



Summer Village of Larkspur

64 Newcastle Road
Sherwood Park, AB T8A 6K8

Phone: 780-239-7323

Email: svlarkspur@outlook.com

Website: www.svlarkspur.ca

Summer Village of Larkspur **2025 Mayor's Annual Report**

Council of the Summer Village of Larkspur is pleased to share the following Annual Report of activities. For those that may have missed the opportunity, these items have been discussed at the AGM which was held in the Summer Village on September 6, 2025. If any resident has any questions or is seeking clarification on any items, please contact any one of the [Councillors](#).

Our community relies on the collective efforts of many who commit their time and resources on a consistent basis to support the things we enjoy regularly. A special acknowledgement is owed to the following, and in no particular order;

1. Wayne Nesterovich - Winter Snow Maintenance
2. Greg Boutin - Maintenance and Operations
3. Kim Bancroft - Chief Administrative Officer
4. Long Island Lake Natural Area Society

Lastly, we want to acknowledge Koni Getchel, our Librarian. Koni has been a great resource in ensuring the library is tidy and organized. Spending lots of volunteer hours sifting the donations that regularly come in. Unfortunately, we will be looking for someone else to take over these responsibilities. If you are interested in taking on this role, please let one of the councillors know and we can make arrangements to review the duties required.

Financial Summary

Operating Budget - the operating budget generally accounts for the tax levy income and offsetting operating expenses of the Summer Village. The 2025 total operating budget is \$215,191 which includes \$190,223 revenue collected from property taxes. Approximately \$98,346 of this amount is requisitioned to the Province to fund education leaving the Summer Village with \$91,877 (\$116,845 including other sources of revenue). The Summer Village operating expenses are 0%, year-over-year, however the amount being redirected to the province to fund education has increased 11%, year-over-year (23% total over the last 2-years if you include the 12% in 2024).

NOTE: It is important to know that taxes are a function of both the tax mill rate AND assessed value of property. If your assessed value of your property remains the same relative to the overall value of all the properties in the summer village, your taxes will not change. Your assessment value is presented on your tax slip remitted every year, but can also be found on our website at the following link ([tax assessment](#)).

A few years ago, Council also took steps to create an operating reserve approximately equivalent to 1 year of taxable income. Council has also taken steps to invest in GIC/short term investments which has already returned revenue back to the Summer Village to help support our operating budget and offset any possible tax levy increases. These measures are important to protect our financial sustainability in future years.

Capital Budget

The 2025 total capital budget is wholly composed of grants that are made available to the Summer Village exclusively by the Province. These are not funded directly by the tax levy of the Summer Village and thereby managed separately from the Operating Budget described above. These grants include the Municipal Sustainable Infrastructure program (now replaced with the Local Government Fiscal Framework). These grants are made available to all municipalities and are on the basis of “use it, or lose it” with specific timelines for their administration and rules pertaining to their applicability (i.e. infrastructure projects). .

Audited Financial Statements

This year's financial statements were audited by Seniuk and Company. The results of the audit demonstrated the Summer Village is in a strong financial position and our records are in alignment with appropriate accounting standards and practices. A copy of the audited financial statements are available on our [website](#).

Infrastructure and Maintenance Projects

Dry Hydrant

Council has retained the services of an engineering company to conduct surveys, evaluate the feasibility, and develop a design for a dry hydrant. The field survey was completed this summer and the design is ongoing. Over the winter we expect to finalize the design, review the projected costs and determine a budget. If it is something we can reasonably afford within the capacity of our existing grants we hope to be able to tender this project in the spring.

Road Maintenance

This past summer, Council completed a road survey of the Summer Village to assess the existing condition and map any areas requiring further maintenance and repair. Although the majority of the roads remain in “good” conditions there are a number of localized areas that are “fair” / “poor” requiring further extensive repairs (under

the road base). From this survey a repair plan and quantities was sent out for pricing with the anticipating of having the repairs complete in the spring. The work includes a provisional area for grading and placement of asphalt at the Fire Hall and Community Shelter.

Fortis Grant

Fortis, our local electrical network provider, has awarded a \$1,000 grant to the Summer Village for landscaping. If you have any ideas or know of someone who would be willing to undertake this work, please get in touch with any of the councillors as we hope to use this in 2026.

Community Reserves

Temporary Seasonal Docks Bylaw

The Alberta Environment & Parks (AEP) updated Mooring Disturbance Standard is now in effect. In preparing for this, the Summer Village has passed a [Bylaw](#) which includes [Dock Plans](#) for each of the reserves. These Dock Plans have been posted at each of the reserves. A few highlights from the AEP standard and Summer Village Bylaw to remember;

1. Temporary Docks/Lifts Only (No permanent Docks allowed)
2. "One dock, One Lift per property" in accordance with the Dock Plan = Summer Village or AEP approval NOT required
3. "Multiple docks, Multiple lifts per property" or locations generally not in accordance with Dock Plan = Summer Village (and potentially AEP approval) IS required
4. Seasonal Dates (Summer May 15-September 30, Winter October 1-May 14)

NO temporary docks/lifts in the water after September 30

On behalf of Council, thank you for your patience and diligence as we work through these updated standards and if you have any questions please let us know. Our preference is work collaboratively within the Community and respectfully of our impact on our neighbours and the environment.

Westlock County

Shared Services Agreements

The shared services agreements between the Summer Village and Westlock County have been renewed. These agreements are generally in effect for 4years. These services covered in these agreements include the following;

- Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Agreement (administrative changes only)
- Waste Transfer Agreement (administrative changes only)
- Fire Services Agreement (inflationary adjustment anticipated)
- Emergency Management Agreement (administrative changes only)
- Winter Road Maintenance Agreement (no planned increase)

Further information relating to the results of the negotiations will be shared when it becomes available.

Council would also like to congratulate **Bruinella Mitchell** as our local Westlock County (Division 6) Councillor.

Lastly, as we begin a new 4-year Council term, we would like to thank you for your continued trust and support until our next election in 2029!

Jason Meliefste, Mayor

Blaine Boutin, Deputy Mayor

Scott Drazek, Councillor