

The Recreation Committee is looking for members. If you are interested, please call the office at 274-6053, or email alberton@jam21.net

**ALBERTON MUNICIPAL OFFICE
CLOSED TO PUBLIC DUE TO COVID-19
Call, email or fax Mon-Fri 9am-5pm**

Phone 274-6053 Fax 274-8449
email: alberton@jam21.net
website: www.alberton.ca
CAO/Clerk-Treasurer - Dawn Hayes
Administrative Assistant - Melanie French
VFD Fire Chief - Darren Hughes -
acelfirechief@gmail.com
Road Supervisor - Blair Lowey 275-9808
CBO - Henry Van Ael 276-0473

Township of Alberton
Community Newsletter
February 2021

The rink is still open despite the lockdown. There is a maximum of 25 people allowed at one time, and you must practice social distancing. Signs are posted. As always, be safe and have fun!



MEETING SCHEDULE 2021

Regular Council Meeting Schedule for 2021 is below. Meetings start at 7:00pm. To attend virtually, please go to our website and click on the link under the Township Council – Agenda. As per COVID-19 rules, all meetings will be taking place virtually until further notice.

January 13, 2021

February 10, 2021

March 10, 2021

April 14, 2021

May 12, 2021

June 9, 2021

July 14, 2021

No August meeting

September 8, 2021

October 13, 2021

November 10, 2021

December 8, 2021

Interim Property Tax bills will be mailed out this month. They will be due March 31, 2021. No-contact payment preferred due to COVID-19. They can be paid by cash, cheque, email money transfer, or by Royal Direct if you bank at RBC.

**FEBRUARY FUN DRAW:
4:00pm Thursday, Feb 18.**

Drop off in the Township mailbox by 2:00pm on February 18, 2021. Winner will receive a family fun package to help chase the winter blues away.

Winner of the Gingerbread house in December was Thea Barkley.

Congratulations Thea!



Public input into the 2021 budget is welcome. Please email the office, or bring it up at the council meeting. The deadline for this is Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at the regular meeting.

Entry Form for February Family Fun Draw

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE #: _____

Township News

At January's council meeting, Council decided against restricting the use of off-road vehicles on municipal roads.

Also at the January meeting, Geoff Gillon provided the Annual Report to Council on Rainy River Future Development Corporation activities. The primary topic of discussion was improvement of internet service, and the application for same under the Universal Broadband Fund. TbayTel will be upgrading its tower but not fast enough to meet the Fund criteria so Bell is the primary provider involved in expansion of service to First Nations. There was discussion on the desire and efforts to add municipalities located adjacent to the fibre backbone corridor which is not part of the project. Bell is working on cost estimates for the project which must be submitted by the end of January. They were looking for letters of support for the project. Reeve Ford asked what the Township's next steps should be with regard to opportunities for internet improvement and expansion. Mr. Gillon confirmed that RRFDC is working on this through the Bell project but, realistically, there are areas of the Township that will not be able to access wireless.

A donation of \$500 was made to the Fort Frances Homelessness Committee to support the Out of the Cold Overnight Warming Centre located in Fort Frances.

The Recreation Committee is looking for members. There is not much going on due to Covid at this time, but hopefully that will soon change. Please email or call the office for more information or to join. You must be a resident of Alberton.

Currently in discussions is a possible rink shack renovation. If funding can be secured, this will take place in 2021. Included in the renovations will be an outside deck so parents can sit and watch their children. A kitchen area is also being discussed for future Rec committee events.

There is a new Administrative Assistant in the Township office, Melanie French started in December. Thank you to Beth Logue for helping her get acquainted with Township office procedures.

The new Township website is up and running. A big thank you to Cory at the Fort Frances Times for all the help and training.

We hope everyone is safe, happy, and healthy in 2021.

SMOKE DETECTOR BUILDING CODE INFO:

Building Codes Change from time to time. One change that occurred a while ago which is not fully understood by some home owners, builders and electricians is the requirement for Smoke Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Alarms.

- 1) Here is a summary of the requirements for Smoke Alarms:
 - a) Every Smoke alarm installed in a new, renovated or addition portion of a dwelling must have:
 - i) A strobe light.
 - ii) A battery backup.
 - iii) A silencing feature.
 - iv) A hard wired power supply if electricity is installed.
 - v) Be interconnected to all other smoke alarms.
 - vi) A label identifying the CAN/ULC S531 Standard
 - b) The Smoke alarms must be located:
 - i) On every level of the house, including basements and lofts.
 - ii) In every hallway or open area outside of bedrooms.
 - iii) In every bedroom.
- 2) Here is a summary of the requirements for Carbon Monoxide alarms:
 - a) Carbon Monoxide Alarms must be:
 - i) installed in every dwelling that has a fuel fired appliance or an attached garage. Examples of fuel fired appliances include: a non-electric furnace (gas/propane/oil/wood), wood stove, pellet stove, fireplace (wood/gas/propane), gas cooking appliance (propane or gas cooktop/range/oven), fuel fired lights and heaters (eg. propane).
 - ii) installed adjacent to sleeping areas (bedrooms, lofts, etc) so that the alarm can be heard in the sleeping areas with the doors closed.
 - iii) connected to electrical power supply if electricity is installed in the building.
 - iv) located as directed by the manufacturer's instructions. (or near the ceiling if there are no instructions)
 - v) interconnected with all other Carbon monoxide alarms.
 - vi) labeled with the CAN/CSA-6.19 or UL 2034 Standard

You may combine smoke alarms with carbon monoxide alarms. When you combine them, the above regulations still apply. You are not required to replace existing Smoke and CO Alarms to meet these regulations. When you replace alarms, they should meet these regulations for strobe lights, standards, etc.

If you have an apartment in a house there are additional requirements.

Remember when planning: new construction, renovations, additions, new devices that burn, or the change of use of a room, that you must meet these Building Code Regulations. Stay Safe.

Henry Van Ael, CBCO
Chief Building Official/ Building Inspector