



Village Update

February 10, 2023

UPDATES FROM MAYOR & COUNCIL

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

It was with great sadness that we had two resignations this week. On a positive note we have hired a long-time resident to join our Village Staff. In addition, after four weeks of contentious debate, we were successful in implementing Financial Controls to protect the Villages Funds.

Once again, I would like to thank the residents of the Village of Lions Bay for your patience and understanding, but most importantly for your constructive feedback during this emotional period of change this new Council has undertaken.

Anthony Tobin, Resignation of CAO *(as read by Mayor Berry at the Feb 7th Council Meeting)*

It is with deep sadness that I share a significant loss for our Village. Effective this evening, acting CAO Anthony Tobin has tendered his resignation.

I would also like to note that together, we have beaten down a good man; a gentle man; a wise man; an accomplished man. And worse yet, we have beaten down a fellow resident. The following are but a few of his many accomplishments that we have chased out of our Council in personal attacks and innuendo; in incivility and condescension:

- Anthony Tobin was called to the Bar of the Supreme Court of British Columbia in 1982.
- Anthony Tobin provided strategic counsel to the Ministry of the Attorney General on issues such as institutional abuse.
- Anthony Tobin, after 8 years as a Crown Prosecutor, established his own law firm in Vancouver.
- Anthony Tobin acted as counsel on judicial review and statutory appeals before the Supreme Court and Court of Appeal of BC. .
- Anthony Tobin is an accomplished mediator in areas such as inter-organizational conflict and employer/employee conflicts, to name a few.

We should all be ashamed for the part we played in his treatment and resulting

departure.

During less than 5 weeks of service to Lions Bay, Mr Tobin has:

- Initiated financial controls to safeguard the Villages funds
- Initiated investment plan to maximize return on our Village funds
- Negotiated with our IT provider to safeguarded Village data
- Negotiated contract to secure our Interim CFO to prepare and operate our 2023 Budget,
- Organized process which resulted in the hiring of a Village Coordinator
- hired and negotiated the Fire Chief agreement
- Conducted a rigorous review of policies, procedures and bylaws to improve Governance
- Commenced and negotiated contract to hire Administrative Clerk

Dave Butler, Resignation of Building Inspector

Following a long career as the Senior Building Inspector for the City of Burnaby, Dave Butler stepped forward to fill the key position of Building Inspector for the Village of Lions Bay. has also resigned his position.

After nearly 50 years as a resident of Lions Bay, Dave has stepped foot in most homes throughout Lions Bay either as an inspector or as your friendly neighbor. On behalf of council and the residents of Lions Bay, we thank Dave for his many years of service. We are fielding inbound requests and will be posting for the position of Building Inspector. Updates will be released when available.

Karen Jeffery – Acting Municipal Clerk

Karen Jeffery has over 30 years experience in the Not for Profit sector as an administrator, fundraising, and organizer. From early 2020 to spring of 2021, she worked for the Village of Lions Bay as the Administrative Assistant covering a maternity leave, and also in 2016 as the Seniors Coordinator. Some of her notable career highlights include being the Manager of Village Plaza and Events for the 2010 Olympic Games where she was in charge of all the needs and services for the Athletes including creating daily entertainment, setting up a multi-faith centre, and established a First Nations Art Gallery, the first of its kind inside an Athletes Village. For the 2015 Canada Winter Games Karen was the Manager of Ceremonies and Culture, where she created an 18 day outdoor winter festival, oversaw the delivery of 144 medal ceremonies, and ensured all protocols with all three levels of government including First Nations LHeidli T'enneh. She has managed multi-functional teams, volunteers, external stakeholders, worked and liaised alongside all three levels of government.

Karen studied Arts Administration which covered policies, bylaws, financial management, grant-writing and not-for-profit governance. She has raised millions of dollars in the not for profit sector, and for a short time was the Returning Officer for Calgary West with Elections Canada. Most recently, Karen served Douglas College as the Administrative Officer.

A passion for the creative arts and theatre, Karen owns, renovated and established a 100 seat historic professional theatre in a small gold-mining town which is now operational year round with a full-time staff.

Karen in delighted to be serving her community in this temporary role. She moved to Lions Bay in 2008 to work on the Olympics along with her two children and husband Dave.

Safeguarding the Village of Lions Bay's Tax Funds

As of February 9th, Banking controls are now in place. **Single signing authority has been eliminated:**

1. the bank has implemented Financial Controls such that, no cheque or electronic transfer may be processed unless it has two signatures or electronic signatures and;
2. the authorized signatures or electronic signatures be those only of the Chief Financial Officer and an elected official or two elected officials of the municipality of the Lions Bay;
3. a limit be placed on the amount of any cheque or transfer; and that;
4. any amount above that limit would require additional written authorization from the Chief Administrative Officer or the Mayor or Acting Mayor for such transactions in that order.

Budget for 2023

Staff and CFO Miller are working diligently to provide a 2023 Provisional Budget to Council as soon as possible. We have important projects and infrastructure to finance as well as important day to day operations to maintain.

Clarification of the CAO's Authority

While Mr. Miller's prime responsibility will be to ensure that the finances of the municipality are maintained and expended prudently and in accordance with the budgets mandated by council; In the absence of the Chief Administrative Officer, Mr. Miller, will act the Chief Administrative Officer of the Municipality.

By-Election Confirmed April 15th, 2023

Former Councillor Norm Barmeier resigned from office on December 1, 2023, after four weeks in office. Council has taken the important steps to lay the foundation to continue to honour the democratic process with the announced By-Election scheduled for Saturday April 15th, 2023. Council will provide updates in due course.

Fire Chief

CAO Tobin negotiated an agreement with Barrett Germscheid as Fire Chief effective February 1st, 2023. We are delighted to have Chief Germscheid officially onboard, as he had previously served in an acting capacity.

