THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE VILLAGE OF LIONS BAY

Weekly Village News

Friday, May 22, 2015

From the Mayor's Desk

Hello Neighbours:

Today I regret to announce to the Village that Mandy Giesbrecht has this week resigned her position as **Chief Administrative Officer** of Lions Bay, and will be leaving us after a brief handover period. In her six months in the role, and as Office Coordinator for 13 months before, Mandy has accomplished much, and I for one have appreciated her competence and professionalism, as well as the ever-smoother running of the Village. In the remaining weeks Mandy will complete vital tasks, prepare staff, and produce a transition brief. Council has already commenced the search for our new CAO. Largely through Mandy's influence and planning, Lions Bay has a resilient staff organisation in place, with corporate memory and much-improved recordkeeping. Until our new CAO is in place, I ask residents to be patient on less-vital issues. On behalf of the Village, I sincerely thank Mandy for her service, and offer her our very best wishes for the future.

Onward. Lions Bay's registered voters will have received a **Transportation & Transit Plebiscite** ballot in the mail and may still be wondering whether and how to vote before the May 29 voting deadline. Lions Bay Council has resolved to not take a position on the plebiscite, but sitting as I do on the TransLink Mayors' Council, I've learned the following. The proposed 0.5% increase in PST (only within our Metro Vancouver Regional District) will cost the average family between $125 and $260 a year, depending on who you ask. This tax was the method selected by the Mayors' Council to raise Metro's third of the $7.5 billion cost of the so-called Mayor's Transportation & Transit Plan; the Provincial and Federal governments are expected to stump up the remaining one-third each. I know that TransLink, our transit authority, does not inspire widespread admiration, but the vote is about funding the Mayors' Plan, not TransLink's efficiency. Elections BC reports that as of May 20, 46.5 percent of Lions Bay voters had returned their ballots, better than the Metro average of 41.9%. I'm gratified by Lions Bay's showing, but I hope that more Lions Bay voters will take the opportunity to have a say. Transportation and transit is a long-term regional issue that directly affects us: we use it way beyond Lions Bay, in buses, Skytrain, Canada Line, SeaBus, bridges, roads and so on. And, if the rest of Metro's denizens plus a million more in the next 20 years don't have transit options, they will be on the roads too, when we *have* to drive.

Back on the water wagon, this past Tuesday Council adopted Lions Bay's new **Outdoor Water Use Bylaw No. 484**. The meat of the bylaw is contained in its conservation level definitions (see attached PDF) straight from the Council package. Thanks to the Infrastructure Committee and particularly Committee member Greig Garland, for yeoman work on a Lions Bay-specific guideline for an emergent situation. Enforcement begins June 1, but be assured that the Village wants the water, not the fine. Outdoor water use is just the beginning--please start thinking indoor conservation and alternative water sources now.

Finally, if you weren't at the **Lions Bay's Got Talent** spectacular show last night, you missed a happening. Presumably because I'm incorruptible I was one of four judges, and I was blown away by the energy and talent of performers young and old. By my standards every performer deserved an award, but the judges were handed the nigh-impossible task of awarding first, second and third places. After an deep debate, third prize was awarded to Tom and Francoise de Pauw's masterful *Argentinean Tango* (frankly, tango looks pretty dangerous to me), second prize went to Marina Bonner and Maliya Jakob's dance interpretation of Taylor Swift's *22*, and first prize went to Kelk Jeffrey for a subtly-wrought *Polish Dance* on the violin. Thanks to the Events Committee for putting on a wonderful event.

Karl
(mayor.buhr@lionsbay.ca)

WEEKLY VILLAGE NEWS

We apologize to those who did not receive the Weekly Village News last Friday. Those who did may have noticed that we were using a new program which was implemented specifically for sending out “mass emails” to avoid backing up our email server, and to ensure resident privacy as per the ‘Freedom of Information and Privacy Protection Act’. We quickly found out that many residents did not receive the email, and took action to rectify the issue immediately. The issue was to do with “servers” not “talking” to each other, in short, and turned out to be a bigger issue than we could tend to. We have done some research with other municipalities and will be trying a different program in the coming weeks. For today, we are back to the old way. Please bear with us each Friday as we implement the mass email program until it is running smoothly. Should you not receive any upcoming Friday emails, please email office@lionsbay.ca to notify us so that we can continue to rectify any issues. We thank you for your understanding and patience.

(The Weekly Village News is also posted on the Village website under “Notices > Public Notices” every Friday).

THE LIONS BAY 55+ CLUB

The 55+ Club is a weekly gathering where outings are intended to stimulate and engage residents of Lions Bay who are wanting to connect to the community in an active way.

