



## THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE VILLAGE OF LIONS BAY

---

### WEEKLY E-POST

For the week ending: Friday, February 20, 2015

## From the Mayor's Desk

Fellow Lions Bayers,

You may have noticed this year's low snow pack, and wondered about Lions Bay's water supply this summer. Council and the Administration are very conscious of the possibility of reduced supply this year. Water leak repairs in the last six months have already reduced the Village's average consumption from around 550,000 US gallons per day last January to 330,000 gallons a day this January. This amount was during a conservation period and summer consumption is always significantly higher, but 330,000 GPD represents about 800 liters per person per day, much closer to the Metro Vancouver annual average usage of 500 liters per person per day.

But Metro has ample reservoir storage to see them through dry months. Lions Bay has none: we rely entirely on stream flow. Given the uncertainty around snow pack, this year we will all need to be particularly conscious of our water usage once the streams start slowing down. The Village will undertake a full court press on leakage on the municipal side of the shutoff valve this spring and summer. On the private side of the valve, I ask that if you already know you have leakage, please get it fixed now. The Village will soon introduce defined water conservation levels and signage to raise awareness of where we stand every day. If the dial says Conserve, we mean it! We will also be looking at a new rigorous conservation policy to formalize when excessive consumption can be shut off until leakage is addressed. As you likely know, most residential supply lines are soft copper, and 30, 40 and 50 years old. Public Works leak equipment can hear even small flows, so if you even suspect a leak, please call. Please also audit leakage and consumption in the house. Dual-flush toilets, lo-flo showerheads, high efficiency washing machines and dishwashers, instant hot water devices: they all help. And in Lions Bay, lower water consumption indoors has the added benefit of reducing load on septic systems.

In summary: the municipality is on it, and we should be fine this summer if everyone does their part.

A clarification on my EPost piece last week: I mentioned that the Metro Vancouver Regional District charges its member municipalities an average of \$154 a year per property for water, but left out that each municipality also adds its own charges. For example, the District of North Vancouver's total 2015 single family residential water charge is \$630 overall. The City of Surrey is \$779 for a non-metered property. Given the technical challenges of water supply in Lions Bay and our very low economies of scale, our \$788 fee plus \$485 parcel tax is not a bad deal to break even on supplying water, plus service our water infrastructure loans, and pay for the upcoming Infrastructure Master Plan.

-Mayor Karl Buhr



## THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE VILLAGE OF LIONS BAY

---

### **SENIORS RECREATIONAL & SOCIAL PROGRAMMING**

Councillor Waterson, along with senior Village staff and the Lions Bay Seniors Guild, are working to establish a regular 55+ program in the Village. Stay tuned for more information!



### **INFRASTRUCTURE QUESTION OF THE WEEK**



Have a question for the Infrastructure Committee? Please send it to [feedback@lionsbay.ca](mailto:feedback@lionsbay.ca) with the subject line "Infrastructure Q&A".

### **FAMILY DANCE CLASSES**

Family Dance Workout class is now being offered in the Lions Bay Village Hall on Fridays, 5:00-6:00pm. Great opportunity to exercise and have your children join in--or they can play quiet games on the side. Classes offered on a trial basis, February 27 and March 6, \$15 a family per class. Please email [laurazieroth@email.com](mailto:laurazieroth@email.com) to reserve your spot.



### **LOCAL ARTISTS FEATURED**

Congratulations to four of Lions Bay's local artists: Lucy Traini, Sheila Blake, Monica Gewrurz and Donna Stark who will be participating in the North Shore Art Crawl March 7 & 8. For more information on the event, visit <http://nsartcrawl.ca/>

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Council meetings are audio recorded and the links are available on our website, along with the Agenda package documentation and approved minutes. [Click here](#) to access the calendar page. You can find the links by clicking the Council meeting date in the calendar.

### **WILDLIFE REMINDERS**

Remember to be Bear Aware!

Warm weather has come and there is some speculation that bears will wake earlier from hibernation this year. Here are some helpful links for being be Bear Smart in Lions Bay:

- [There's a Bear in my yard!](#)
- [Bear Proofing your property](#)

Last year, there were an alarming number of coyote sightings in the Village. Here are four basic steps to scare off a coyote:

1. Never run away from a coyote! They are not naturally aggressive to people, but like most predatory mammals, they have a natural instinct to chase. Stand your ground, be big (hands up over your head), and yell in your loudest voice.



## THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE VILLAGE OF LIONS BAY

---

2. Observe the coyote's response. Many coyotes will flee with basic hazing. If the coyote does not flee the area, proceed to step 3.
3. You may need to increase the intensity of your hazing effort. You can chase the coyote, throw things at it, and make loud noises (i.e. banging pots and pans, or the "coyote shaker" is highly effective – simply put 12-15 coins in a soda can and tape the opening closed, it is very noisy when shaken and can be thrown to land near a coyote that does not respond to the noise alone.
4. If the coyote seems highly habituated and does not respond to your increased vigilance and persistence at scaring it off, the next step is to get your neighbours involved. The more people, the more likely the coyote will stay afraid.



For more information on coyotes and bears, and what to do if you spot wildlife in the Village, please refer to the [wildlife page](#) on the website.

### **UTILITY BILLS**

For resident's information; the 2015 utility bills will be mailed out on Friday, February 27, 2015.