



Shields News – Spring 2021

editor: Debbie Heidt

Mayor's Message:

There is such a sense of renewed optimism this Spring with the warmer weather and a COVID-19 vaccination plan underway. Hopefully, COVID-19 will be a story of the past and we will be allowed to get together with our neighbors, coworkers and loved ones again soon.

Council has been very busy over the last few months applying for many grants, preparing surveys, updating bylaws, hiring staff, updating agreements, negotiating lot sale agreements and planning for the future.

Thank you to those who completed the Public Consultation Survey that was sent out in January. We had an exceptionally good response rate of 61%. Council held their annual Strategic Planning meeting in February and used this information as part of the decision-making process to determine initiatives for 2021. During the Strategic planning meeting Council identified the projects and resources needed and used this information to develop the Village's budget for 2021. Some of the 2021 initiatives include:

- Irrigation Projects
- Road work including calcium chloride
- Tree replacement and new trees
- Equipment Purchases
- New Waste Management Plan
- New Administration Office Project
- Programming/Events

We have been very conscientious of the funding that is available from the government this year and have applied for many grants that we are anxiously awaiting on for final approval. The grants applied for include:

- Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – up to 73.33% funding for Sport Court Amenities Building to include indoor bathrooms, kiosk, community flex space and improved storage area.
- Grant for 4 summer employment positions in the Village (cover 75% of minimum wage)
- Canada Healthy Communities Initiative – 100% for a Community Outdoor Event Centre –including a 40 x 40 cement patio plus a gazebo where events can be held.
- Saskatchewan Lottery Grants for programming in the 2021 season.
- Road Grant in collaboration with the RM of Dundurn. This grant is to complete the South Mawson road improvements to highway 211.

We will be notified shortly regarding these grants and if successful, can proceed with our planning for these exciting improvements for the community.

We are thrilled about the renewed interest in the lots on South Mawson and happy to report two lots have been sold. The builds are planned to start this spring. A big welcome to the new families moving into our community.

Congratulations and best of luck to Jessie Williams, our Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) who has announced her well-deserved retirement after 37 years of service. Her last day of work is August 31, 2021.

After careful consideration, Shields and Thode have decided to hire their own Administrators due to the growth of the communities and the increased workload. Shields is very pleased to announce that Jessica Loran has accepted the CAO position for Shields with a start date of May 1, 2021. Jessica has municipal experience working with the City of Martensville and the City of Saskatoon. She holds a Degree as well as a Business Administration Diploma. Jessica's office will be located in the Shield's Community Centre. Please join me in welcoming Jessica! (*See Jessica's bio later in this newsletter*)

A big thanks to Al and Joan Hiebert for hosting the Joint Shields/Hotshop Playday. Registration for the two days filled up quickly. Each participant got to try two different art forms and go home with two pieces of their own artwork. Participants commented on having such a great facility right in our backyard. The event was enjoyed by all.

The call for Volunteers Survey will be going out shortly. The survey will be sent to you via email or you can follow the link on the Volunteer poster in this newsletter. We thank all the residents that currently volunteer, and it is encouraging to hear that many residents have a renewed interest in joining Committees and becoming involved with the Community. Once the surveys are complete, and your preferences identified on what you would like to be involved in, we will be contacting you.

I would also like to thank our staff, Jessie for her ongoing support and Kaija and Fred for their contributions to maintaining the Village.

Stay safe and take care.

Sincerely, Angie Larson



Keep the Spirit Strong!

**Many Village Committees and Special Projects
have vacancies requiring your talents.**

**To Make a Difference in the Community
Go to Shields Website: www.shields.ca**

Volunteers needed for Committees and Special Projects

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/shieldsvolunteer>

Shields Adds Village Email Address

Shields has implemented a second email address that may be used for mass email-outs such as Village surveys. To ensure you receive emails from this account, please add Villageofshields@gmail.com to your contacts so the emails do not go into your spam account.

Shields main email address remains as admin@shields.ca and it is always best to direct any inquiries to this email when contacting the Administration Office.

Upcoming Events for 2021

Happy Spring!!

Well you can sure tell the Spring is here with the incredible increase in daylight hours and the wonderful amounts of sun we have been receiving. It is such a special time of year, and a time that I really appreciate living in Shields, as we enjoy the changing of the seasons.

The ***Spirit of Shields Award*** is a special recognition of an individual in our community that has gone over and above to volunteer in the community. This might be through coaching in our area, helping with community events, being involved with committees in our village, and is an ambassador for our community through their community involvement. We have such a great volunteer base in the community, and it is worthy of celebrating their activism.

If you wish to nominate an individual for this award, please go to the www.shields.ca . On the Shields website you will find a description of the award, the criteria of eligibility and a digital nomination form. Nominations will be accepted starting May 1st; nominations will close on July 1st. The award will be presented at the volunteer appreciation event in the Fall.

