

Churchbridge Quarterly Newsletter



Winter 2022

Reverse Osmosis (RO) Update

Do you find the water has a tin or metal taste? With installation of the RO system, it can take upwards to a year before sediment in your water lines are flushed through. Some residents mentioned replacement of copper lines or taps in their homes. This would help fix this issue. Another possible solution, is to check your anode rod in your water heater. If your water heater is older, this rod may be the source of the problem. Town's PH levels are currently in the range they need to be per regulations. Residents can also continue to use their water softeners.

Do you find the water tastes heavily like chlorine? We recommend a Brita Filter be purchased or a carbon filter be installed or try running your taps for 5-10 minutes to decrease the chlorine smell. Either of these would reduce chlorine taste. Another potential problem is if the Town chlorine levels are not in the range they should be; however, all levels are currently where they should be and the Town is currently meeting regulations as outlined by the Water Security Agency.

Do you find the water is hard? Our Environmental Protection Officer (EPO) recommends the Town maintain a higher PH lever (approx 8.0) at the water plant. Keeping the PH higher will reduce water breaks and prevent expenses from taxpayers! Once water flows through the distribution system (piping), PH levels significantly increase to 9.4. The sediment is the cause for hard water. Our EPO stated the hardness will subside over time (approx 1 year), but some residents may choose to keep their water softeners running during this time.

Community Events

- Jan 10th - Council Meeting - 7 p.m. In the Community Hall
- Jan 24th - Council Meeting - 7p.m. In the Community Hall
- Starting Feb 11th @ 7a.m. to Feb 12 @ 7p.m. - Churchbridge Arena Facebook Auction (Preview items Feb 10 & item pickup Feb 14 & 15th)
- Feb 14th - Council Meeting - 7 p.m. In the Community Hall
- Feb 25th - Arena Trivia Night. - 7p.m Start @ the Blue Room, upstairs in the Arena.
- Feb 28th - Council Meeting - 7 p.m. In the Community Hall
- March 14th - Council Meeting - 7 p.m. In the Community Hall
- March 15th - Pork Raffle to support the Arena - Draw Date (Tickets will be for sale the first week of January. See poster attached.)
- March 28th - Council Meeting - 7p.m. In the Community Hall
- March 30th - Utility bills due

BOARD OF REVISIONS

The Town has one position open. The board is responsible for hearing appeals. Appeals may be heard if a taxpayer believes their assessment should be changed. As per the provincial government, training is now mandated by the province. The cost of training is covered by the Town and if an appeal is required there is compensation offered.

If you are interested please contact, the Town Office @ 306-896-2240 or churchbridge@sasktel.net

TOWN OFFICE

116 Vincent Ave. W
Box 256
Churchbridge, Sk
SOA 0M0

Phone : (306) 896—2240

Fax : (306) 866—2910

Email :

churchbridge@sasktel.net

Hours

Monday—Friday:
8:30 a.m - 12 p.m.
1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Mayor:

Bill Johnston

Councillors:

Jody Antosh—Cusitar

Jim Gallant

Rob Gosselin

Nicholas Thies

Russell Thies

Peter Vaughan

Administrator:

Renea Paridaen

Administrative Assistant:

Tasha Hykawy

Foreman:

Jason Popenheim

EMERGENCY ON CALL

(i.e. water breaks)
(306) 896—7825

www.churchbridge.com

The Water and Sewer Rate Bylaw has been updated for 2022. The Bylaw will see the Recycling Fee and Infrastructure Fees remain the same and a 3% increase to the Water and Sewer Fees as depicted in the table below:

	2021	2022
WATER	\$111.03	\$114.39
SEWER	\$55.52	\$57.18

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION NEEDED!

In the event of an emergency, such as a water break, Town Staff deliver flyers on foot to residents to notify of a water shut off or boil water advisory, per regulation. A recent change allows us to make phone calls to residents to notify them, as opposed to going door to door. This will be quicker and allows us to reach residents who may not be at home at the time of incident. The town office staff would be requesting residents to please provide a contact number to be kept on file for the purposes of emergency notification. Please call the Town Office at 306-896-2240 or email churchbridge@sasktel.net. Thank you in advance!

Reminders

SEWER REMINDER:

Please do not flush the following items:

- Shop rags or paper towel
- Makeup wipes or feminine products
- Diapers or baby wipes
- Sanitizing wipes.
- Kitchen grease or oil. If in liquid form, let cool and then pour or scrape material into a container (like a disposable cup) and place in garbage.

These are not meant to breakdown and can clog the lines and this is an expensive fix.