In summary

Lions Bay has a history of passionate, spirited, and rigorous debate. I ask that you focus on issues that matter to you and seek information which Council will provide when available. Please continue to be respectful, kind and value your neighbours' opinions as you hope they will value yours. Personal attacks and rhetoric have no place in Lions Bay and use valuable energy without benefit.

Thank you,
Ken Berry, Mayor
Village of Lions Bay

RESIGNATION OF BUILDING OFFICIAL, DAVE BUTLER

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the resignation of our Building Official, Dave Butler, after 26 years of service. Dave began working for the Village of Lions Bay in 1996 and has been one of the longest standing employees in the office. Dave was extremely devoted to his job, our staff, residents, and as many might know, all the dogs in the Village (who best knew him for his treats)! He was an invaluable asset to Lions Bay and the residents who he worked with in the community and his departure is an immense loss to the Village. We wish Dave all the best in his next adventure and will miss his humor and ability to always make us laugh. Thank you for your dedicated service, Dave.



EARTHQUAKE



Will you be resilient in the aftermath of a quake?

The recent earthquake in Turkey and Syria Reminds us to Be Prepared!

It's only a matter of time before a major earthquake hits the south coast of British Columbia, not if. We've enjoyed a period of relative earthquake quiet — **a 1.5 here, a 4.0 there** — but statistically speaking, it won't last. The **Cascadia Subduction Zone** is more than capable of the same level of seismic activity that produced a deadly 7.8 quake that devastated parts of Turkey and Syria and killed thousands this week.

Their devastation is a call to us to do what we can to be prepared. You and your household should be self-sufficient for 3 days at the minimum though it's a good idea to have at least one to 2 weeks of supplies on hand. Make sure everything is stored together in an accessible location.

For more information on Earthquake Preparedness, visit the Provincial Government's website [HERE](#).

Finally, if you're able to help those in Turkey and Syria – donate to the Red Cross and your contribution will be matched by the Canadian Government. Click [HERE](#) to donate.

COUNCIL & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

NEXT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING:

February 21, 2023 at 6:00pm*

*Closed session will begin at 6:00pm followed by the public meeting at 7:00pm

[View the Council and Committee Schedule, Agendas, & Minutes HERE!](#)

Video conferencing is available for public participation via Zoom. Instructions on how to attend and publicly participate in a meeting can be found [here](#).

Public Viewing Etiquette:

- *Public participation is still available on Zoom, during the Public Participation section of the agenda. Attendees will have two minutes to speak on any matter*

at the beginning of the meeting

- Silent viewing only, until you are called upon to speak (if desired).
- Please do not interrupt Council discussion.
- Limit background distractions by muting your microphone and keeping video turned off until such time as it's your turn to speak (if applicable).
- If interruptions are repeated, the participant will be removed from the meeting

WHAT'S HAPPENDING IN LIONS BAY



DATE: Sunday, February 26th

TIME: 9.30am

COST: Free, but cash donations welcome

WHAT: Organic Bird Friendly coffee, tea, treats and conversation

WHERE: Council Chamber

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Join us for conversation, coffee, goodies and tap into some great Bird Friendly gardening info to get you geared up for Spring! Connect with friends and neighbours and grab a coffee at 9.30, then at 10 am the [Vancouver Avian Research Centre](#) (VARC) will talk to us about how to be a Bird Friendly gardener. They'll cover design, layout, water features and feeders, nesting habitat and boxes, plants (especially native plants for our area), maintenance and why Bird Friendly gardening is so important. Bring your questions!

Our birds rely on native plants and the bugs and berries they provide which are vital food sources, especially for their young. Making your yard attractive to the bugs and plants birds need means you'll likely see more of them as well as butterflies and other interesting visitors.

Please [REGISTER HERE](#) for our Sunday morning coffee club session to help with planning.

The flower in the header above is the Columbine (Aquilegia), Lions Bay's official flower (courtesy Val Morton). This event was made possible thanks to a Neighbourhood Small Grant from the [West Vancouver Foundation](#).

PS Book the date now: our second annual Bird Friendly Community Event is on Saturday, May 13th featuring all the "Bs"... Bears, Birds, Bats, Biodiversity, Berries, Bugs and more!



ArtSpark! introduces: Hip Hop with Jazz

Meet Jazz McLaughlin. A young, focused Lions Bay resident who has trained, danced, and taught in Las Vegas and New York, as well as here in Vancouver. She wants to share their world stage experience with the kids of Lions Bay, and we couldn't be more thrilled to offer the following series of hip hop dance classes this spring at Broughton Hall.

All classes will run for 10 consecutive Tuesdays beginning Tuesday, March 28 (immediately following March Break) and ending on Tuesday, May 30.

Each class will be \$150 for 10 sessions, and will run as long as we have at least 5 kids registered in that division by Tuesday, March 7. A second (or third, fourth...) tot in the same family is welcome to join for half price.

1:30-2:15 p.m. Parents and Tots – Get your groove on with your little ones aged 0-5. Whether you're cuddling your baby or dancing side by side with your toddler, Jazz will lead you in a fun introduction to rhythm and dance with a hip hop flair.

3:15-4:15 p.m. Primary Grades – Intro to Hip Hop for kids from grades K-3

4:30-5:30 p.m. Older Grades – Intro to Hip Hop for grades 4 and up

Classes are available to all family members of Lions Bay Arts. If you're not already members, join us! It's \$35 for a LIFETIME family membership, open to all members of our community, whether you live in the village or not.

For more details, or to secure your spot, email robinspano@gmail.com

The Village of Lions Bay | 400 Centre Road , P.O. Box 141, Lions Bay, V0N 2E0 Canada

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