

# Town of Bassano Newsletter

The Best in the West by a Dam Site!

## Bassano Outdoor Pool

At the May 10, 2021 meeting, council will confirm whether the outdoor pool will be opened for the months of July and August based on the state of the public health crisis, staffing, and a financial analysis. Council is committed to ensuring students have employment this summer to develop our future leaders. Students will be hired regardless of the pool operating and will be transitioned into the public works department with special projects this summer.

## Recreation Grants

The 2021 Recreation Grant program closed on April 30. The Recreation Funding Committee will meet in May to distribute the available funds. In receiving the applications, we acknowledge the time and effort that each volunteer applicant put into their organizations 2021 planning and programs. There are lots of great initiatives planned for Bassano this year. Stay tuned for award announcements.

## 9th Avenue Naturalization Project

Planting is scheduled for the first week of June with 350 trees and shrubs.

## Council Meeting

The next council meeting is May 10 at 6:00 p.m. and will be held virtually. Everyone welcome. Login details can be found on [www.bassano.ca](http://www.bassano.ca) and on the Town Facebook page.

## 2021 Municipal Election

As a reminder, 2021 is an election year. If you are interested in running for officer, there are five (5) positions available in Bassano. The mayoral position is appointed internally by the council each year at the organization meeting. The term of office is 4-years.

There is lots of important information listed on the website ([www.bassano.ca](http://www.bassano.ca)) under the 2021 Municipal Election tab that will help prepare you to run for office. In addition to the legislative overview, we have included a list of key plans and policies that are being implemented based on public feedback and consultation.

If you have questions about being an elected official, contact any member of the current council. If you have questions about the election, contact the Town Office at 403-641-3788.

## Nomination

A person may be nominated as a candidate in any election under the Local Authorities Election Act if on nomination day the person:

- Is eligible to vote in that election,
- Has been a resident of the Town of Bassano
- for the 6 consecutive months immediately preceding nomination day,
- Is not otherwise ineligible or disqualified.

## Land Use Bylaw Modernization

The Land Use Bylaw Modernization committee (Deputy Mayor Morey and Councilors Slomp and Jones) have been busy over the past two months discussing and planning bylaw updates. The first phase of public engagement started with a general survey which helped us gauge the public's understanding of various land use topics. This information has informed the committee members as they dig into each of the bylaw focus areas.

The committee is actively working on two of the seven focus areas:

1. Accessory buildings (i.e. accessory dwelling units, number of accessory buildings permitted on each lot, height requirements)
2. Supporting downtown development (i.e. lot line setbacks, building design and facades)

Stay tuned for public engagement pieces. There will be online and print surveys, mailouts, and some interactive online sessions in the coming weeks.

## Playfair Lodge Infrastructure Update

To support the new fire suppression system at Playfair Lodge, the Town's water system required an upgrade. The waterline along 7th Avenue between 3rd Street and 4th Street had to be looped and an additional fire hydrant installed. The Alberta Social Housing Corporation is responsible for the upgrades and the full cost of the project to accommodate their fire suppression system. The roadway is temporarily closed to accommodate the infrastructure upgrade and should be reopened within the next few weeks.

## Bassano Wastewater Treatment Upgrades and Irrigation - Project Update

White Fox Group Ltd. was awarded the above project in accordance with the tender submitted in the amount of \$5,977,912.50. A small but monumental ground-breaking ceremony was held on April 17 in the presence of the Mayor and Council, Siksika Elders, Honourable MP Martin Shields, and MLA Michaela Glasgo. The Mayor and Council noted that this is the largest infrastructure project in Bassano's history, and they are so pleased to see it through. Securing this type of infrastructure supports the Town's actions to grow and attract investment.

Three phases of construction are currently underway, site preparation and groundwork (building temporary roadways to prepare to construct the new storage cell), and pipeline installation.

