



Can you find the little porcupine napping in the tree branches?

© Paulette Murray  
Live the Lifestyle

## WHAT'S INSIDE

Land Use Bylaw  
Confusion  
Page 1

Income Tax Program  
Page 2

Change in Water Rate  
Page 3

Dagashi Day  
Page 4

## Land Use Bylaw Confusion



I trust everyone is looking forward to the end of winter and the onset of spring. It has been great to see the amount of snow this winter as this region needs the moisture desperately.

As you may be aware, the Town of Hanna is undertaking a review and revamp of the Town of Hanna Land Use Bylaw (LUB). The Town has had a Land Use Bylaw in effect since the 1960's and there have been several revisions since then with the last revision approved in 2012. It is good practice for a municipality to review their Land Use Bylaw approximately every ten years to ensure it is meeting the needs of the community and is compliant with any changes to the Municipal Government Act.

There has been a lot of controversy over the Town of Hanna and Palliser Regional Municipal Services reviewing and proposing changes to the 2012 Land Use Bylaw. The process of the bylaw review is getting confused with the 15-Minute City concept and alleged ties to the Smart Cities Alliance, Green Space Alliance and the United Nations. I want to take a moment to let everyone know that the Town has not discussed any of the 15-Minute City principles during the preparation of the draft Land Use Bylaw and is not affiliated with any of the Alliances identified above.

A Land Use Bylaw directs the use and development of lands and buildings. By establishing land use districts ( or zones), the LUB regulates the types of activities and buildings that can be placed on any specific property. It also contains regulations such as maximum

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Land Use Bylaw Confusion con't.

building height and lot coverage, building setbacks from property lines, corner lots and reverse corner lots. The Land Use Bylaw also provides for permitted and discretionary uses in each land use district or zone.

Provincial legislation requires every municipality in Alberta to have a

Land Use Bylaw. A Land Use Bylaw is the tool used to implement Hanna's long-term vision on a day-to-day basis.

The Town has been very transparent with the entire process and mailed over 100 letters to property owners whose property is proposed to be re-districted. The letter provides the information and the rationale for the re-districting and allows the property owners the opportunity to discuss any concerns

they may have with their property being re-districted. An open house was held Feb 23 at the Community

“ The bylaw review is getting confused with the 15-Minute City concept ”

Centre with a very good turnout of people both from Hanna and the surrounding areas although the Land Use Bylaw is specific to the Town of Hanna corporate limits.

As a result of the feedback and questions received, a decision has been made to extend the timeline so residents can provide feedback on the proposed changes, The deadline, formerly set for Mar 1 is extended to Mar 22. This extension delays the next steps in the process which are:

- First Reading of the Bylaw,
- A Public Hearing, and
- Second and Third Reading.

Those dates are yet to be determined.

Secondly, your 2023 Assessment Notices have been mailed. Property owners are asked to review and understand their assessment. If there are questions or concerns please discuss them with the Town Assessor whose contact information is on the Assessment Notice. You can also attend the Open House and speak directly with the Assessor May 8 at 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

Remember to reach out to me with any concerns, issues or topics regarding the governance and operations of the Town of Hanna.

Respectfully  
Danny Povaschuk, Mayor

### Did You Know?

You can set up your property taxes and your utilities on automatic payments.  
No fees!  
No penalties!

## It's Income Tax Time

The Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP) is a free service where trained volunteers complete and file tax returns for eligible people.

Town of Hanna is pleased to have been approved by the Government of Canada to coordinate this service.



In order to be eligible for the CVITP individuals must have a modest income and a simple tax situation.

Individuals assisted by the program include:

- seniors
- youth and students
- persons with disabilities
- individuals with a modest income
- newcomers and refugees
- homeless and housing insecure individuals
- indigenous peoples.

Please phone the Town Office to book an available time for a volunteer to phone you.

## Notice to Taxpayers

**Mar 10, 2023:** Property Assessment Notices for 2022 were mailed.

**Open House:** May 8 from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Assessors from Municipal Property Consultants are available to answer questions about your property assessment – no appointment is necessary. You may also contact them directly: (403) 309-4190 or t.willoughby@mpc2009.com.

**Appeal Deadline:** May 19, 2023. If you are not satisfied after consulting with the assessor, an appeal may be initiated by submitting an assessment review board complaint. This form can be obtained at the town office or online at: [hanna.ca/appealprocess](http://hanna.ca/appealprocess).

If you have not received your assessment notice or have questions, please contact the town office.



## VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED IN HANNA!

The Town of Hanna has partnered with **Drive Happiness** to bring low-cost assisted transportation to Hanna, and volunteer drivers who own a vehicle are urgently needed to kickstart the program! Help local seniors access medical care, grocery stores, recreation, and more. You'll choose when and where you drive and receive a fuel reimbursement.



