

# Anmore Advisor

SUMMER 2020

VILLAGE OF  
ANMORE



## Council Update

- MAYOR JOHN McEWEN

### ANMORE COMMUNITY HUB: WHAT WE HEARD...

On behalf of all of Council, I'd like to start by thanking the many residents who took the time to share their feedback with us through the Anmore Community Hub open houses and survey.

We were happy to see so many of you participate – particularly as we had to work around COVID-19 protocols to keep everyone safe while still ensuring we could connect with residents and hear your feedback on the proposed design for the Anmore Community Hub. With the help of Johnston Davidson Architecture, the Village held three open houses: two in person with scheduled visits on June 11 and 17, and one virtual open house on June 24.

We also collected feedback from residents via a survey on the new project website – [anmorecommunityhub.ca](https://anmorecommunityhub.ca) – which included information about the project and links to

the boards we shared at the open houses. We had about 65 participants over the three open houses and 139 respondents to the survey. For a community our size, we appreciate that this is a great response rate. The full report on the consultation, including key themes on what we heard and the results from the survey, is now posted at [anmore.ca/community/thehub](https://anmore.ca/community/thehub).

### What we heard

Residents had some great ideas about what you want to see (and not see) in our first community amenity. We heard concerns about the overall size of the building – both in the specific question about the Community Room space on the survey and in the open-ended comments. We also recognize that cost was flagged as a concern. It's unclear at this point if the concerns relate to some misinformation about the amount that has been circulating in the community, or if it relates to the proposed budget that we shared. To be clear, the estimate we were using for the initial design is about \$8 million. That said, we will be getting a better sense of the project cost as we work through the next iteration of the design based on the feedback we received. On the flip side, there was support for increasing the size of the lobby area to showcase some of our community history and for future proofing the project with the extension of the basement.



**Village Hall is now open** to the public on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays (from 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m, but closed 12 - 12:30 p.m. for cleaning/shift change). We have 50% of staff capacity working in the Hall.

We also heard that there is general understanding that we can't continue to operate out of the temporary ATCO trailers and that a suitable building is needed to not only provide administrative functions, but also act as our Emergency Operations Centre. When it comes to how the building could be used as an amenity, some of the top uses included room rentals for a variety of activities including fundraisers, sports activities and information sessions. We also learned that there is a strong desire to include a commercial component in the design – with a coffee shop as one of the top preferences. There were mixed feelings about the ability to rent out the space and the impact events may have on neighbours and parking.

### What comes next

Council is going to take the rest of the summer to contemplate the feedback that we've heard so that we can continue the important conversations in September about how best to move the project forward and incorporate the feedback that we've heard. This will involve connecting with the architects to gain insight into design options to address community feedback. As part of this exercise, and now that we've received the first round of feedback, we'll be able to consider and set a target budget for the project.

It's important to note that the open houses that occurred in June are the first of at least two rounds of public engagement. Another round will be planned for the fall and will reflect the feedback from round one. Please check back to our website and follow us on social media for the latest information about the project.

### Please be respectful

As we move into the next phase of the planning and community engagement for this project, I find myself in the totally unexpected position of having to ask our residents to please keep the conversation respectful. We want to hear your input, and we are interested in everyone's opinion as we all want the best for our community. Unfortunately, we've been shocked and dismayed by some of the extremely abusive language and personal attacks coming at us as a Council. Some of these attacks are coming via email and others are comments shared in the survey. In the interest of transparency, we are posting the full survey results with only one item redacted – the name of a specific resident referenced in the comments. This means that if you read the comments, you will see a couple examples of the personal attacks we are experiencing regularly and have been for months. (E.g. See Comment 89 in response to Question 21 in the Public Consultation Report posted on [anmore.com/community/thehub](https://anmore.com/community/thehub).)

We are all members of this community, and the personal attacks have been extremely upsetting for us and for our families. Quite frankly, we feel bullied by the steady barrage of personal attacks and baseless accusations. So please, we understand you may not agree with the project plan, but we ask you to share meaningful comments and not attack people personally. In future, this will not be tolerated and comments that include personal attacks will not be considered when reviewing community feedback.

## New Protocols for Council Meetings

Council is again meeting in person at the Village Hall; however, there are new protocols to support physical distancing and other COVID-19 protocols.

- Up to 20 people can be in the Council Chambers at one time, including the public audience and Council/Staff. The seating will be arranged to ensure distance is maintained.
- We are now live streaming our meetings via the [Village of Anmore YouTube channel](#) to provide opportunities for a broader audience to both view the meeting and submit input or questions to Council.
- To have your comments addressed during the meeting, please email your input and/or questions to [karen.elrick@anmore.com](mailto:karen.elrick@anmore.com) before 4:00 p.m. on Council meeting days.
- Archived videos of Council meetings are available on our website at [anmore.com/village-hall/council-meetings/council-meeting-agendas](https://anmore.com/village-hall/council-meetings/council-meeting-agendas).