The project brings economic stimulus to Bassano. Various people in the community have been hired as temporary equipment operators, lodging and accommodation facilities are seeing a boost, as well as support for other local service industries. Thank you to the business community and residents for being so welcoming to our contractors.

## Publicly Listed Properties

Two properties have been added to the Town's inventory through the tax recovery process. Jolene Ledene Reimer of Royal LePage will list the properties on behalf of the Town.

216 – 3rd Street - \$14,000 (zoned – Commercial)  
– Quonset



225 – 3rd Street - \$79,000 (zoned – Residential)  
– Apartment building



## Message from the Bassano Fire Department

*"The Bassano Fire Department is still in desperate need of dedicated volunteers to maintain the high standards of service to the Town and the County of Newell. We would like to give a huge thank you to all of our current, future and past volunteers, your service means so much to our community and it does not go unnoticed.*

*Welcome Amanda Barron and Kayla Cochrane to this amazing group of volunteers and we look forward to working with them in the years to come."* - **Cory Cochrane, Fire Chief**

**We have asked our new volunteers to share a little about themselves, why they joined the department, and what experiences they will bring...**

*"What interested me about joining the fire department was the ability to give back to my community first of all. I was born and raised in Bassano and I've only ever spent three years of my life not living here so being able to give back just seemed natural. Secondly, I am confident that I have the physical and mental capabilities to be an asset to Bassano Fire and rescue. I feel that a lot of the training I've received through Grasslands School Division will only aid me and my ability to remain calm under pressure. Finally, I'm a mom of three boys I'm as rough and tumble as they come. I have become an expert negotiator and the cooler when life gets heated. I enjoy physical activities, and this seems like a great way to take the next step for me, to grow as a person, and to help my community at the same time."* - **Amanda Barron, Fire Dept. Volunteer.**

*"While in high school I worked for my in-laws at their hardware store for many years where I met so many wonderful residents of the Town of Bassano, and surrounding areas before becoming a parent myself to our son Owen in 2011, followed by our daughter Nevaeh a few years later in 2013. I enjoy getting out to the golf course as much as possible with my husband and camping with our family. For as long as I can remember I have always wanted to help people. Becoming a firefighter is another way I can help. There are many good reasons I wanted to become a Volunteer Firefighter. Being a firefighter is a challenging, satisfying and rewarding experience. The most important qualification is motivation, a true desire to help your fellow residents and your community. Therefore, I will do my absolute best to give back and help."* - **Kayla Cochrane - Fire Dept. Volunteer.**

## Letter from the Mayor:

### *Canadian Royal Purple*

When I came to Bassano in 1974 as a young teacher, I began a lifetime of learning what makes a community survive and thrive. It is the collective will of many groups of people to make the place they live in, a better place. It is about community service. Over our time, my wife Diane and I have been involved in several community organizations that shared their collective will to make Bassano a home to be proud of.

This year the Canadian Royal Purple will celebrate more than fifty-seven years in Bassano by meeting in fellowship, raising money, and supporting good causes in Bassano and District.

In their long history in Bassano, the Royal Purple have inducted more than 200 volunteer members, worked collectively to raise thousands of dollars through catering, tea and bake sales, a booth at the Bassano Rodeo and working casinos. Under the banner of "**Your Cause is Our Cause**", they have donated to our schools, our library, our health foundation, Crawling Valley Campground, our district women's shelter, food bank and our rodeo to name only a few.

So, when you walk or drive by the Community Gardens and its new signs provided by the Royal Purple, think about how much community service the Royal Purple has provided to make Bassano a better place. Think about joining this organization that welcomes anyone over the age of fourteen (male or female). These volunteers are team players who work to support charities. Bassano Royal Purple is a recognized volunteer organization in the Town of Bassano.

Ron Wickson  
Mayor, Town of Bassano

## Bassano Golf Course

The Bassano Golf Course has opened for the 2021 season. Get out and enjoy the fresh air and work off that winter rust!



Thank you for supporting local businesses and restaurants.