Details and application forms available at <https://drivehappiness.ca/volunteering/>

- ☺ HELP LOCAL SENIORS GET WHEREVER THEY NEED TO GO
- ☺ FLEXIBLE AND REWARDING WITH A FUEL REIMBURSEMENT

**Applications at [drivehappiness.ca](https://drivehappiness.ca) or the Hanna Town Office!**

## Municipal Enforcement Corner

Did you know that unregistered, uninsured vehicles that are not drivable because of mechanical reasons are not allowed to be parked on public streets?

This is both a Town of Hanna Traffic Bylaw violation and a violation of the Traffic Safety Act of Alberta. All drivable motor vehicles parked on the street must also be moved every 72 hours.

## Change in Water Rate

Effective Jan 1, 2023 the rate for a cubic meter of water increased from \$2.94/m<sup>3</sup> to \$3.00/m<sup>3</sup> (actual cost of water charged to the Town by the Henry Kroeger Regional Water Services Commission).



The increase for an average consumer using 33 m<sup>3</sup> of water in a two-month period will be approximately \$0.03 per day.

You will notice that the new rate is applied on the enclosed utility bill as this bill is for Jan and Feb usage.

### Speaking of Water

Swimming Lesson Registration will be online this year. So, you can register online and send an e-transfer to get your littles signed up!

This will be announced first to subscribers of the Town's e-news so be sure you are signed up. You may need to confirm registration & check spam.

## #BePrepared

Mobile phones have become a crucial tool for emergency preparedness. Some helpful tips:

- Keep a picture of you and your family, including pets, in case you are separated in an emergency.
- Set up text or chat groups so that you can quickly communicate with friends and family in an emergency.
- Use a shared list-making app with your household to record items that you would want to "grab and go".

Want to be more prepared? The Government of Alberta developed the Be Prepared program to help. Visit [alberta.ca/BePrepared](http://alberta.ca/BePrepared) to learn more.

 <p><b>Safe to Flush</b></p>  <p><b>Human Waste &amp; Toilet Paper</b></p>  	 <p>Hair</p>  <p>Dental Floss</p>  <p>Paper Towel</p>  <p>Cigarette Butts</p>	<p><b>The Unflushables</b></p>  <p>Pills</p>  <p>Cat Litter</p>  <p>Diapers</p>  <p>Bandages</p>	 <p>Feminine Products</p>  <p>Wipes - even 'Flushable'</p>  <p>Cotton Swabs or Balls</p>  <p>Tissues</p>	
--	---	--	--	---

## Dagashi Day in Hanna

Recently, Town staff were contacted by our sister town, Wake, Japan. Wake reached out to us as they wanted to share Dagashi! Dagashi are small inexpensive Japanese candies. Dagashi is made with corn or starch as opposed to the more expensive sweets, jogashi made with sugar.

Dagashi came to peak popularity when dagashi-ya, or dagashi shops became a popular hangout spot for kids in the '60's - '80's. Today, they are a nostalgic purchase, somewhat like getting penny candy at a vintage candy store.

On Mar 12, Japan celebrates Dagashi Day. The idea of the day is to exchange dagashi and smiles to spread

joy and happiness. Wake wanted to share their unique Japanese candy culture and spread happiness and peace around the world. They were looking for contacts from many different countries and decided to reach out to Hanna, Alberta!

They proposed to send us authentic dagashi, along with a story about the meaning of Dagashi Day and asked if we would be able to share the candy and smiles with local children.

In partnership with Project REACH, J.C. Charyk School, and Kiddies Korner Playschool, we were able to spread their message of smiles and happiness and enjoy the very tasty Dagashi. Happy Dagashi Day!



## Coming Events

### Centennial Place

- Mon: Tot & Me (2-6 yrs), Youth Drop In, Pickleball.
- Tues: Walk & Talk, Pickleball Open, Adult Choir, Youth Drop in, Workout with Coach Shandi, and Floor Hockey.
- Wed: Youth Drop In, Pickleball 16+.
- Thurs: Pickleball (all ages), Youth Drop In, Workout with Coach Shandi.
- Fri: Tot & Me, (2-6 yrs), Youth Alliance (7-13)

### Arena

- Tues, & Thurs: Parent & Tot and Noon Hockey
- Fri: Public Skating 6:30.
- Sun: Public Skating 5:30

- Mar 17 Youth Club St. Patrick's Day Dance
- Mar 24 Final Public Skate for the Season 6:30 pm
- Mar 24-25 Stage Hanna Comedy

- Mar 28 Lacrosse Try It Night
- Mar 30, 31, Apr 1 Stage Hanna Comedy
- Apr 4 New Round of Kickboxing Begins
- Apr 5 Youth Club AGM
- Apr 6 New Round of Kickboxing Begins
- Apr 7 Good Friday
- Apr 11 Council Meeting
- Apr 13 Book Club: Five Little Indians by Michelle Good
- Apr 14 Crib Tournament
- Apr 14 Lacrosse League Fridays
- Apr 22 Harvest Sky Animal Rescue Garage Sale
- Apr 26 Informational Meeting of Council
- Apr 29 Rummage Sale
- May 8 Assessment Open House

Are you receiving Town information in your inbox?  
Ask a staff member to sign you up today!