BUSINESS LICENSES:

Business licenses are due annually at a fee of \$100 for a company, or \$50 for an individual and can be purchased at the Town Office. Business license holders are then added to the Business Directory on the Town Website for the year. If residents hire an out-of-town contractor to complete work, we ask that you please remind the contractor to stop at the office and purchase a license if they have not already done so

PET LICENSES:

2021 Dog and Cat licenses are now due. And can be purchased at the Town Office. The annual fee is \$10 for a spayed/neutered animal, or \$25 for an intact animal.

CAMPGROUND SKI TRAILS:

The cross country ski trails are set out in the campground! The walking trail follows along the ski trails, so please ensure if you are walking, please walk between the ski trails and not in them. A reminder as well that snowmobiles are NOT permitted on the trails and must be driven out of town limits. Thank you for your cooperation and thank you to Jeff and Tara Becker for setting out the ski trails.

BUSY DEEZ:

Busy Deez has new management and the Town of Churchbridge would like to welcome them to the community! The new hours are: Tuesday 8-5, Wednesday 8-5, Thursday 8-5 and Friday 8-5. For appointments call and leave a message @ 306-896-9003!

OUTDOOR RINK:

The outdoor rink has been constructed on the skate park for the second year! All Skaters welcome!

PARKING :

A reminder that vehicles and trailers are not to be parked on the street for longer than 24 hours. To aid in snow clearing, please also avoid parking on the street in the event of a heavy snowfall. This will allow staff to clear streets in timely manner.

SNOW :

In the event of a heavy snowfall, we would like to remind anyone clearing snow on their properties to please refrain from piling snow in back alleys or on neighboring properties (unless granted permission by the property owner), or pushing large amounts of snow into the street. Churchbridge has many residents from the community that clear snow free of charge around Town. While Town Council, Public Works Staff, and Administration are grateful and appreciative for the help, please ensure piles are not placed by or on top of a fire hydrant, by a stop or yield sign, blocking sight lines at intersections, or on a persons property without their permission. Thank you for your cooperation

In the event of a large snowfall we appreciate everyone's patience as staff work to clear the snow. Windrows under 12 inches in height are the responsibility of the property owner to clear. Please note, the following protocol for clearing areas ranked from highest to lowest priority: 1. Emergency Vehicle Driveways. 2. Town Streets. 3. Parking lots, Business and Town owned - But only if no vehicles are present. 4. Back lanes - Only those with commercial garbage pick-up.

OPERATION OF ATV'S AND SNOWMOBILES :

A reminder that per Bylaws 2015-015 and 2015-016, no one shall operate a ATV or snowmobile within town limits except to exit town at the shortest possible route.

Please note that the operation of ATV's, snowmobiles and dirt bikes is not permitted on the walking or ski paths in the Churchbridge Campground. Thank you for your cooperation.

METHODS OF PAYMENT:

The following methods of payments are accepted at the Town Office : Online banking, E-transfer, Debit, Cheques and Cash.

A drop box is located under the front window of the building for payments to be placed when the Town Office is closed. All receipts are mailed if payment is dropped in the drop box.

TOWN RECREATION SIGN:

The Town Office has created a Churchbridge Recreation sign! This sign displays the many different recreational opportunities within Churchbridge. The sign is now part of the sign corridor on the east side of town. If you are heading back into the area from Langenburg, be sure to take a look!

GREAT WOK:

Great Wok now has gift cards available to purchase! They are reloadable and funds of \$5.00 to \$100.00 or more can be added!

TRANSFER SITE HOURS WINTER HOURS (NOV 1 – MAY) (NEW)

TUESDAY 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.
&
SATURDAY 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

ELECTRONIC RECYCLING

Did you know that some electronics can be taken for recycling at the Transfer Site?

Electronics are free to dispose of, as \$\$ for disposal is charged to a customer at the original time of purchase

Here are some examples of the electronics that can be brought to the Transfer Site, when it is open, where they will be stored and later shipped for recycling.

www.recycleMYelectronics.ca

For more information.



Display Devices

Televisions and monitors, including various technologies such as Cathode Ray Tube (CRT), All-in-one, flat panel (LCD, LED and plasma) and rear projection.



Non-Cellular Telephones

Includes corded and cordless telephones, as well as telephone answering machines.



Home Audio/Video Systems

Includes VCRs, DVD and CD players, digital cable and satellite equipment, speakers, amplifiers, receivers, data projectors and similar audio/video systems.



Desktop Computers

Desktop computers (including those acting as servers) and all bundled keyboards, mice, cables and internal components.



Portable Computers

Includes portable computers such as laptops, netbooks, notebooks and tablets.



Computer Peripherals

Includes both wired and wireless manual input devices such as keyboards, mice and trackballs.



Desktop Printers/Multi-Function Devices

Printers designed to reside on a work surface, including laser and LED, ink jet, dot matrix, thermal, dye sublimation and "multi-function" copy, scan, fax and print devices. Stand-alone desktop fax machines are also included in this category.



