

# Town of Bassano Newsletter

The Best in the West by a Dam Site!

## Bylaw Update

The Town's bylaw enforcement priorities during the winter months are:

- Civic addressing - if you have not already done so, ensure you have a civic address installed on the front and rear of your property (if your property is located on a back alley).
- Sidewalk maintenance - ensure your snow is cleared from your sidewalk within 24 hours of the end of a snow fall for everyone's safety.
- Speed and traffic enforcement.

**Celebrate 2021 by participating in the first council meeting of the year at 6:00 p.m. We would love to see you there. This is a virtual meeting on January 14, 2021. Agenda topics; 2021 budget and projects.**

## 2021 Municipal Election

2021 is significant across the province as it is the year of the municipal elections. Are you interested in elected office?

- There are 5 elected positions available in Bassano.
- Nominations open January 1st.
- The term of office is 4-years.
- The mayoral position is appointed internally by the council each year.

### **There is lots of important election information on the Town website**

([www.bassano.ca](http://www.bassano.ca)) under the 2021 Municipal Election tab that will help prepare your nomination papers if you are thinking about running for office.

In addition to the legislative overview, we have included a list of key bylaws, plans, and policies that are currently being implemented in Bassano based on public feedback and consultation.

**If you have questions about the life of an elected official**, contact any member of your current council. If you have questions about the election process, contact the Town Office.

### **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.

## Emergency Management

In the last newsletter, Council confirmed and ratified an agreement to regionalize emergency management with the County of Newell and the Villages of Rosemary and Duchess. Lots of work has taken place in the past few weeks.

- Mayor Ron Wickson was appointed chair of the Regional Emergency Agency Committee.

- The Planning and Coordinating Group comprised of the Directors and Deputy Directors of Emergency Management were tasked with consolidating emergency management plans. It will take up to six-months to complete the initial consolidation; work is underway.

## Fire Services

A huge thank you goes out to the County of Newell. The Bassano Fire Department's new Rapid Response Truck funded 100% by the County of Newell has arrived. A welcomed addition to the fleet.



"It is a very well designed truck and we look forward to being able to provide better services to our community and region" said Fire Chief Cochrane."

## Municipal Development Plan (MDP)

We are pleased to inform you that the MDP was approved at the December 14 council meeting.

The public really stepped forward to assist council in preparing a long-term plan that will help establish new development and community policies.

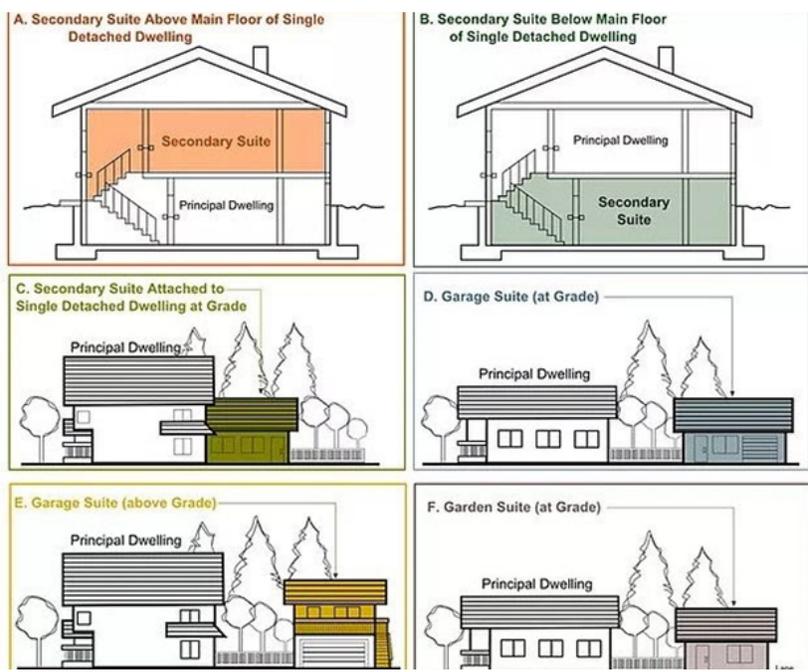
Various changes were made to the plan prior to its approval to integrate all the feedback provided. Copies may be viewed online or picked up at the Town Office.

