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GULL LAKE NEWSLETTER

Winter 2025 / Issue 6



The Council and the Staff from the Summer Village of Gull Lake would like to take this time to wish everyone a safe, happy, and healthy holiday season.

As we look back on the past year, we acknowledge all those who have helped us shape our community. Thank you for a great year, and we wish you all the best as you embark on the New Year.

From Mayor Doug Francoeur, Councillor Stuart Innes, Councillor Lon Kasha, CAO Harold Wynne, Assistant CAO Roy Scott, Administrative Assistant Gwen Auvigne, and Public Works Manager Tim DeVries

MERRY
Christmas
& HAPPY NEW YEAR

Our Office will be closed for the Christmas Holidays from December 22, 2025, till January 5, 2026.

Welcome Roy Scott to the Team!

We are excited to announce that Roy Scott has joined our Summer Village as our new Assistant Chief Administrative Officer (ACAO). Roy brings a wealth of experience in leadership and his expertise will be instrumental in driving our initiatives forward. We look forward to the positive impact he will make in our Summer Village. Please join us in giving Roy a warm welcome to our Summer Village!!

WINTER REMINDERS

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Council Meeting

Your summer village Council meets on the third Friday of every month in the Council Chambers building. You may attend in person or join the meeting virtually via Zoom by clicking on the following link (please note that there will be no Council Meeting in December, 2025)—[Council Meeting Zoom Link](#).

Next Council Meeting:
Friday, January 16, 2026 from 3:00 pm-5:00 pm

Garbage Collection

Garbage collection occurs every Monday from 8:00 am to 9:00 am. If Monday falls on a holiday, then garbage will be collected on the next day—Tuesday. Check out the Garbage Collection Bylaw to review the responsibilities of the summer village and home owners/occupants.

[Garbage Collection Bylaw](#)



Property Tax Account

If you have an outstanding balance in your Property Tax account, please ensure payment is received at the administration office prior to December 31st, 2025. An 18% penalty as per the Tax Penalty on Unpaid Taxes Bylaw will be applied January 1, 2026 on any outstanding balance.

[Tax Penalty on Unpaid Taxes Bylaw](#)

Traffic Bylaw

Traffic in the summer village is governed by the 2014 Traffic Bylaw and the 2018 Amendment to the Bylaw. The Amendment adds conditions for parking within the summer village; tire specifications; and the operation of off-highway vehicles (OHVs). According to the Traffic Safety Act, OHVs include snowmobiles and quads typically used in the winter. Check out the Traffic Bylaw and Amendment to see what is permitted and prohibited.

[Traffic Bylaw](#) [Amendment](#)

Hazardous Tree Removal

Residents are encouraged to remove any dead or hazardous trees from their private property to prevent them from falling on power lines or nearby structures. Please ensure you obtain a permit before proceeding. If you notice any dangerous trees in the municipal reserves or other areas of the Summer Village, please call the admin office.



Development Permits

If you are planning to construct a garage, shed, addition to your house, or other building structure, be sure to apply for a Development Permit before you proceed. The current 2012 Land Use Bylaw identifies what types of structures do, and do not, require a Development Permit. These conditions will be updated as the LUB is currently being revised. Contact the admin office for more information about developments in the summer village.

[Development Permit Application Form](#)

Snow Plowing

The summer village Public Works Department provides a snow plowing service for residential properties. If you would like your driveway cleared of snow this winter, please complete a snow plowing application form and submit it to the admin office. The seasonal fee is \$210 for regular driveways and \$525 for larger driveways.

[Snow Plowing Application Form](#)

WINTER REMINDERS

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Dog Control

Dog control in Gull Lake is governed by the Dog Control Bylaw and its Amendment. Dogs are not permitted to be running at large, which means off the owner's property and not on a leash held by a person able to control the dog. If a dog attacks and bites a person or other dog, there are substantial fines in place and the dog may be impounded. Please report any dogs running at large or those exhibiting aggressive behaviour to the Animal Control Officer (403-506-9380) or the admin office.



[Dog Control Bylaw](#)

[Dog Control Bylaw Amendment](#)

Firesmart Your Property

The danger of wildfires in municipalities is ever increasing. It is imperative that you take measures to FIRESMART your property to reduce the fire risk to your home and those of your neighbors. Below are links to helpful FIRESMART resources. Remember...wildfires also happen in the winter!

[Firesmart Begins at Home Guide](#)

[Last Minute Checklist](#)

[Firesmart Guide to Landscaping](#)

Winter Driving is Here!

Below-freezing temperatures coupled with snow and ice can create dangerous driving conditions; and with winter driving ahead, here's some tips to help keep you and your passengers safe.

Winterize your vehicle:

- ⇒ Ensure your vehicle is ready for freezing temperatures and slippery conditions.
- ⇒ Examine your spare tire, battery, belts, hoses, anti-freeze, tires, heater, defroster and windshield wipers.
- ⇒ Switch to winter tires. They are specially designed for lower temperatures and provide better traction than all-season tires.
- ⇒ Clear snow and ice off windows, side mirrors, headlights, taillights and licence plate before driving.
- ⇒ Try to keep your fuel tank more than half full. This adds weight, reduces moisture problems in your fuel system and can be an asset if you become stranded.
- ⇒ Carry an emergency road kit with items such as booster cables, flashlight, first aid kit, shovel, hand and foot warmers and a blanket.

