



February Update from Council

Council has a number of critical activities which are in the final stages of development. Town Hall meetings will be scheduled in March and April to discuss the details of what Council is considering. These sessions will also provide an opportunity for Council to hear comments and concerns from homeowners. One of the key benefits of these town halls is to ensure that questions are addressed, resulting in a more efficient AGM.

Council will conduct these meetings on the weekends to allow those that are still working the opportunity to attend. The key topics include: budget & strata fees, transition to a fully self-governed organization, bylaw updates, landscaping standards, etc.

A new practice that is being introduced is to notify homeowners of any contract activity being considered and asking for competitive proposals from those who can meet contractual and service level requirements. Notifications will be done through the current email distribution with links to any details on the Sonoma Pines web site. Council would also entertain submissions from any volunteers or groups who express

interest in a community work-bee approach on specific projects.

Council has a job posting for a Community Services Coordinator on the Sonoma Pines web site, bulletin board and other open sites. This will position our community to better address homeowners' activities as we move forward.

As Sonoma Pines matures and becomes more self sufficient, there will be a need for people with specific skills in a number of areas (IT, CAD, communications, documentation, publications, contracts, security, building maintenance, etc) who can advise, help deliver or lead as volunteers.

With Rykon nearing completion and the volunteers of Sonoma Pines assuming a more self-governing role, homeowners need to consider how they can get involved. Sonoma Pines has evolved significantly over the past couple of years and its strength comes from a diverse, committed Council with a community focus. There are opportunities with every committee and any interested homeowners can submit their names to the Welcome committee that is coordinating volunteers in Sonoma Pines. For any questions all the current Councillors are excellent resources for help.

Robert Taylor

Upcoming Townhall Meetings



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Budget Preview April 9
- Landscaping Update April 30
- Carrington Transition and Bylaw Update May 14
(all to take place in the clubhouse at 10 am)
- Annual General Meeting May 26
(time and location tbc)



New Email System

The Sonoma Pines Communication Committee is looking at a new email system for Sonoma Pines residents.

This system will allow the Committee to send community updates to homeowners bypassing the property manager. One of the options offered with this system is the ability to do email opinion surveys on important community issues. If you have any thoughts on the matter please feel free to tell us at

sonomapinesinfo@gmail.com

We will be doing a trial of the system in the next few weeks.

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Sonoma Pines Website and Sonoma Sun Newsletter

www.sonomapines.info

You can check here for most recent articles on the community, back issues of the newsletter, or copies of Council minutes and financial statements. Some pages are password protected so use sonomapines and you should be fine. If there is something that you would like to see on the site or in the Newsletter please email us at sonomapinesnews@gmail.com.



Sonoma Pines Community Services Coordinator

Sonoma Pines is a community comprised of 495 single and multi-family homes situated in West Kelowna, British Columbia. The Sonoma Pines Home Owners Association (SPHOA) is responsible for the daily administration of the community services operations on behalf of the homeowners.

SPHOA is currently seeking an individual to assist in the day-to-day operations of the community, on a part-time basis. Reporting to SPHOA Council (SPHOAC), duties will include oversight of community maintenance and contractors, as well as communications with homeowners.

This position will be the liaison between homeowners, community service providers, Council members and contractors and will practice timely and efficient quality customer service. This "hands on" position will provide the successful applicant with a unique environment in which to learn on the job by employing "best practices" in strata operations management.

Key Qualifications:

- Ability to communicate effectively and professionally both verbally and in writing
- Self-motivated, reliable and flexible
- Computer skill proficiency using MS Office Suite
- General knowledge and understanding in exterior building maintenance and repairs, landscaping and irrigation and community infrastructure
- Experience working in a strata environment or managing large properties would be an asset
- Completion of training courses or a vocational program in property or

strata management or real estate would be an asset

This is a seasonal, part-time contract of approximately 20 hours per week, weekdays only, from March to October. There may be rare emergency call outs.

Please forward a copy of your resume to sonomapinesjobs@gmail.com

We thank all candidates in advance for their interest; however, only those individuals who most closely meet our requirements will be contacted for an interview.



Rats

SPHOA has contacted Orkin Canada Pest control services to address the issue of rat activity observed around a number of properties in the Strata. Rats have been active for a number of years in the south Okanagan and have been observed in the Westbank/Kelowna area over the past

3-4 years. The local climate /vegetation/ water sources – streams etc. provide an ideal habitat for the rodents to thrive and reproduce. Orkin has numerous rodent control programs in place throughout the interior.

[Important information on rat control...](#)

More Rats

West Kelowna RCMP have informed us that an arrest has been made in connection with a series of break and enters and attempted break and enters in Sonoma Pines. Bravo and thanks to the local RCMP.

The suspect is local and known to police. Court date is for March the 3rd.

Sonoma Pines residents are reminded that if you see suspicious characters loitering in the neighbourhood, call the RCMP.



Home Inspections

As part of our Sonoma Pines long term maintenance plan we are looking for a home inspector to do inspections of homes in our Community. The goal of this project is to help Council address maintenance issues before they become emergencies, and plan for regular maintenance.

