recruiting for members to join the EMO Planning Committee to assist in the ongoing emergency preparedness planning for the Village.

If you are interested in being involved in any way with EMO, please contact Debbie Heidt, EMO Coordinator at 306-371-0900 or dheidt1@gmail.com. Thank you!

Congratulations to our New Fire Chief

Congratulations to Tom Wilms from our Village who was recently promoted to Fire Chief of Dundurn Fire Department (DFD) that services our community as well as Thode, Dundurn and the RM. Tom has served on the DFD for 16 years, the past 10 of which serving as the Deputy Chief.



If you are interested in what our First Responders are doing in our communities – please follow their Facebook Page – Dundurn Fire Department.