# Be Bear Aware

## GARBAGE, FOOD SCRAPS AND RECYCLING REQUIREMENTS

Garbage, food scraps and recycling are a major attractant for bears, and we need to do our part to keep bears and our community safe.

During the seasons when bears are active in our community, we leverage the provincial Bear Aware program to work with conservation officers to raise awareness about how to reduce bear attractants and address safety issues. We also have additional bylaw enforcement to deal with situations where garbage, food scraps and recycling are consistently left unsecured and/or at the curbside outside of approved collection times. **While we are starting with a warning notice, if appropriate action is not taken to reduce bear-human interaction, fines may be issued by the Village under Solid Waste Management Bylaw No. 554-2016, or by the provincial government as per the Wildlife Act.**



### Please adhere to the following requirements.

- Do not place collection carts at the curbside until 5:30 a.m. on collection day, and lock and store carts by 10:00 p.m.
- Clean collection carts regularly to prevent odours and store them in a secure location (e.g. garage/shed).
- Cart lids and locks must function properly – for repairs/replacement email [village.hall@anmore.com](mailto:village.hall@anmore.com).
- If carts cannot be stored securely, keep attractants like food scraps in the freezer until collection day.

For more tips visit [anmore.com](http://anmore.com).

# Keeping Our Fish and Waterways Safe

It's important to remember that anything that goes into a storm drain goes directly into the nearest body of water. When hazardous materials enter the storm drains, they can kill fish and pollute the water and plants in the area. There are a few key ways residents can help keep these harmful materials out of waterways.

- 1 Never dump anything down a storm drain.**  
These drains are for excess water flowing overland. Unfortunately, there are problems with hazardous materials being poured down these drains, including used motor oil, antifreeze, paints, solvents and other household chemicals. Take these items to recycling facilities.
- 2 Wash your car at a commercial car wash.**  
The run-off from washing your car adds soap and other harmful materials to waterways; whereas, soapy runoff at commercial facilities is collected and channeled into the treatment system.
- 3 Create a rain-friendly yard.** You can reduce the amount of water going into storm drains by allowing water to soak into the ground, where it can help plants and recharge streams, rivers or lakes. Check out [growgreenguide.ca](http://growgreenguide.ca) for tips on how to create a more sustainable garden or lawn space.
- 4 Reduce chemicals and other materials in your yard.** Cutting down fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides means less will be carried into storm drains and end up in our local waters. It's also important to keep grass clippings and other yard waste out of creeks, streams and other waterways (they can be composted), and pick up after your pet.

For more tips on how to improve storm water management on your property, check out "A Homeowner's Guide to Stormwater Management" at [metrovancover.org](http://metrovancover.org).

# Summer Restrictions

## SUMMER WATER RESTRICTIONS

Although we seem to be seeing more rain this summer than we have in previous years, Metro Vancouver water restrictions are still in effect from May 1 to October 15.

We are currently in Stage 1, so lawn sprinkling for residents is limited to Wednesday and Saturday mornings for even-numbered houses and Thursday and Sunday mornings for odd-numbered houses.

## SUMMER PARKING UPDATE

As we all know, there is very limited parking on roadways throughout the Village from May 15 to October 1. We've definitely seen extensive traffic already this summer, which is affecting roadways in a couple ways.

### Addressing Buntzen traffic back-ups

We have noted the issues with illegal parking and excessive traffic on Sunnyside Road. This is unacceptable, and in response we have asked BC Hydro to provide traffic control, we will have bylaw enforcement in the area on weekends,

and we've arranged for Coquitlam Towing to be on site in the mornings. **If any safety issues are noted due to the excess traffic blocking the roadway, please call 604-945-1550 for non-emergency RCMP response.**

### Community parking restrictions

Anmore's zoning and business licence bylaws do not permit the use of private land to sell parking. This type of parking impedes emergency response, blocks driveways, causes a nuisance for area residents and poses other safety concerns as the properties do not have properly prepared parking surfaces.

As well, parking is not permitted on side streets near Buntzen Lake on weekends and statutory holidays from May 1 to October 31 each year. This includes Alpine, Chestnut, Leggett, East Road and Sunnyside Road near the Fire Hall, the south side of Ravenswood and Charlotte Crescent. Parking is also not permitted on any boulevard or pathway/walkway within Anmore at any time during the year.

Based on the community feedback received in the parking survey earlier this year, we have continued our standard practice to have a bylaw enforcement officer patrolling and ticketing in the Village on weekends and statutory holidays. Coquitlam Towing also regularly patrols in Anmore.

# Anmore Events and Activities

Council has made the difficult decision to cancel Ma Murray Day for 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

We all regret that this is necessary and look forward to (hopefully) having a bigger and better event next year.

We will continue to monitor the COVID-19 restart plan and updates on recommended measures to promote community safety. That said, we all hope that we will be able to hold our annual events in to fall (Halloween Fireworks) and winter (Light Up Spirit Park). We will be advising residents of our ability to safely hold those events dependent on the state of the pandemic.

Visit [anmore.com](http://anmore.com) for the most reliable information about Village projects, initiatives and events and to sign up for our email notifications to be advised of all the latest info.



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