

# Elbow Village Office News

## September 2014

**Provincial Disaster Assistance Program** – As reported last month, the Village has made application to the Ministry of Government Relations for designation under the PDAP program. PDAP provides financial assistance to claimants for uninsurable essential property damaged as a result of natural disasters. PDAP only covers property damage that isn't covered by private insurance. Assistance is provided to pre-disaster condition only. To date we have not yet received approval. In the meantime, if you think you might qualify for this assistance, please document and keep a log of all work done to protect your home. Take photos as well, noting the date and location of each photo. For more information you can check out the PDAP website [www.gr.gov.sk.ca/PDAP](http://www.gr.gov.sk.ca/PDAP)

**Seasonal Utility and Garbage/Recycle Changes** – As was reported in our March 2014 newsletter, Loraas is no longer giving us the option of turning in garbage and recycle carts in the fall and not being charged for them (this is Loraas' policy, NOT ours!). The seasonal residents that disconnect their water and turn in their garbage and recycle carts in the off-season will now be charged \$2/month/cart (instead of the \$21.06/month charge while using the service). Since we need to bill for these garbage/recycle cart off-season fees, we will be adding in the existing water and sewer infrastructure charges (\$10/month for sewer infrastructure and \$5.50/month for water infrastructure). Seasonal users have always paid the infrastructure charges for the full year, but during the off-season when their water is off we have just accumulated those charges and not sent out a bill to them until they connect in the spring, which resulted in a large lump sum for infrastructure charges on that first bill. Seasonal residents will not be paying anything more than before, other than the Loraas charge of \$2/month/cart. Seasonal residents will continue to receive quarterly bills during the off-season as follows:

Garbage/Recycle Cart	4.00
Sewer Infrastructure	10.00
Water Infrastructure	<u>5.50</u>

\$19.50 per month (billed out quarterly at \$58.50)

**4<sup>th</sup> Annual Citizen of the Year Award** – Once again, it's time to acknowledge those people in our community who consistently go above and beyond in their efforts to make Elbow a vibrant, thriving and beautiful place to be. Please see the enclosed information sheet/nomination form for details.

**2014 Ratepayers Meeting** – the Annual Ratepayer's Meeting will be held on Monday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. at the Civic Centre. Watch for posters and our website for further information.

**House Numbers** – please make sure that you identify your home with a house number. Not only will it help in emergency situations (EMS, Fire, Police), but also with staff reading water meters and Loraas picking up garbage!

**FYI** – in 2013 the Rink ran a small deficit of \$277.03

Rental Revenue (skating fees, rink rentals, and 75% share of gym fees) - \$5,902.06

Grants – (RM of Loreburn \$1000, Community Rink Affordability Grant \$2,500)

Expenses (janitor, insurance, repairs, power/natural gas, water/sewer/garbage, supplies) - \$9,679.09

**FYI** – in 2013 the Civic Centre ran a deficit of \$6,286 which was funded through taxes

Rental Revenue - \$7,960

Expenses (janitor, insurance, repairs, power/natural gas, water/sewer/garbage, supplies) - \$14,246

**Street & Boulevard Parking** – very shortly the Village will be sending letters out to anyone that has personal property (boats, trailers, RV's, vehicles, etc.) parked on Village land. This could be in the alley (or encroaching into the alley), on the Village boulevard along your property or on the street. Street parking is allowed, but it is not intended to be a storage area; in fact the bylaw states, street parking shall not exceed 24 consecutive hours. The Village has not been enforcing that time limit; we just ask that you be considerate of your neighbours as well as Village staff. By parking and/or storing your personal property on Village land we are unable to maintain that area (mowing and/or grading), drainage can become an issue, and with the upcoming winter season snow removal can be quite a challenge. Please see that your personal belongings are stored on your private property.

Updated Village maps are for sale at the Village Office - \$25 ea

The Village Office now has a colour photocopier. Colour copying is available for \$1/page.

**Back Alley tree trimming** – Many back alley trees have grown in encroaching into the alley which makes the alleys hard to, if not impossible, to maintain. If the tree or bush is on your property it is your responsibility to trim back to the property line. The Village will be addressing problem areas, so that our equipment can get down the streets and alley's but will not be responsible for the aesthetics; we will just be chopping! So please take a look at your property and trim back where necessary or your alley may not be cleared of snow this winter.

**Fall Yard/Garden Waste Clean up** – is scheduled for the week following Thanksgiving. Please have your yard and garden waste placed in bags or manageable piles in your back alley by October 14<sup>th</sup> so you are not missed. Please remember this pickup is intended for fall yard/garden clean up only (dead garden material, plants, small trimmings) and NOT for large pruning's or tree removal. This service will be provided for ONE WEEK ONLY. After October 17<sup>th</sup> you will need to make arrangements to have your waste hauled to the transfer site. Transfer site hours of operation, until late October are: Mondays from 4 – 7 p.m., and Saturdays from 9 a.m. – noon including stat holidays.

**Tuft's Bay Washroom/Shower Building** – the Village has just completed demolition of the main washroom building at Tuft's Bay with plans to rebuild. The new building will be 34' x 16' which will contain 7 washrooms; 5 that will have showers. This will be a huge improvement to the Tuft's Bay Campground and beach area that both our visitors and locals enjoy. If the weather cooperates construction will begin this fall with plans to have the project complete mid May 2015.

**Village of Elbow website** – please remember that all council meeting minutes, and quarterly newsletter are posted on the website. You will also find a listing of community news and events, classified ads, etc. If you are putting on a community event, please let us know and we'll add it to the website (no charge) [www.elbowsask.com](http://www.elbowsask.com)

**Email online payments** – Many financial institutions now offer INTERAC e-Transfers, a quick and secure method to make payments or transfer money. All you need is your recipient's email address to send money in just a few quick and easy steps. This might be something you'd like to consider in order to make your water bill or even tax payments. Check with your financial institution to see just how easy it is to set up and to inquire about service fees for this type of service. Our email address that you would use to send payment to is [elbow@sasktel.net](mailto:elbow@sasktel.net)

**Thank you:**

- To all those committees that work hard on behalf of all the citizens and ratepayers of the Village of Elbow: Elbow & District Museum and Historical Society, Facilities Committee, Elbow Service Club & Rec Board, Lakeshore Rodeo, Elbow & District Wildlife Federation, Infrastructure Committee, Friends of the Orchard, Community Park Committee, Elbow Library Board, Elbow First Responders and Volunteer Fire Department. Consider getting involved and helping all of these worthwhile organizations and committees out!