Upcoming events in May:

- Sunday, May 24th – Tea Party at the Library (3-5pm)

- Thursday, May 28th – Stretch and Strength (1:30-2:30pm)
- Thursday, May 28th – Building a Better Brain (7-8:30pm)
- Thursday, June 4th – Stretch and Strength (1:30-2:30pm)

View the calendar on the Village website each month for upcoming 55+ Club events. Please register your attendance with kjeffery@lionsbay.ca.

UPCOMING COUNCIL & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Bylaw & Policy Review Committee Meeting – May 25, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.
Regular Council Meeting – June 2, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

All meetings will take place in Council Chambers.

The Village office stays open until 6:30 p.m. on Regular Council Meeting days in order to serve you better!

DAILY WATER PRODUCTION GRAPHS NOW ONLINE

A daily Water Production Graph has now been added to the Village website and will be updated each weekday to reflect daily production (consumption) rates. Click the link under the Latest Updates section of the home page.

BYLAW REPORTING

Weekdays: Village Office (604) 921-9333 or reception@lionsbay.ca
Weekends: Bylaw Officer (604) 834-3404 or bylaw@lionsbay.ca

If, at any time, residents experience an event which poses an immediate threat to personal safety, please contact the RCMP by dialing 9-1-1.

LAST CALL FOR BRENDA BROUGHTON SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Applications for the Brenda Broughton Scholarship will be accepted at the Village Office until end of day, **Monday, May 25, 2015**.

Please see the criteria and application form on the Village website for more information.

TEA PARTY AT THE LIBRARY

Residents of Lions Bay… You're invited to a tea party! Please join us from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 24, 2015 to celebrate the opening of the new library.

Location: Upper Floor, 400 Centre Road, Lions Bay



ARTS AND GARDEN FESTIVAL

The Arts and Garden Festival is being held on Sunday May 31st from 11:00 – 4:00. The lower gardens will be open from 11:00 – 2:00 and the upper gardens will be open from 1:00 – 4:00. The Native Garden will also be open and will be having a plant sale. In the Hall, the I Love Lions Bay photo contest will be displaying finalists and you can help to choose the winners. A LBAC members and guest reception will be held at 6:00 pm at the Bajus Residence at 425 Mountain Drive.

Detailed program cards will be in the mail next week; starting Monday May 25th, check out our website at www.lionsbayartscouncil.org for details.

2016 BUDGET REQUESTS

The Village is inviting residents to submit suggestions for consideration in the 2016 budget. Please send your requests to feedback@lionsbay.ca for consideration in the budget process, which will commence mid-fall.

PARKING & SIGNAGE REVIEW

The Village is undertaking a review of parking issues and overall signage in the Village and would like your feedback! If you have comments, concerns, suggestions please send them to feedback@lionsbay.ca

TREE CUTTING PERMIT APPLICATIONS

A new process is being implemented to facilitate processing of tree cutting applications. The new Tree Cutting Application Package is available on our website under "Permits & Licencing". The package contains detailed instructions about the new process, copies of relevant bylaws and policies, and PDF fillable forms which can be printed and signed once complete. Hard copies are also available at the Village Office. This new form provides thorough direction and is expected to allow for quicker processing time once received by the Office.

"I LOVE LIONS BAY PHOTO CONTEST" NEEDS YOUR HELP!



Thank you to everyone who has submitted their photos depicting why they love Lions Bay. We've received close to 200 entries; that's a whole lot of love! And now we're asking you to help us pick the winners, because it's our residents that can best choose what makes Lions Bay such a special place to live. The top 10 images from each age group will be displayed at the upcoming Arts & Garden Festival on Sunday May 31. Please come on down to the Village Hall and let us know which image best shows why "I Love Lions Bay". Community judging will be from 11am to 2pm, with our wonderful sponsors presenting the prizes at 3pm.

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WILDFIRE NEWS

Click here for the third issue of the Coastal Fire Centre newsletter for the latest wildfire information.

RAIN BARRELS

Please see the attached PDF article written by Brian Ulrich, Infrastructure Committee member, with detailed information on how to purchase and use a rain barrel. For clarity, the rain barrels will not be sold through the Village office. Brian has kindly offered to do one run to pick-up several barrels (pre-payment direct to him only), as mentioned in his letter, however the Village will take your name down to ensure a spot on a first come, first serve basis, but there are only a few spots left! Should you miss the order through Brian, the supplier's name is Darren and can be reached at 604-807-7855.