Stay tuned for Canada Day events to be announced at a later date.

Carol Sarich, Councillor

Little Minnows Soccer

Coach Cody and I are happy to announce there will be a Little Minnows soccer season in Shields this spring!

Practice will be held in the park Tuesday evenings from 6:00-7:00, beginning April 20th. We are hoping to split into two age groups (depending on registration numbers) with the younger group playing from 6:00-6:30 and the older from 6:30-7:00.

It will be super casual as in years past, some fun games, drills, and scrimmage. No games against other teams, just a fun way to stay active and connected with our community!

For more information or to register your player, call/text (coach Melissa) @ @ 306-221-2385. We look forward to seeing you out there!

Coach Melissa and Coach Cody



Village Administration and Operations

Hopefully spring is here to stay. Just for general information the Resort Village paid \$13,871.00 for police protection in 2020. I would like to thank our maintenance staff (Fred and Kaija) for the excellent job of snow removal this winter. The roads within the Village were always well maintained. The cleaning of culverts and water runoff were not much of an issue this spring. GOOD JOB FOLKS!

Maintenance this year will include installing a couple of catch basins, raising a culvert or two and re-sloping or building up roads a little. Dust control will be applied when weather and availability permit.

On behalf of my wife Linda and myself we wish everyone a great summer. Remember to get your COVID vaccination when it becomes available to you.

Noel Tomlenovich, Councillor 306-220-9603

Changes to Shields Waste/Recycle Programs effective September 1, 2021

Shields is implementing a new Waste Management program in September which will include door-to-door recycling. Each resident requesting waste pickup will receive two bins:

- A blue bin (recycling) which will be picked up biweekly
- The garbage bin will be picked up weekly in the summer months from May to August and bi-weekly in the fall and winter months from September to April.

The fee for residents will remain at \$21.50 with the Village covering the cost of the additional summer service (this includes \$2.50 for the rental of the two carts). Seasonal service will increase from \$1.25 to 2.50 to cover the cart rental during the off season. See shields.ca for full details.

Information Available on Shields Website

- [2020 Drinking Water Quality and Compliance Notice](#) The Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment requires that at least once each year waterworks owners provide notification to consumers of the quality of water produced and supplied as well as information on the performance of the waterworks in submitting samples as required by a Minister's Order or Permit to Operate a waterworks.
- [2020 Audited Financial Statement](#) is available on the website.

Shields Speed Limit

Reminder to everyone Shields speed limit is 30 km. Spring is upon us and everyone will be out and about, especially the children. *Please respect the speed limit to ensure the safety of our neighbors, children and residents of Shields!*

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.

Parks, Culture & Recreation

Beach, Playgrounds & Sport Court

Parks, Beaches and Playground

Some improvement initiatives will be undertaken this summer at the beach! Addition of new garbage cans and some ground levelling and seeding will be the main focus. Additional sprinklers and hoses will also aid in keeping the area green and lush and will be an inviting space for all to enjoy.

There were complaints of dog feces in Aiden's Park the past few weeks. The situation was rectified and a full 5-gallon pail worth was picked up. This is where children play and shouldn't be subjected to someone's carelessness. Be a good person and remember to take steps to actively pick up after your pet. If you forget a bag, please go back after your walk and pick it up.

Cam Paulson, Councillor Rep

Parks Committee – Garbage Challenge



With the nice weather arriving there are many taking advantage of all the wonderful green spaces in our Village! So the Parks Committee put on a garbage challenge work bee on Saturday April 10th at the playground. Everyone was asked to bring a rake and have the kids bring their bags of garbage that was collected from Shields' greenspaces.

The child who brought the most bags of garbage during the work bee on Saturday won a free pizza from Pixel Pizza in Dundurn. Runners up also received a candy bag!! Thanks to Pixel Pizza for their donations as well as Paulette Boehm for her donation to make the prizes even bigger for kids participating in the challenge!



Thanks to all that came out to the work bee!! It was a huge success!! Special thanks to our children of the Village that took on the challenge for the whole week to make this a success. Congratulations to Karl, Nic and Alex Reschney for collecting the most garbage and winning the Pixel Pizza!



Carrie Hart, Parks Committee

Shields Sport Court

The Sport Court construction has resumed. The posts have been placed and the fencing will be completed soon. After this has been completed, we will be ready to start on the electrical portion. This will consist of the lighting needed and the power source to be installed. The pavement will also be cleaned and lines will be painted on the surface. Two large signs have been purchased outlining the rules of play and contact numbers for emergencies and maintenance concerns. We will also plan for a grand opening ceremony. The projected date of completion will be June 2021.



Greenspaces Committee

The Greenspaces Committee held a meeting and discussed tree planting initiatives for the summer of 2021. We will leverage the knowledge and expertise of Sasha Reiber to determine if we can transplant some of our existing larger trees within the Village to other locations. Some of the locations include central lake access on Proctor Dr, Mawson Alley and South Mawson Dr (to replace the dead Scott's Pine). If transplanting is not a good option, we will alternatively purchase 3-foot trees. If we go that route, we will need some volunteers to help tree planting this summer, so stay tuned if that may interest you!

