

**FRASER LAKE
VILLAGE OFFICE**

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**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

- Internet Services
- Community Volunteers
- Fraser Lake Public Library
- C.H. Foote Arena
- BC Family Day 2021
- Fraser Lake Chamber of Commerce
- Love Fraser Lake
- Business License
- Business Façade
- Fire Chief Report

The Village Office,
Public Works and
CH Foote Arena

Will be closed on
Monday,
February 15, 2021
to observe the BC
Family Day
Holiday

**Fraser Lake
Public Library
AGM**

Tuesday,
February 23, 2021–
4:00 pm at the
Small Event Centre,
86 Nadina Cres.

We are looking for
Trustees. We meet
once a month for ap-
proximately an hour.
No meetings in July,
August or December.
If you are interested,
please call Audrey at
250-699-8888 for
more information.

Village News

FEBRUARY 2021

FROM THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Internet Services Fraser Lake

Are you happy with your internet service? Have you experienced slow internet speeds, disruptions or instability in your service, limitations around the number of devices that can effectively stream at the same time? Do you use your electronic devices for business or education? Are you frustrated by service limitations when trying to order supplies or participating in online learning or video conferencing? Have you attempted to use Facetime, Zoom or Microsoft Teams and found the signal is poor or incapable of maintaining a consistent signal?

The COVID-19 pandemic created circumstances where more people are using electronic devices to stay in touch with family and friends or continuing their education through an electronic format or working from home. The pandemic has reinforced the fact that high-speed internet access is a necessity for all Canadians. Larger centres have these services. Why shouldn't we?

In the recent months, the Federal Government announced their **Universal Broadband Fund**, which will fund broadband infrastructure projects to bring high-speed internet to Rural and remote households. The standard set out in this program is a minimum 50Mbps download/10 Mbps upload. These standards are intended to provide good streaming and uploading capabilities.

The Village of Fraser Lake is preparing with other agencies for an application to this Fund. A significant aspect of our application is a clear demonstration of our substandard internet speeds. To accomplish this, we need to conduct "internet speed tests" across the community. We require speed tests from at least one out of every five households and businesses. **That is a monumental task, and WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Regardless of whether the internet service meets your needs, to ensure our businesses, our students, and our Medical System have the internet service they need to conduct business, continue their education or simply the ability to function effectively, our community needs high-speed internet. Without high-speed internet, we will not be able to attract new business, industry, or new residents.

We have limited time to complete these speed tests. We have hired Jennel Harder to assist with these speed tests. In the next week she will be conducting door to door visits to each house and business in the community with the hope of conducting a speed test at your residence. We are sensitive to the need to protect the health of our residents. In most cases, we anticipate speed tests can be conducted on the doorstep. I ask that you work with us to complete this process as quickly and completely as possible. Thank you on behalf of Mayor and Council.

Thank Goodness for our Community of Volunteers

We are so very fortunate to have such compassionate volunteers who give of their time, energy, and sometimes financial resources for the benefit of others. Most do what they do without fanfare or recognition. Some of their acts of kindness might involve checking on neighbours, plowing a driveway, delivering groceries, or picking up someone's mail for them. The list of volunteer activities is extensive and includes coaching youth sports teams, leading youth organizations or supporting seniors and residents in need through the various programs that have become common offerings in our community.

The COVID-19 pandemic isolated so many of our residents. Access to facilities, programs and activities was curtailed. It has been wonderful to see the many volunteers who have taken the time to make our community a better place to live. At a time, when we felt like locking the doors and closing the shutters, we have volunteers providing opportunities for outdoor activities and socialization. The hockey rink and skating oval down on the lake are a great example. It is great to see the group of volunteers who have been maintaining those amenities. On a warm, sunny winter day the opportunity for a skate with your family at the lake reminds me of the wonderful community we live in and the volunteers who are working to keep it that way.

FROM THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

C.H. Foote Memorial Arena

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the use of our ice arena has been limited. Public health concerns prevented adult sports, public skating, and private rentals in arenas across the province. The Village will turn off the ice plant and bring the ice season to a close at the end of day on February 25th.

BC Family Day 2021

This year the BC Family

Day is scheduled for Monday February 15th, 2021. In anticipation of continued Provincial Health Orders that restrict gatherings, prohibit congregating, require social distancing, and hand washing, an organized Family Day event will not be possible this year. We would like to encourage families to spend time within their social bubble to celebrate family. The following was taken from the current Provincial Health Order.

These activities are

not considered a social gathering:

Going for a walk. You must make sure a walk does not turn into a group of people meeting outside.

Parents carpooling kids to and from school.

Grandparents providing childcare.

Public skating rinks, when not associated with an event, are allowed to continue to operate with a COVID-19 Safety Plan.



Fraser Lake & District Chamber of Commerce

Did you know that the Fraser Lake & District Chamber of Commerce supports local business through a variety of avenues such as staff training and the Chamber Dollar program? In 2020 just over \$50,000 of Chamber Dollars were purchased and spent at 15 local businesses. The Fraser Lake and District Chamber of Commerce meets once a month to network, discuss Fraser Lake initiatives, and brings in speakers. The Chamber offers individual or business memberships, and all the members are eligible for exclusive benefits such as 3.5 cents off a liter of fuel just to name one. The meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7pm, in the Fraser Lake Professional Building – 298 McMillian Avenue. Come on out and network with area members.



Our Equipment – Your Adventure

Did you know that the Village of Fraser Lake has Cross-country skis and snowshoes? The equipment is available for a minimal daily fee through Canada's Grocery Store. You can use this equipment to write your own adventure. Visit Canada's Grocery Store for more information.

LOVEFRASERLAKE.COM

Love Fraser Lake is a program to support local independent business with an online presence, which showcases the owners, location, and product or services offered. Lovefraserlake.com has 28 local businesses currently enrolled. If you have not visited lovefraserlake.com, I highly recommend it.

2021 Fraser Lake Business Licenses

Just a reminder that any businesses doing business in the Village of Fraser Lake needs to have a valid business license. This includes any businesses located outside of the Village boundaries but doing business in Fraser Lake. Contact Dave @ 250-699-6257 or dchristie@fraserlake.ca for any questions or to get the 2021 package. Need to find a business, visit www.fraserlake.ca and under the business tab and you will see all registered businesses.

Fraser Lake Business Façade Program

Do you have a Commercial Business, Not-For-Profit, B&B or Home-Based Business in Fraser Lake that needs some revitalization or wayfinding signage? The Fraser Lake Business Façade program will match up to 50% of the project costs. Call Dave @ 250-699-6257 or stop by the Village Office for specific program details.

Fire Chief's Report

For the month of January Fraser Lake Fire Rescue has responded to five Medical calls, two fire related calls, two commercial fire alarm along with two motor vehicle incidences. Regular fire practices have also been conducted throughout the month.

The Fraser Lake Fire Department is also accepting application for new recruits. If you are interested in becoming a professional volunteer fire fighter in your community please contact Fire Chief Joe Pacheco at 250-699-2859.