## Developments

The Mayor and Council are pleased to welcome Brooks Dynamite Academy to Bassano. The investors purchased 202 – 8th Street (former E-Free Church) to convert the building to a childcare facility.

## Free Wood Chip Pile

Free to all residents for landscaping or gardening needs. Located at 315 - 2nd Avenue beside the Pioneer Drop-in Centre. This is for pick-up only, please do not dump any chips at this site.



## Beautification and Bylaw Enforcement

Throughout the spring and summer months, the Bylaw Enforcement team will continue working with property owners to ensure properties are maintained in accordance with the BBI and Community Standards Bylaw #878.

You can expect a greater presence of the Bylaw Enforcement team in the Year 2 (continuing from 2020) and Year 3 priority areas, taking photos, and engaging with property owners/tenants. Formal clean-up orders will be issued to property owners where necessary, with clean-up deadlines, and potential fines for non-compliance.

The BBI and Community Standards Bylaw can be found online at [www.bassano.ca](http://www.bassano.ca). Please contact Sydney Smith at the Town Office for more information at 403-641-3788 or [assistant@bassano.ca](mailto:assistant@bassano.ca).

First  
Quarter



# PROGRAM UPDATES

## CHRISTMAS UPDATES

In December FCSS was able to support 28 families in accessing Community Christmas Hampers. Generous Community members donated time, food products and cash donations. Thanks to the donations from our community we were able to provide each family with a turkey or ham, a beef box, a gift from the angel tree, Bassano Bucks and a box of non-perishable food items. Thank you for making this possible Bassano! A special thank you to our cooperate sponsors Heritage Propane and Hale Ranch Beef for the donations for turkeys and beef boxes.



## RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS WEEK

During the month of February we celebrated Random Acts of Kindness Day! To celebrate FCSS took part in the You Matter project, taking time to let community members know that they matter, and YOU MATTER TOO. FCSS was excited to run the Caught in the act Kindness award program. 13 individuals in the community were nominated and recognized for their everyday kindness in our community. FCSS also dropped off RAK week gift baskets and goodie trays to local individuals to spread the RAK Day cheer!

## UPCOMING - SENIORS WEEK

From June 7th - 13th we invite you to join us in celebrating Seniors' Week! Seniors' Week is designed to help Albertans show appreciation for Alberta's seniors and all that they contribute to Alberta. Keep your eyes peeled for Seniors' Week events on our Facebook Page!

## UPCOMING - INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES

May 15th is International Day of families! International Day of Families promotes the importance of a healthy and well-balanced family. Keep your eyes peeled for IDOF events with great prizes on our Facebook Page!

## CRAFT KITS AND FOCUS KITS

Craft Kits are designed to give families the supplies needed to do activities together and increase opportunities for families to spend time with one another! Focus Kits are designed for adults and aim to build resiliency and raise awareness on how to manage the struggles we face as we navigate the pandemic. During the first quarter of 2021 FCSS has created Earth Day themed Craft Kits and Focus Kits as well as Valentine's Themed Craft Kits. 30 kits were created for each theme and distributed in the community.



## VOLUNTEER WEEK

Volunteer week ran from April 18th - 24th. FCSS ran a volunteer award nomination for the community as we could not have an in person event due to COVID-19. 78 community members were nominated for the contributions as volunteers in the community. All nominees were entered in a draw for 1 of 3 gift baskets and were invited to have an ice cream on us at the Empty Bottle! Congratulations to gift basket winners Monique Trieber, Skye Chartrand, as well as Kendall and Lisa Grosh.



## MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

May 3rd - 9th is Mental Health Week! FCSS has created mental wellness themed Focus Kits to help adult community members #GetReal about how they feel this mental health week. Mental Health First Aid Kits are available through FCSS for community members of all ages! Focus Kits and Mental Health First Aid Kits are still available for Mental Health Week. For more info or to register please contact FCSS.