If you are a licensed home inspector and interested in this opportunity please email John Scott at jdscott650@gmail.com

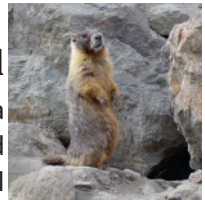


Handyman

Sonoma Pines Clubhouse Committee is looking for volunteers to build a new office to accommodate the new Community Services Coordinator. The office will be located in the basement of the Clubhouse. If interested please contact Tom McEwen at tommc.strata@gmail.com

Marmot Control

SPHOA is looking for a qualified and experienced individual to manage and prevent marmot infestation on all Sonoma Pines common areas. The service would include supplying, inspecting and resetting live traps, as well as relocating the marmots. For more details and information on how to apply, <http://www.sonomapines.info/marmot-control/>



Letters



Please send your comments and letters to sonomapinesnews@gmail.com



Locally owned and operated by Steve & Sara Corothers

Check out our website at www.homehardware.ca OR

Visit us beside Save-On Foods,

Tell us you live in Sonoma Pines to save 5%

Proud sponsor of the Sonoma Sun

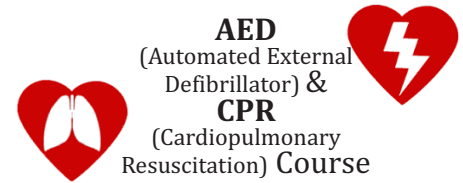
Store Hours
Monday to Saturday
8:30AM - 5:30PM
Sunday & Holidays
10AM - 4PM

250-768-3125

Watercolour Workshop

Glen Heming is going to teach watercolor painting every Wednesday morning 9:00 to noon starting April 20, 2016 and running for 10 consecutive weeks in the Multi-purpose room, lower level at the Sonoma Pines clubhouse. No prior painting experience is necessary as he will start with the basics of paper, paints and brushes. This will be followed by each participant learning to control the watercolor media, wet in wet techniques, composition and perspective. Painting is learned by doing, so much of the class will be exercises to enhance the students understanding of watercolor artwork creation.

The class is free but participants will need to supply their own paper, brushes and paint. A recommended material list will be supplied to all who register. Due to classroom size, registration will be limited to Sonoma Pines residents and only the first 14 people who express interest. If you are interested in registering or have questions please contact Glen directly at glenheming@telus.net



Where: SP Clubhouse

When: Saturday, May 7th

Time: 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Cost: \$39/person

A maximum of 18 participants.

Registration: By phone to Kelowna branch St. John Ambulance at 250-762-2840 Monday through Friday between the hours of 830 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Payment: Amex Card, Master Card or Visa Card

Other Information: The instructor is from St. John Ambulance. Please dress comfortably as you will have to be up and down off the floor. This course is ideal for couples, as there is some body contact, although most of the "hands on" situations are performed with the use of demonstration manikins. Upon completion of the course, participants will receive a diploma. No written test required. Please bring your own refreshments.

Sonoma Pines Contact: Al Brown – Clubhouse Fitness Facility Manager – 250-768-0244



"Happy Valentines" Feb 12/16



Have some news that you'd like to share with your neighbours?

The Sonoma Pines Facebook group is growing and you can join by [clicking here.](#)

If you are interested in past copies of the Newsletter or more information on

The Sonoma Pines Community please check out the website at: sonomapines.info



Markets may change. Good investing advice is timeless.

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Sonoma Pines Calendar Of Events

Calendar click here: <http://www.sonomapines.info/calendar/>



Important Notice for Residents Regarding Yard Waste Pick-up

Our new Contractor Asahi will begin servicing Sonoma Pines on March 15. The first Yard Waste Pick-up will take place Tuesdays starting March 22 thru November 8 with restrictions as to contents allowed and method of placement:

- Must be placed on the edge the road (not driveway or Boulevard) by 7:00 AM on pick-up day
- In a container (of 32 to 50 gallons) or a tarp (6x8 maximum) or CLEAR only plastic bags, however containers are the preferred method -Branches should not be tied
- Waste must be **VEGETATION ONLY - NO GARBAGE** and **NO RECYCLABLES** (including plant pots or containers) Should the items not allowed be included your home will be removed from the Pick-Up List

These rules are in place because our Contractor is subject to the same restrictions for the disposal of Yard Waste. Should they not be followed by Homeowners we may be forced to remove this service from Sonoma Pines. Residents must **NOT** engage in requesting private transactions of any kind with Asahi Employees. Asahi Employees are instructed to concentrate on their work and to not engage with Residents. Should you have any request or require information or have any issues they must be directed to the Sonoma Pines Property Manager. Asahi will not take calls from residents.

Ladies Golf

Sonoma Pines ladies golf for the 2016 season is coming soon. If you have not already registered and are interested in golfing with the Sonoma Pines ladies every Monday for the golf season please contact Kerri at Kerri.s@telus.net. Please let her know if you wish to play 18 holes starting in the morning or 9 holes starting at 1 p.m. every Monday. This is a very popular event so get your names in early. The course opens the end of February and start up will begin ASAP. Thanks for your attention to this matter. Sharon McNichol



Photo Submissions for the Newsletter

All photos submitted for publication in the newsletter should contain some background information, or context about the photo and (if reasonable) the names of all people included in the photo. Thank You



Sadie Hawkins Happy Hour - February 26, 2016

Clubhouse Rentals

If you are interested in reserving the Sonoma Pines Clubhouse and require any information please call Tom McEwen at 250-768-3439 or Jean Scheidlat 778-754-1884 Rental Forms and Insurance Information are now on line at www.sonomapines.info under the Clubhouse tab.

Sonoma Pines Activities & Contacts

Photography Club Lyle and Karen Larrigan 250-768-2555 heritageimaging@shaw.ca	Quilting Gaye Hunter at 250 768-0996	Painting Club Glen Heming 250-768-0991 glenheming@telus.net	Snowshoe Group George Forshaw 778 214-6002 gfsquaredf@gmail.com
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**To place notices, on the Bulletin Board, please contact:
 Leslie Asselstine at 778-754-1397 or drop off the item at 2163 Serrento Lane**