



Council Update

- Mayor John McEwen

THE FIRST 365 DAYS

With just one year under its belt, Council has made significant progress on a number of the key priorities identified by our community. I felt it was important to take the opportunity to reach out and let Anmore know what we've been up to over the past year.

One of our first important tasks was to develop a Council Strategic Plan to guide our decisions and actions over our four-year term. We spoke to residents and they told us that the priority projects and initiatives should include:

- Building the Village Centre
- Enhancing the trail network
- Diversifying the tax base
- Controlling our destiny
- Gaining financial security
- Exploring alternative housing opportunities

Towards these priorities, we are making progress on a number of development applications that will come forward in the next few months. We want your input on these proposed developments, including sharing your thoughts and ideas about the direction you would like Council to take. We encourage you to check our website regularly, follow us on Facebook and Twitter, and sign up for email notifications to be kept in the loop about how you can provide this valuable input.

We are also moving forward with the Village Centre project (see Moving Ahead with Village Centre Project on page 4), and will be inviting residents to participate in the design development process.



TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

In addition to the priority projects, we have also continued to support these essential transportation improvements:

Better cost-sharing model: After multiple meetings with TransLink, we received approval for a change to the current cost-sharing model for transit in small Metro Vancouver communities like ours. The new model is now 75% TransLink and 25% Village of Anmore. (It used to be 50/50.)

Expanded bus shelters: Two new covered bus shelters have been approved – one on East Road and one on Sunnyside – to improve safety and comfort for transit users.

Pathway improvements: Pathway improvements were approved for our well-travelled sections of East Road and Sunnyside Road.

Drainage improvements: To help reduce risks from overland flooding, we approved a number of drainage improvement projects throughout the community.

Note: When we only received one bid for the above projects scheduled for 2019, we decided it was better to re-tender for this work as we want to ensure we receive competitive pricing through the bid process. The projects will move forward after the competitive bid process is complete.



ADDRESSING COMMUNITY CONCERNS

We have taken a number of steps to address concerns in the community as they arise as part of our commitment to provide responsive, efficient, transparent and engaged service. Two of the challenges affecting Anmore residents are summer parking and the need for Anmore Green Estates to connect to the Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District (GVS&DD).

Summer parking has been a growing concern in the community as the number of visitors flock to our beautiful recreation areas. The problem arises when people park on our roadways and block traffic, and when residents use private land to sell parking spaces, which is not a permitted use under our bylaws as this results in impeding emergency response and blocking driveways. To address this concern, we hired a part-time bylaw enforcement officer as a shared cost with the Village of Belcarra, which experiences similar problems. The bylaw officer patrols our community on weekends and statutory holidays, when the lake traffic and related parking issues are at their peak.

Anmore Green Estates sewer connection involves multiple government organizations and is a complex challenge for the Village and affected residents. The most recent activities include our efforts as a Council to lobby on behalf of Anmore Green Estates residents to encourage Metro Vancouver to reduce the Growth Levy that is included in the GVS&DD fees for sewer connection. Thanks to our advocacy, Metro Vancouver has reviewed the Growth Levy, and the Liquid Waste Committee has agreed to waive the ongoing fee and implement a one-time connection charge. Council also adopted the Official Community Plan amendment required to allow for the sewer connection. For additional information on the project provided to residents earlier this year, visit anmore.com/community/agesewer.



We want your input! As a Council, we will also be considering changes to the Parking Regulation Bylaw and we would like to learn more about what our community would like to see changed or added. We also continue to relay our concerns about the impact of Buntzen Lake visitors to BC Hydro, flagging issues like parking as well as evacuation-related concerns.

As Mayor and on behalf of Council, we look forward to providing you with regular updates through this quarterly newsletter. We encourage you to contact us any time to ask questions, provide input or share your ideas with us. Together we can continue to achieve our vision for Anmore as an independent and fiscally responsible community that values the environment, a social conscience, quality of life and being close to nature.