Additionally, fruit and berry trees/bushes will be purchased for the Songbird Lane Greenspace. As we remove trees, we will make sure to replant one in its place, provided they have enough room to grow properly. There are also plans on developing a tree nursery on the golf course this spring. Trees were ordered and are on their way in early May!

Cam Paulson, Councillor Rep

Golf Committee

Hi everyone, it's that time of year to dust off your clubs and get your carts serviced up! Our open date is weather dependent, stay tuned for updates.

We will be holding our 2020 rates and fees for the 2021 season. See shields.ca for details. COVID regulations are continually changing, but it sounds like the same rules as last year will apply. Please remain respectful of the course and players on it by following the rules and regulations.

We will be continuing our tee and green irrigation upgrades throughout the spring. Work will also continue on our new, safer hole 6 layout throughout the season.

We're looking forward to a great season, see you all on the course!

*Scott Coulson / Todd MacEwan
Golf committee co-chairs*

Fairway 2 Clean-Up

Not only was their clean up in the Parks this week-end, but there was also a work bee for the golf course on fairway #2 cleaning up all the tree branches that had fallen from the winter winds. Thanks to all the volunteers that came out to get the work done!

Wheatland Library – Dundurn Branch

Residents of Shields who wish to borrow materials from our provincial library must obtain a Wheatland library card. During COVID it is best to go to the Dundurn Library, in the old town office, to get a library card. The website has a very extensive list of books, movies, DVDs and audio books you can borrow from anywhere in the province. Once you place an order the books will be delivered when they are available to the Dundurn Branch location.

The Dundurn library located at 300 – 3rd Avenue has a limited selection of books of all genres, for all ages and a very nice selection of children's books. You can browse and borrow; our librarian or assistant are always willing to help you out.

Our library is struggling financially as we have not been able to hold our usual fund raisers because of COVID . We only receive two grants a year from the province and those grants do not cover our yearly expenses. To help out, our Library Board is holding a 50/50 draw. You can purchase tickets from me or at various places in Dundurn.

Judy Rathie 306-492-4955

Board member and treasurer, representing Shields

Library Hours:

Tuesday and Thursday 5:00 to 8:00
Wednesday 10:30 to 4:30
Friday 9:00 to 12:00



Events in 2021

Hiebert's Hot Shop Play Day March 20 and 21, 2021.



There were 35 people over a two-day period that participated in a winter hands-on craft day in Hiebert's Hot Shop/Ken Wilkinson Pottery Studio. The participants had a chance to meet new people, renew friendships and have fun learning a new skill even from behind a mask and socially distancing.



The day consisted of two 3-hour sessions of hands-on experience in the following areas: hand- building and wheel throwing of clay; glass blowing; stained glass; wood carving; and jewelry making. Participants commented that they used tools that they would have never otherwise tried and felt a real sense of accomplishment. Each person took home two or three pieces of lovely artwork.

This was a joint initiative between the Hot Shop and the Village. Big thank you to our hosts Al and Joan Hiebert (glass blowing) and the artists: Ken Wilkinson and John Elder (pottery); Lenneka Verweij (stained glass); Bettyann Desroches (jewelry); and Erin Lalonde (wood carving). The following volunteers helped with hostess duty and covid-19 precautions: Mandi Singler, Linda Ellerington, Sophie Findlay; Angie Larson; and Darrell Mayes. Linda Ellerington donated the grinding services for the glass blown art. Some of the art work requires a follow-up to complete – pottery projects need trimming, bisqueing, glazing and then firing. Thank you to Ken Wilkinson for providing the opportunity to complete these pieces. Also thanks to our funders, Prairie Central District for Sports, Culture and Recreation and Sask Lotteries, for their contribution which allowed us to keep the registration fees low.



FUN DAYS AT THE HOT SHOP



BLOWN GLASS



STAINED GLASS



WOOD CARVING

JEWELRY MAKING



POTTERY



Shields Introduces Jessica Loran



My name is Jessica Loran and I was born and raised in Saskatoon, but spent every summer of my childhood at Martins Lake where I developed my appreciation for 'lake living'. As an adult, I would spend evenings and weekends making the shorter commute to Blackstrap lake where I fell in love with the community.

This past year we were finally able to purchase our dream home on the lake and we moved to Thode in October of 2020. We've spent the winter skiing and snowshoeing and are looking forward to all that this summer has in store for us. I am excited to serve this amazing community and to do all I can to make Shields the best it can be!

Jessica Loran

Welcome Jessica to our Community!

Jessica is joining Shields' staff on May 1st and will be taking over for Jessie upon on her retirement as the Chief Administration Officer