[CAA Winter Driving Survival Kit](#)



[CANADIAN RED CROSS
DISASTER
PREPAREDNESS KIT](#)

[ALBERTA EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS
WEBSITE](#)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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Residents' Feedback:

This Public Participation page is a feature in every newsletter, as Council and administration are interested in Gull Lake residents' feedback.

2026 Operating and Capital Budgets

Council is presently engaged in setting the 2026 operating and capital budgets for the summer village. We are interested in hearing from residents as to what you would like to see considered in these budgets for 2026. The budgets are adopted by Council in April each year, and the Tax Bylaw subsequently establishes the property tax rates for 2026. These rates are applied to the 2025 assessed value of your property and tax notices are mailed out in May. Check out the 2025 operating and capital budgets below:

2025 Operating and Capital Budgets

Beach Development and Maintenance Plan

The primary asset of the summer village is the Gull Lake lakeshore and beach area. Residents and their families have enjoyed this magical shoreline and riparian area for generations and it is imperative that the development and maintenance of this sensitive ecosystem is carefully considered.

In 2026, the summer village will begin developing a **Beach Development and Maintenance Plan** to guide the management of the lakeshore and riparian area. The summer village has a **Recreational Lease** with the province that permits us to have "sand pods" and "grassy areas" on the lakeshore. We are responsible for maintaining these areas, and must do so using methods described in the Lease agreement. As part of the planning process, Council and administration will be reviewing the Lease agreement with Alberta Environment and Protected Areas.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IN THE BEACH DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE PLAN? WE ARE INTERESTED IN YOUR OPINION!

SAND PODS

**RECREATIONAL
LEASE MAP
2014**

GRASSY AREAS

Community Weed Management Plan

The Weed Committee has been meeting to develop a Community Weed Management Plan to eradicate and control noxious and prohibited noxious weeds throughout the summer village. A main focus of weed management will be in the grassy areas along the lakeshore, to control troublesome weeds such as sea buckthorn. Stay tuned for more information.

Alberta Invasive Plant Identification Guide

Your Comments & Suggestions

It is extremely important that your Council and administration have the opportunity to hear from our residents. Perhaps you have a comment on an issue you wish to raise. Maybe you have a suggestion for how we might improve our services. Something we should place in the budget? Perhaps there is an initiative you think the summer village should pursue.

Please forward your comments and suggestions in confidence to: [Comments & Suggestions](#)



COMMUNITY EVENTS

GLCL Card Games in the Afternoon

The Summer Village of Gull Lake Community League presents CARD GAMES IN THE AFTERNOON on Thursdays. There is no cost and participants are invited to bring their own refreshments.

Every Thursday, 1:00 pm-3:00 pm
Gull Lake Community Hall

'Appy' Hour

Join your neighbors at the Gull Lake Community Hall 'Appy' Hour. Please bring your own refreshments plus an appetizer to share.

3rd Friday of the month, 5:00 pm-7:00 pm
Gull Lake Community Hall

Floor Curling

The Gull Lake Community League is hosting Floor Curling again on Mondays. There is no cost and participants are invited to bring their own refreshments. Volunteers will be required to put equipment away, sweep floors and put away chairs after the weekly games.

Every Monday, from 1:00 pm-3:00pm
Gull Lake Community Hall

Rent the Community Hall

The Gull Lake Community Hall is a spacious and inviting facility that is ideal for group events, family get-togethers, birthday parties, meetings, and socials. The hall includes a fully-stocked modern kitchen facility, tables and chairs, a curtained stage area, and floor markings for games. Catering to events is also available by third-party providers. Contact the admin office to book your dates.

Hall Agreement and Rental Rates



CONTACTS

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Councillors

Mayor Doug Francoeur—(doug.francoeur@gmail.com)

Deputy Mayor Stuart Innes—(sinnes1956@gmail.com)

Councillor Lon Kasha—(lonkasha@gmail.com)

Administration

Harold Wynne, Chief Administrative Officer (hwynne@parklandbeachsv.ca)

Roy Scott, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer (rscott@summervillageofgulllake.com)

Gwen Auvigne, Administrative Assistant (admin@summervillageofgulllake.com)

Tim Devries, Public Works Manager (farmertimsemail@yahoo.ca)

Office address—#27 Lakeview Avenue, Gull Lake, AB

Mailing address—Site 2, Box 5, RR #1, Lacombe, AB T4L 2N1

Office phone—(403-748-2966) Fax—(888-241-6027)

Website—summervillageofgulllake.com

Emergency Services

Police and Fire Dispatch—(call 911)

RCMP-Blackfalds—24 hour Non-emergency (403-885-3333) Administration (403-885-3300)

Utilities

G.L.D.C. Gas Co-Op Ltd, Emergency (1-403-843-1050)

Fortis—24 hour Emergency (310-9473)

Development Permits

Development Permit application forms are available by contacting the admin office or downloading from the Gull Lake website.

[Development Permit Application Form](#)

All developments are subject to the [Land Use Bylaw](#) which is also available on the website or from the admin office.

For building, gas, plumbing, and electrical permits contact [IJD Inspections Ltd](#) (403-346-6533)