REGIONAL CONTEXT STATEMENT

All municipalities in Metro Vancouver are required to adopt Regional Context Statements (RCS) that align with Metro Vancouver's Regional Growth Strategy. The RCS contained in the Village of Lions Bay's Official Community Plan (OCP) predates the Regional Growth Statement and requires updating. In early 2015 Council undertook to update the existing Regional Context Statement and adopt it as an amendment to the Village's OCP, in anticipation of undertaking a full OCP update process in 2016. The document, and more information about how it will be adopted, can be found here.

SPECIAL EVENT PARKING PASSES NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

Residents may purchase these one-day parking passes for their visitors, valid for use in Resident Only zones, using a Visa or MasterCard. Tickets cost $1 each and are subject to a service fee (charged by the host website; the Village does not receive any portion of the service fee).

Once the online purchase has been completed, the parking passes can be printed out for display in vehicle windows. To purchase passes online, click here.

Note: passes must be visible in vehicle windows to avoid potential bylaw enforcement action.

NATIONAL HEALTH & FITNESS DAY – SATURDAY, JUNE 6 AT NOON

Save the date and join your fellow Villagers at Lions Bay school field for The Great Lions Bay Fitness Challenge on Saturday, June 6th. The route map is attached if you wish to partake in the Great Trail Run, or for those who would prefer, come out to the Family Fitness Challenge instead, hosted by Ian Grant, Lions Bay Yoga and Pilates Instructor! Stay tuned for further details.



Intentionally Blank

Outdoor Water Use Conservation Measures, Levels 1 to 3

Levels are established by Lions Bay Municipality with immediate effect, and apply to the use of treated drinking water supplied by the Municipality (not to rain water, grey water, any form of recycled water, or outside water). All measures are enforceable under this Bylaw.

	ACTIVITY	CONSERVATION LEVEL 1	CONSERVATION LEVEL 2	CONSERVATION LEVEL 3
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL USES	**Watering lawns, 4 - 9 am only.** **Newly planted lawns may be watered outside allowed times with a municipal permit displayed.**	Even-number addresses: Monday, Wednesday and Saturday. Odd-number addresses: Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday.	Even-number addresses: Monday only. Odd-number addresses: Thursday only.	Prohibited
	Watering flowers, vegetables, planters, shrubs, trees	No restriction.	Only by hand using spring-loaded nozzle, containers or Drip Irrigation. Sprinklers and soaker hoses prohibited.	Prohibited
	Use of pools, spas, ponds	No restrictions. Must have a recirculation pump. "One-time-through" uses are prohibited at all times.		Filling Prohibited
	Washing outdoor impermeable surfaces such as driveways, buildings, sidewalks, and roads, including pressure washing	No restriction.	Only for health and safety purposes or to prepare a surface for painting or similar treatment.	Prohibited
	Washing vehicles and boats	Only with hose equipped with spring-loaded shut off.	Only by bucket.	Prohibited, except for windows, lights and license plates
	Flushing boat engines	No restriction.		Four (4) minutes maximum
	Filling outdoor water storage	No restriction.		Prohibited
PUBLIC USES	**Watering of school property, including Lions Bay Field**	No restriction.	Minimum to maintain in useable condition.	Prohibited
	Watering of parks, municipal lawns, grassed boulevards, 1 – 6 am only	Even-number addresses: Monday and Wednesday. Odd number addresses: Tuesday and Thursday. Non-residential addresses: Friday.	Even-number addresses: Wednesday only. Odd-number addresses: Tuesday only.	Prohibited
	Flushing of water mains and hydrants	Only for safety or public health reasons		

ATTACHMENT - RAIN BARRELS - ARTICLE BY BRIAN ULRICH

Getting Serious about Collecting Rainwater

By Brian Ulrich

Last week my wife, Lizanne, and I were vacationing in Bermuda, visiting relatives and touring their beautiful island. When you fly to Bermuda, the first thing that strikes you when you look out the window on approach is the brilliant aqua blue color of the water around the island. The second thing you notice is that the roof on literally *every* building is a brilliant white. They are all built and coated the same way, and it's for a very important purpose; to collect rain water. There are no fresh water lakes, rivers or springs in Bermuda so their only source of water is rainwater collected from the roof of each building. Consequently, the Bermuda people take their rainwater collection very seriously and we can learn a thing or two from them.

This is relevant to us here in Lions Bay because this year's low snowpack indicates that we will likely be a in for a dry summer. If we're lucky, it might be a cool and rainy summer, which would keep our storage tanks filled and offset the lack of snow runoff. Unfortunately, we cannot predict that for sure, so we should think ahead and prepare for a dry one.

