

NEXT MEETING

Monday, June 8, 2016
7:00 pm
Diamond Hall

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we wish to thank all those who came out to our Annual General meeting. Attendance was up a little this year over last. Congratulations and welcome to Jeremy Kaye who was elected as a Trustee at the meeting. We look forward to working with Jeremy. His contact information is at the end of this newsletter

HALL RENTAL

We continue to have hall rentals on a regular basis. The hall is the perfect size for small parties, birthday parties and meetings. The rates are very affordable. If you would like to rent the hall, please contact Erik Aurala at 250-245-8317.

THANK YOU

The Board of Trustees wish to give a **HUGE THANK YOU** to Dave King who is retiring as a Trustee. Dave has spent many years as a Trustee and we are grateful for his hard work and dedication.

We will be calling on Dave to "pick his brain" as his knowledge regarding the District is invaluable. Thanks again Dave!

TOWN OF LADYSMITH – WATER CONTRACT

One of the major items discussed at the AGM was the ongoing contract negotiations with the Town of Ladysmith. Our water contract with the Town expired in October, 2015. Although we have been negotiating since early summer of 2015, we have yet to come to a resolution. The Town's position is that they would like to see the Diamond Improvement District sign an agreement which is similar in nature to that signed by SFN (Stz'minus First Nation). In that agreement, SFN pays the Town the same water rates as residents of the Town of Ladysmith including the same parcel tax and a DCC (development cost charge) equivalent. SFN residents then pay the cost of their own infrastructure on top of that. Your Trustees have been negotiating with the Town to obtain the best and most cost effective rate for the Diamond residents. We have met with our local MLA Doug Routley, Area H Director Mary Marcotte, former Diamond Improvement District trustees and spoken with government officials all in an effort to obtain information that will enable the Diamond Trustees to negotiate the very best contract that they can for our residents.

Our Financial Officer, Stephanie Irvine, has put in a tremendous amount of work

running numbers and comparing data with that provided by the Town. Her keen eye for numbers has been a big help to us at this time.

Your Trustees have put in many extra hours attending meetings, holding extra meetings and researching data as well.

We hope to arrive at an agreement soon. The Trustees are considering holding a General meeting of the residents once we are close to or arrive at an agreement in order that we can fully apprise the residents of the changes. As we are required to give two weeks (14 days) notice of such a meeting, be assured that you will get notice in plenty of time before the meeting.

Again, we wish to reiterate that although negotiations are ongoing, at the end of the day we are all going to be paying significantly more for our water.

CHANGE IN WATER BILLS

You will note that in your next water bill there will be a change in how you are charged. We are moving away from charging by the gallon and going forward your billing usage will be in cubic metres. Please be vigilant about reporting any leaks or potential leaks in the system. Waiting can prove costly! If you know of a leak or suspect a leak, please call us immediately!

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

(in this order)

- 250-245-2074
- 250-245-4260
- 250-245-8317

HALL RENTALS

Krista or Erik Aurala.....250-245-8317

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- Larry Williams, Chair250-245-2074
- Erik Aurala.....250-245-8317
- Elizabeth Suttie250-924-4100
- Dalu Peng.....250-715-8468
- Jeremy Kaye250-245-0898

ADMINISTRATOR

- Debby Baker.....250-740-5259
- Stephanie Irvine (Financial officer) 250-245-8187
- E-maildiamonddistrict@shaw.ca

Office Address:5058 Paton Road

Hall Address:4954 Christie Road

Mailing Address: Box 747
Ladysmith, BC
V9G 1A5

DISTRICT MEETING SCHEDULE

Regular Meeting, June 20, 2016-----7 pm

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BILLS**

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WATER RESTRICTIONS

We are now on Stage 1 water restrictions. This means that you may water for 2 hours maximum during the hours between 7 a.m. and 9 a.m. OR 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. on odd or even days. Even numbered house numbers water on even days, odd numbered house numbers water on odd days.

FIRE BAN

Be advised that Coastal Fire Protection has placed a fire ban on all open fires as of Friday, May 13, 2016. This ban will stay in effect until further notice. If the weather stays hot and dry, the ban will stay on until the fall.

**DIAMOND
IMPROVEMENT
DISTRICT**

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

March/April 2016