Preparing Our Residents for Emergencies

Natural disasters seem to dominate the news in recent years, and Anmore faces many of the same risks, including forest fires, major windstorms and earthquakes. Residents may need to be able to take care of themselves for a minimum of 72 hours in an emergency. To help residents be more prepared, Anmore has developed a new Community Emergency Guide with tips and resources tailored to our community. Watch for tips in this newsletter, and check out the full Guide at anmore.com/community/emergency-preparedness. A printed copy of the Guide is also being developed. To request a copy, please email village.hall@anmore.com

NEW EVACUATION PLAN

For some emergencies – like an interface forest fire – the safest option is to evacuate the community, and it can happen very quickly. Because there are a limited number of routes in and out of our community, it's important for residents to know what they should do when they receive an Evacuation Order. Anmore has developed a new Evacuation Plan to provide clear direction on what to do when evacuated.

Evacuation Tips

When an Evacuation Order is issued, it is critical to act quickly and follow the directions provided by the Village or emergency responders like police, who in some situations will go door-to-door to notify residents.

Follow these simple steps when you are being evacuated:

- Bring a grab-and-go personal emergency kit.
- Use identified evacuation routes. If you don't have access to a vehicle for the evacuation or need assistance to evacuate due to a disability post a "HELP" sign (*available on our website*) in your window.
- Register at the Reception Centre – even if you have a place to stay. Reception Centres are set up to provide assistance to evacuees through the support of Emergency Social Services. Not only do you have access to support services, you'll be able to stay better informed about the emergency status and officials will know you are safely evacuated.

Emergency Information Updates

In an emergency, the Village will use a number of methods to provide updates to the community. The following are some of the ways you can stay informed about an emergency situation.

- Anmore's social media: Twitter (twitter.com/villageofanmore) and Facebook (facebook.com/Village-of-Anmore)
- Anmore website: anmore.com
- Evacuee briefings and posted notices at the Reception Centre
- Email notices (Sign up for notifications at anmore.com)
- Public meetings

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS KEY TERMS

Evacuation Alert: An Evacuation Alert indicates that residents should be prepared to leave at a moment's notice. If you receive an alert, it's a good idea to pull together a grab-and-go bag so you are ready to leave with a moment's notice. If people decide to leave at this point, it is called a voluntary evacuation.

Evacuation Order: An Evacuation Order means you are at risk and need to leave immediately. This can be enforced by the police.

Evacuation Rescind Order: Once the situation is resolved and residents may return home, the Village will issue an Evacuation Rescind Order to let evacuees know it is safe to return. Do not return to your home until the Evacuation Rescind Order is posted.

Shelter-in-Place: There may be situations where the safest response is to remain in your home. This is called shelter-in-place. When you are advised to shelter-in-place, it's important to stay inside, close doors and windows, and turn off kitchen and bathroom fans. Evaluate your food and water supplies. Be prepared to remain in your home for up to 72 hours.

Civic Building Project

NEW COMMUNITY SPACE FOR PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

For the past seven years, Council and Village staff have operated out of a number of trailers linked together to provide office space and Council Chambers. The trailers were set up when the previous space for our civic building was deemed unsafe for occupation. Not surprisingly, while the trailers have provided adequate office accommodation, they were always intended to be a temporary solution.

Council also recognized that there is growing need in our community for a large community space that can double as both a Council Chambers and a place available for user groups, recreation programs and special events.



We want your input! As the first step towards this exciting new facility for our community, Council gave the green light to move forward with the detailed design. We will be inviting Anmore residents to provide feedback on proposed design options as the process unfolds in the coming months. Watch for email notifications and posts on Anmore's Twitter and Facebook pages for more details about how you can participate in the community engagement for the new design.

Anmore Events and Activities

CONGRATULATIONS MARIO PIAMONTE

Mario is this year's Community Spirit Award winner.



L to R: Councillor Paul Weverink, Mario Piamonte, Councillor Polly Krier, Mayor John McEwen

LIGHT UP SPIRIT PARK

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2019, 5 – 8 P.M.

Join us for the kick-off to the holiday season.

Enjoy hot cocoa or mulled wine as you sit by the bonfire and listen to carolers, take a carriage ride, sample a mix of snacks at the food trucks and have a visit with Santa. There's also a colouring contest again this year – pick up a contest sheet at the Village Hall or online at anmore.com. We'll also be collecting non-perishable food items for the food bank – or feel free to make monetary donations and sponsorships at the Village Hall. See you there!



2697 Sunnyside Road
Anmore, BC V3H 5G9

village.hall@anmore.com
anmore.com

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