The obvious and easiest thing we can all do is collect rainwater from our rooftops. After all, we do live in a rainforest, and despite the lack of snow up in the mountains, we can still expect rain to fall from time to time over the summer. Although we often take the rain for granted here (or never get used to it like me), it doesn't take much to accumulate a significant amount of useful water.

For example, a house with a roof that is 40 feet by 60 feet in plan view (looking down on it from above so the slope is not evident), will collect about 60 gallons of water from only 1 mm of rainfall. That's enough to flush an old water guzzling toilet about 20 times, and even more if you have a modern low flush toilet. The bigger your roof, or the more rain we get, obviously, the more water you can collect.

Rain water is not treated like our potable (drinking) water is, so it should only be used for flushing toilets, watering plants and other non-human consumption uses. However, using rainwater for these purposes eases the heavy demand on our treated drinking water source during dry summer months and lets us stretch our supply further.

In Bermuda, by law, every house must have a large tank or cistern under the foundation that stores all the water collected from the roof. The law stipulates that 80% of the water falling on the roof must be collected and stored. To get an idea of how serious they are about collecting rainwater, these tanks hold 14,000 gallons *per bedroom* in the house, and this water is used for drinking, washing and any other potable water use.

Obviously the Bermuda systems are the result of more than a hundred years of development of rainwater collection technology. Since none of us here in Lions Bay have large tanks below our

houses to store water, we will have to start with smaller and more simple collection and storage strategies and develop them over time if need be. Most importantly, we will need to have these collection systems in place as soon as possible so we are prepared for the dry summer months that are approaching fast.

At the Community Safety Forum last month, we displayed some containers that can be used for rainwater collection that are readily available locally and quite inexpensive. These are food grade containers that once contained olives, soap, cooking oil and the like. These are very portable and with some simple modifications, are ideal for collecting rainwater. The most common ones are round 55 gallon plastic barrels like the ones shown in the photo below.



The barrel on the right has had the modifications done to it to make it ready for rainwater collection. These modifications include a strainer screen on the top (white cup in the center of the top), a valve at the bottom for filling containers from the barrel or feeding a garden hose (red handle at the bottom), and an overflow fitting at the top to direct overflow to a convenient area or another container (black elbow fitting at the top right side). The modifications involve cutting a roughly 4” diameter hole in the top for the strainer and drilling two holes in the side for the valve and overflow. The barrel in the photo took about ½ hr to modify.

The barrel is then positioned under a downspout from the gutters and it's ready to collect water. If the downspout from your rain gutter extends all the way to the ground, it may need to be shortened or re-routed so the barrel will fit under it. The downspout needs to feed the water into the strainer cup in the top of the barrel. The strainer keeps leaves, pine needles and other debris from the gutter from entering the barrel. These barrels are 23" in diameter and 38" high.

If you have the need for, or simply want to collect more than 55 gallons, the other most common container that is also inexpensive and readily available is a 250 gallon plastic tote like the one shown in the photo below.



Aside from the larger volume they can hold, the totes are nice because they come with a valve already built in at the bottom. The end of the valve spout (black and red cap) is visible at the bottom right of the container in the photo. The filler cap on this tote is also small enough to accommodate a strainer cup as is, without having to cut a special hole as is necessary on the 55 gallon barrels. This kind of tote comes with the metal cage for protection and a wooden pallet

on the bottom to protect the base. So you can judge if you have enough room for one of these, they measure 47” long by 39” wide by 44” high.

Although rain barrels can be purchased in stores, they are quite expensive for the purpose they serve. It’s just a bucket to hold water. We found the re-purposed blue barrels and the large totes provide very inexpensive rain collection solutions so Lions Bay residents have an economical alternative to dishing out lots of cash for fancy systems sold in the stores.

Including the bits for the modifications (valves, overflow fitting, screens etc), the blue 55 gallon barrels come in at about $30 not including modification labor or shipping. The strainer cup is simply a cottage cheese or sour cream container with a screen in the bottom. The larger 250 gallon tote, including the (fewer) bits for modification comes it at about $85 or so.

If you are interested in collecting rainwater this summer and would like to order one or more of these containers, please contact the village office for details. If you fancy doing the modifications yourself, stay tuned to the next issue when I will be posting a separate article describing all the parts and how to mount them (it’s not rocket science!). The containers you see in the photos are the ones I will be using at my house this summer, and when I have them set up in positon under my rainspouts I will post photos of that as well to give you some ideas. The container needs to supported at least a couple of feet off the ground so a bucket will fit under the outlet valve, so expect to build some sort of support frame for your rain barrel as well.

I never thought I’d hear my self say this, but I hope we have rain this summer…

Brian Ulrich