The first MDP implementation task will be a review of the Land Use Bylaw and the introduction of increasing residential development densities in existing neighborhood with the use of detached accessory dwelling units (ADU).

Refer to the information below to learn more about ADU's and stay tuned for a formal public engagement process.

### What is an Detached Accessory Dwellings?

ADU's can go by many names, but they all share the same basic features. A detached accessory dwelling is a second home on the same lot as a principal building that is smaller (subordinate to the main residence) and is in the side or rear of a lot. The below figure shows different options for where an ADU can be situated. There are many considerations that must be made prior to determining how and where ADU's may be permitted in Bassano and incorporated into the Land Use Bylaw.



### FAB Village Square Updates

Council passed a motion to discharge the Municipal Reserve (MR) designation at 702 – 5A Avenue to accommodate the FAB Village Square project based on public feedback and consultation. The removal of the MR designation allows for development at this site in accordance with the Land Use Bylaw.

Notification was received from Alberta Municipal Affairs that the FAB Village Square was deemed an eligible project under the Municipal Stimulus Program. The Town is authorized to allocate up to \$143,000 on the project for site development and serving requirements in 2021.

A Foundation Fundraising initiative is also underway. The Town is engaged with 42 different Foundations across Canada with a focus on community/economic development; healthcare; and seniors' care regarding this project. Various Foundations have expressed their interest in the project and have directed the Town to complete detailed funding applications for their consideration. Hopefully, we will have more good news about this initiative in the New Year.

An application has been submitted to the Rapid Housing Initiative to assist with capital project costs. The federal government advised that award announcements will be made by the end of March.

Each notification is a step in the right direction to help bring the project to fruition.

### Lagoon Project Update

Contractor pre-qualifications for the project closed on December 17, 2020. A total of 27 packages from contractors were received for qualification and are being reviewed by MPE Engineering.

Pre-qualification is required to verify that the contractors who intend to bid on the project when it is released have the skills, experience, and qualification to do so. Only those contractors that are indicated on the final pre-qualification list may bid on the project.

Following the federal Ministerial approval of funding for the Bassano Wastewater Treatment Upgrades and Irrigation Project under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP), Infrastructure Canada (INFC) recently advised that the Town must consult with Canada's Indigenous Peoples prior to undertaking the project. The Town has invited Siksika First Nation and the Metis Nation of Alberta to consult on the project.

### Bouquets

A tremendous amount of volunteer hours were shared around the community in 2020 – a shout out to everyone involved in projects that are near and dear to them. You make Bassano what it is and we are so proud of what you do.

To the business community, what a year it has been. We appreciate all that you have done to provide services throughout our community and region.

Please remember to shop local whenever you can. Your investment in our local businesses helps to ensure they remain in place for years to come!

### Small and Medium Enterprise Relaunch Grant Program is available at [www.alberta.ca](http://www.alberta.ca).

The new Christmas decorations on Main Street were a beautiful touch this past year. The project was initiated and managed by the Bassano Historical Society with \$18,000 raised. Sponsors include:

- Bassano Community Enhancement Society
- Emme's Esso
- Lan Bar Farms Ltd.
- Dennis & Carilyn Wallace
- Anthony King & Wanda Wallace
- Bernard Moss Truck Service Ltd.
- Bassano Building Centre Ltd.
- Walter & Sabine Nasse
- Jackie Seely
- Bassano Historical Society

### Celebrate the New Year

Together, we wish to celebrate the New Year and what 2021 has to offer.

In the words of Michael Josephson "Approach the New Year with resolve to find the opportunities hidden in each new day".

We believe in Bassano and the greatness of all our people.