

BERWYN & AREA COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



NOTES FROM THE VILLAGE OFFICE

As of March 20, 2020, the Village office will be **closed** to the public.

All phone calls will be answered during regular office hours

Monday—Friday

8:30am-4:30pm

Closed daily 12:00pm-1:00pm

There will be no in person interactions with the public until further notice.

The Berwyn FCSS is closed to the public until further notice.

All calls will be answered during FCSS Office hours

Tuesday—Thursday

8:00am-4:00pm

Here are a few ways you can make your payments to the village office

- 1) Mail a cheque, or drop it off in the mail slot on the front door
- 2) Pay through online or telephone banking (ATB, Scotia, CIBC, Servus Credit Union)
- 3) EMT (Electronic Money Transfer) Sent to vberwynadmin@serbernet.com (no password required)
Please ensure you add your account # in the description line!

Important Items

Public Notice

Under the Village's bylaws, Off-Highway Vehicles are not permitted within the Village limits unless for the purpose of snow removal as approved on by the CAO.


Please be advised that violators may be fined.

Public Notice


In hopes of prevent the spread of COVID-19, all Village of Berwyn playgrounds will now be closed until further notice. All access to both Glenmyer Park, and Tower Park, including the skate park will be prohibited.

Alberta Health strongly recommends against holding garage sales this summer, due to the public health orders regarding physical distancing and both indoor and outdoor gatherings. There are also concerns about proper hand sanitation in a garage sale setting, where people often like to handle the articles that they might buy.

Village of Berwyn Council realizes that the COVID-19 crisis has an economic impact on our community. Council has voted, starting April 20th, until further notice to cancel the 10% penalty we put on the utility bills on the 20th of every month.

 Check us out on Facebook
[@Berwyn Community Services](https://www.facebook.com/BerwynCommunityServices)



 Check us out on Instagram
[@Berwynab](https://www.instagram.com/Berwynab)

**If you are in isolation, and need groceries, medication, ect.
Please reach out to Kristy @ 780-338-3801!**



From your Council

Berwyn Village Council is considering implementing a minimum tax and seeking public input. We understand that additional taxes can be concerning. We hope to use the revenue from the minimum tax to improve services and allow for small projects not covered by grants. It would also stabilize our financial picture.

What is a minimum tax?

A Minimum Tax (MT) is part of the property tax system. Presently the system is based on the property assessment multiplied by the tax rate (also known as the mill rate). The MT system would introduce a new feature, where the lower assessed properties pay a base rate, while the higher assessed properties use the current system.

Who will this affect?

Homeowners and owners of commercial properties.

How much can we expect to pay?

We are considering implementing a minimum tax of \$500 for residential properties and \$700 for commercial properties. Our research tells us that out of 83 Villages in Alberta, 60 use a minimum tax system and this dollar amount is below the average rate.

For example, if an individual pays \$350 a year in municipal property taxes, they would see an increase of \$150 to meet the minimum tax of \$500. We hope that this base rate is reasonable for property owners in our community and that they can see the contribution it would make to Berwyn's viability as a village.

A final decision on the minimum tax is expected in May, when the taxation bylaw is passed. Given the COVID-19 pandemic we are not able to hold a public meeting in person but value hearing your thoughts and concerns. Give your input by phone [780-338-3922] or e-mail vberwyn@serbernet.net. A Facebook Live or ZOOM will be held in May from 7:00pm-7:30pm where residents will have the opportunity to ask questions. The date hasn't been set yet, check our Facebook page or web page for updates.



The Village of Berwyn's annual spring clean up will take place **May 12-14**.

On these days, the Public Works department will be collecting yard waste at the curbside.

This **includes**: bagged leaves, grass clippings, tree branches etc.

This **does not include**: household garbage, chemical containers, recycling, old appliances or furniture, tires, etc.

If you need to dispose of these items, you can take them to the transfer station in Grimshaw, or to the Long Lake Regional Landfill.

As of **April 1st** summer hours are in effect for the transfer station.
Hours are Tuesday/Wednesday 12-8pm, and Saturday 9am-5pm.

Office Contacts

780-338-3922 / vberwyn@serbernet.com

FCSS

780-338-3801 / vberwynfcss@serbernet.com

For Public Works Emergencies

Merv—780-625-7290



DO YOU HAVE A GREEN THUMB?

Berwyn FCSS is looking for community members, or a community group who would be interested in partnering together for a

COMMUNITY GARDEN

If you are interested, please call 780-338-3801

Upcoming Village Council Meetings via Zoom

May 7th, 2020—7:00pm

May 21st, 2020—7:00pm

You can find the council meeting agendas, and minutes online at www.berwyn.ca

You can also find bylaws, policies, and information on our website.

Please contact our CAO if you would like to join via zoom