

# Berwyn & Area Community Newsletter

# FEBRUARY

## Upcoming in the Community

### 3 Part Series Workshop with The Green Goddess!

February 11th—March 11th—April 7th  
6:30pm—8:30pm

To register, call or email Kristy  
780-338-3801 / fcss@berwyn.ca  
\$75 per person for all 3 workshops  
Make & Take & Women Empowering Women!

### LGBTQIA2+ YOUTH PAINT NIGHT

Ages 12-18

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18th, 2022 7pm-9pm

Restrictions Exemption Program in effect

Drop in event, but limited canvases available. To guarantee a spot, register by calling or email Kristy

780-338-3801 / fcss@berwyn.ca



Keep an eye out for future Wellness days in Berwyn!

## CELEBRATE FAMILY DAY THIS MONTH WITH BERWYN FAMILY BINGO!

Bingo cards are available at the FCSS office in Berwyn,. (Check your mailbox too)

You will have the entire month of February to get a full card!

Awesome prizes to be won!

For more information, call 80-338-3801



### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

#### For the Berwyn volunteer fire department!

The fire department is currently in need of volunteers to join the team.

Practices are every Tuesday @ 7pm at the Berwyn Fire Hall.

Call Scott for more info—780-618-8256



Check us out on Facebook  
@Berwyn Community Services

Check us out on Instagram  
@BerwynFCSS



#### Do you have big ideas for the community?

#### Do you want to get involved?

If you answered yes to either of those questions, then joining the

#### Family & Community Support Services Board

is something you should do!

If you're interested in joining, contact

Kristy @ 780-338-3801

### BERWYN ELKS COMMUNITY CENTRE

The perfect space for your function

Call 780-617-0426 for bookings

Did you know you can subscribe electronically to the monthly newsletter?

Email fcss@berwyn.ca to sign up!

## A note from your FCSS Director

2021, oh the things we could say about 2021. To say the least, it was a tough one for all of us. In saying that, here we are, we made it! As wrap up 2021, it's nice to sit and reflect on what positives DID arise. I know for Berwyn Community Services, there were a few! Of course, we couldn't get our community together like we have in the past, but we did what we could to transition to at home programming. We had family game bundles, family challenges, and winter family bundles, all of which were a huge hit amongst families! We also got the ball rolling on tackling some bigger issues and partnered with Grimshaw Community Services to host an online Anti-Racism Workshop. Berwyn Community Services also hosted an indigenous educator who taught us the history and culture behind dreamcatchers. Orange shirts were given out to those who participated in our online information series for National Truth and Reconciliation Day. While it is only the beginning of the work that needs to be done, it's a step in the right direction, and we are all striving to learn and be better. Over the next few months, we held a woman's healing circle, wellness days, our annual senior's week celebration, and our youth summer spectacular program. While I know we couldn't accomplish as much as we have in the past, I am proud of what we did do, & the impact we made. Here's to a brighter, & healthier 2022. I look forward to connecting with each of you!

# Notes from the Village Office

Chech out our new REVAMPED website!  
Www.berwyn.ca  
Let us know what you think!

## Village of Berwyn Year in Review!

From: Mayor Cindy Hockley

We spend much of the early part of the year discussing CO-VID related issues, and trying to keep track of rapidly changing provincial guidelines. We had some discussion in January about opening our arena, but in the end this wasn't possible under the guidelines. Our hardworking public works staff braved the cold and built and outdoor rink for us. We are so pleased to see the arena open this winter.

In February we commenced work on Strategic Plan in February. Council had several special meetings putting together a plan for the community. It's available for review on our website.

In March we approved some grants to community groups who had financial difficulties due to CO-VID related shutdowns. Grants were given to the Society who operates the Elks Hall; the Arena Society; and the Arts and Crafts Club. We had a large water break near the school, that cost us \$15,000 to fix.

We sent a letter to the province supporting the retention of the RCMP. That is issue is still ongoing, as the provinces wants to look at other options. Councillors will be attending some seminars hosted by the province on this.

We updated our 10 year Capital Plan for the Minister of Municipal Affairs, in a manner that met their requirements for information. We sent a letter to the province opposing the recall legislation. This recall law has since been passed.

Alberta Environment conducted our annual water inspection on March 29th, there were no major issues.

In April, Council passed a motion to have public works staff identify trip hazards with spray paint. This got completed

In May, Council completed a questionnaire about inclusivity. This evaluation dealt how welcoming and inclusive the municipality and community are for all people.

Alberta Municipal Affairs completed a detailed inspection of all our administrative actions to ensure compliance with the Municipal Government Act and other legislation. This 78-page report was reviewed by Council. Staff are still in the process of preparing material to satisfy the requirements of Municipal Affairs.

At the May 27, 2021 meeting, Council approved the annual operating and capital budgets. The municipal tax rates in 2021 were unchanged from those in 2020.

Municipal Affairs requires an annual report on how we are progressing with our Viability Review. The staff report on that was approved at the May 27th meeting.

The CAO advised Council how measures were taken to resolve problems at the Recycling Depot. Restrictions on what material could go into what bin were revised to create more flexibility. This helped keep the cardboard bins from becoming too full to use.

Our public works supervisor had found a local contractor to remove derelict mobile homes on some tax recovery properties the Village owned. We were pleased to get three mobile homes demolished, two of these vacant lots have now been sold.

New Generation Services finished our water and sewer rehabilitation project in late June. That project was on time and on budget.

In late June we voted to open our campground for drop-in use on a donation basis. Use was very light.

In early August we sent out the speed survey in the utility bills, plus internet survey on SurveyMonkey. We had lots of feedback and comments from residents. We are still having some discussions with the RCMP about traffic moving at high speeds.

On August 19, we reverted back to having in-person Council meetings. Previously we were having them electronically on the Zoom platform. Meetings continue to be held in-person downstairs at the Village Office.

We voted to hire a web designer to revamp our web page at www.berwyn.ca. The rebuild is almost done, and we'll be advertising when the new site is ready.

A playground safety inspection was done in Glenmeyer Park in August. Council and staff reviewed the results and responded to the recommendations.

In September our sidewalk work was completed. Rick Dostaler's crew did a great job, the project came in on time and on budget.

At the September meeting we met with our fire chief. As the Brownvale fire department is presently not operating, the Grimshaw and Berwyn fire departments are working together to provide service to the MD residents.

In October, Council had a staff presentation regarding remedial work on the sewage lagoon. Mayor Hockley was authorized to attend the Alberta Urban Municipalities Annual convention.

We had one meeting in November. On November 28th, Council met with WSP Engineering to discuss our Road project. The project did finish on time, but it was over budget. There were some measuring errors in the original project design.

The employee who was serving as our water operator has submitted his resignation. We are presently using a private contractor to run the water system until we can figure out our next steps. It is a struggle to find affordable solutions that still meet the requirements of Alberta Environment.

Council has voted to hire Matthew Norburn as our new CAO. He will be commencing work on December 14th. Our former CAO, Greg Gayton has started retirement on December 31st 2021! Thank you Greg for all your hard work!



Our next meeting is scheduled for February 10th & 17th @ 7pm  
If you would like to attend please contact our CAO Matthew at 780-338-3922