



THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE VILLAGE OF LIONS BAY

WEEKLY E-POST

For the week ending: Friday, February 27, 2015

INFRASTRUCTURE QUESTION OF THE WEEK

This week's question:



Q: Given the obvious lack of snow accumulation at altitudes due to the mild and wet weather we have had this winter, should we as a community be concerned about potable water supply through the typically dry period during late summer/early fall?

A: The answer—like many engineering answers— it depends. Snow accumulation through the winter acts as a storage reservoir that provides a source of water supply through the dryer summer period as the accumulated snow melts. There are no reservoirs up the mountain, and our nine in-service water tanks are only used to store treated water to be used within 24-48 hours (before too much chlorine disinfectant off-gases or is used up to prevent regrowth of bacteria and biofilm). Without snow accumulation, the surface water within the creeks typically available for consumption is anticipated to be severely limited.

What can you do to help? As stated here last week, if you know or suspect that you have leakage in the line leading from the street to the house, now would be a good time to get it fixed. It's also a good time to audit drips, leakage and consumption in the house. If you've been considering dual-flush toilets, lo-flo shower heads, high efficiency appliances or instant hot water devices, now would be a good time. (And lowered water use indoors has the added benefit of reducing water going to the drain and adding load to septic systems).

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

VILLAGE OFFICE / HALL ACCESS

With the construction of the accessibility walkway now underway, please be advised the following temporary access arrangements to our facilities:

- Village Office: is only accessible via the staircase from the upper parking area
- Village Hall: is only accessible via the library entrance (and down the internal staircase)

These access points may change as this project progresses; we will provide updates and post signage as necessary. We thank you for your understanding and patience. We expect the walkway to be completed by mid-March.



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UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next Council Strategy Committee (aka COTW) Meeting will be held at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, March 3rd. The next Regular Council Meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 3rd. Remember, the Village Office stays open until 6:30 p.m. on Regular Council Meeting dates in order to serve you better! **Please note that due to the walkway construction at the Village office, both meetings will be held in the Village Hall (accessed via the upper walkway to the library entrance and down the internal staircase).**

OUT WITH THE OLD (MEDICATIONS), IN WITH THE NEW!

Your medicine cabinet may contain unused or expired medications that can harm your family and the environment if not disposed of properly.

The, the BC Pharmacy Association (BCPhA) and Metro Vancouver urge British Columbians to return old medications to their local pharmacy.

“The New Year is a great time to take a look in your medicine cabinet and double-check the expiry dates on your prescriptions,” said Don Cocar, president of the BCPhA. “It’s free for British Columbians to return unused or expired medications to pharmacies for safe and effective disposal.”



BC’s Medications Return Program covers all prescription drugs; over-the-counter medications including topical antibiotic and antifungal creams; and natural health products that are orally ingested, such as vitamins, minerals, traditional Chinese medicines, herbal products, probiotics and homeopathic medicines.

The best way to return your medications to the pharmacy is to either combine loose pills into a small bag, or black out your personal identification on the original containers. More information on the program can be found at www.healthsteward.ca.

“Please don’t throw medications in the garbage or flush them down the toilet,” said Metro Vancouver Board Chair Greg Moore. “The free service provided by most pharmacies helps to keep drugs out of the trash, away from children and others who might be harmed. It also helps to protect the environment. Medications become potential environmental contaminants when they enter our sewer system.”



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EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE ARTICLE

Below is an interesting article written by E-Comm (Emergency Communications Centre), who are the first point of contact for 80% of B.C.'s incoming 9-1-1 calls:

On December 30, E-Comm released a list of its top ten reasons to not call the emergency line in an effort to draw attention to the impact on emergency services. At the top of the list: Wi-Fi at a local coffee shop isn't working.

"Our staff are trained to treat every call that comes through our centre as a valid emergency, until they determine otherwise, no matter what the circumstance," explained E-Comm's Direct of Corporate Communications Jody Robertson. "Even if the reason for the call seems absurd on the surface, 9-1-1 call-takers need to take time to determine exactly what's going on and whether someone genuinely needs help. Calls about internet access and cold food are a serious drain on emergency resources."

More than 2,500 9-1-1 calls per day were placed to E-Comm in 2014 and while Robertson emphasized that the majority of people use 9-1-1 responsibly, there are too many calls that come through the communications centre that do not meet the rest of a true emergency: a police, fire or medical situation that requires immediate action because someone's health, safety, or property is in jeopardy or a crime is in progress.

"We're here to help people with real emergencies," said E-Comm 9-1-1 Call-Taker Warner Yang, recipient of 2014's top nuisance call. "If someone calls 9-1-1 about internet problems that means I'm not available to help someone who really needs it."

ECOMM'S TOP TEN REASONS TO *NOT* CALL 9-1-1:

1. *Wi-Fi at a local coffee shop isn't working*
2. *"What's the fine for jay walking?"*
3. *Pizza not fresh; wants a replacement slice*
4. *"What's the number for my travel agency?"*
5. *Caller phoned 9-1-1 to ask for a taxi referral*
6. *"Is today a stat holiday?"*
7. *Food they ordered is cold*
8. *Wants help finding lost glasses*
9. *Home internet is not working*
10. *"What's the date today?"*



SENIORS PROGRAMMING – OPEN HOUSE DISCUSSION

Calling all 55+ residents! You are invited to an open house to discuss potential "age friendly" programming in the Village. View the attached invitation and join us March 4th for the discussion!



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UTILITY BILLS MAILED OUT

Utility bills (water and solid waste) were mailed out this week. Included with your bill is a bulletin discussing rate changes and other utility-related information, as well as detailed information about secondary suite regulations. We have also included a hard copy of the Smithrite pickup schedule and information on the Green Can program for residents' convenience.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

If you have comments, questions, kudos or concerns, we want to hear them! Suggestions for ePost content? Programs for the hall? General odds'n'sods? Send them to our "virtual suggestion box" by emailing feedback@lionsbay.ca



Welcome to
LIONS BAY 55+ CLUB!

Help launch this new Lions Bay Community Social Club!
An "Age Friendly" grant will help us get off the ground.
Bring your ideas and suggestions.
All ideas are welcomed!

Refreshments and fresh baked goods will be served.
Come drop in to meet your fellow villagers on:

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2015
1:00 - 3:00PM
VILLAGE HALL

If you need transportation or more information please call:

Louis Peterson (921-7260) or Tony Cox
(921-9496)

"pro tem" organizers:

Tony Cox, Hilda Mayo, Louis Peterson,
Margaret Watson, Eileen Wilke,
and Helen Waterson, Councillor