Personal/Portable Audio/Video Systems

Includes docking speakers, portable stereos, portable CD players, portable audio recorders, tape/radio players, headphones, digital media (MP3) players, voice recorders, and digital and video cameras.



Home Theatre In-A-Box (HTB) Systems

Includes pre-packaged disc player/speaker/amplifier systems for use with video or television display to create a home theatre experience.



Vehicle Audio/Video Systems (aftermarket)

Includes amplifiers, equalizers, speakers and audio/video components.



Countertop Microwave Ovens

Countertop Microwave Ovens may include microwaves from hotel rooms or restaurant units similar in chassis type to household type units. Please note built-in or over-the-range microwave ovens and microwave/range hood combinations are excluded from the program.



Video Gaming Systems & Peripheral

Includes gaming consoles, hand-held gaming devices as well as game controllers and both wired and wireless joysticks.



E-Book Readers

Includes personal and portable devices designed primarily for reading digital e-books and periodicals.



Desktop & Portable Scanners

Includes optical document/image scanning devices that reside on a desktop and portable devices. Including scanners but not limited to business card, cheque, photo negative, ID card as well as portable pen scanners.

BATTERY RECYCLING

The Town of Churchbridge has begun participating in the Call2Recycle program. Call2Recycle is the Canadian arm of North America's first and largest consumer battery stewardship organization. They promote environmental sustainability by providing an effective, efficient and easy to use battery collection and recycling program. Standard household rechargeable and single use batteries weighing 5kg or less may be brought to the town office during regular business hours for recycling. The Call2Recycle program does NOT accept wet cell batteries or large batteries such as car batteries. For more information about the program, and what batteries can be recycled, visit www.call2recycle.ca

Things council as accomplished in 2021:

- A new Town of Churchbridge website. www.churchbridge.com
- Offer A Business Storefront Improvement Grant of \$5000.00 for upgrades to business storefronts, encouraging support for existing businesses.
- Purchase SCBA Bottle Replacements for the Churchbridge Fire Department.
- Additional signage on Hwy #16 highlighting Town amenities.
- 5 New Christmas Town decorations. (Year 1 of 2) & Remembrance Day Banners.
- Sidewalk Repairs on the west side of Rankin Road, next to Sagebrush Studios.
- Replacement of eavestrough, showerheads, and tree planting in Campground.
- Making the community hall more accessible with the installation of automated door buttons for main exterior doors and bathrooms and hall updates including eavestrough, downspouts, change tables and LED lighting.
- Paving of Vincent Ave E, near the railway tracks and patching asphalt around town.
- 15 minute community input at the end of Council Meetings.

Churchbridge Business Storefront Improvement Grant

The Churchbridge Business Storefront Grant Program launched this year of the Town of Churchbridge to encourage local business to upgrade their business properties. 2021 funds were distributed as follows:

- \$2500.00 to BB Liquor & Variety/ BB Ice Cream Stop/ Churchbridge Pharmacy/ Churchbridge Storage for siding and signage
- \$1000.00 to Barb's Wedding and Flowers for siding
- \$500.00 to Rum of the Mill for painting
- \$500.00 to Churchbridge Daycare Cooperative for windows
- \$500.00 to Trinity Lutheran Church for step and landing cement repairs for the east door.

Smoke Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detectors

There are upcoming changes to the legislation and regulations that govern the construction and occupancy of buildings, *The Construction Codes Act* comes into force on Jan 1, 2022. It will state that: All buildings with residential occupancies (i.e. sleeping quarters) are required to have carbon monoxide and smoke alarms by July 1, 2022. To clarify, all buildings in Saskatchewan, where people are expected to sleep, will need to have carbon monoxide and smoke alarms installed. The size of the building, age, or if the building is seasonally occupied (e.g. cottages) do not exempt the building owner from needing to comply.

Community Fridge?

At the Dec 20 Council Meeting, an idea was proposed to start a Community Fridge in Churchbridge. The fridge would be accessible to any residents who may need additional help throughout the year. Items could be picked up or items could be donated by placing them in the fridge. Council is looking for the public's feedback on where to place the fridge within Town Limits. Where do you think would be the best spot? Please call or email the Town Office with your ideas!

Aquatic Centre Committee

The Aquatic Centre Committee is seeking new members!

The board is a voice for operators, conducts interviews, sets rates, a mentor for management of facility and helps with lesson registration. If you are interested in becoming part of the Aquatic Centre Committee, please contact the town office.

Sign Corridor

Signs in the sign corridor 4x8'feet on hard plastic material ONLY, nothing too flashy/distracting for when the drivers are driving by. This is in the east and/or west corridor. The yearly fee is \$175 per sign in each corridor. Please contact the town of-

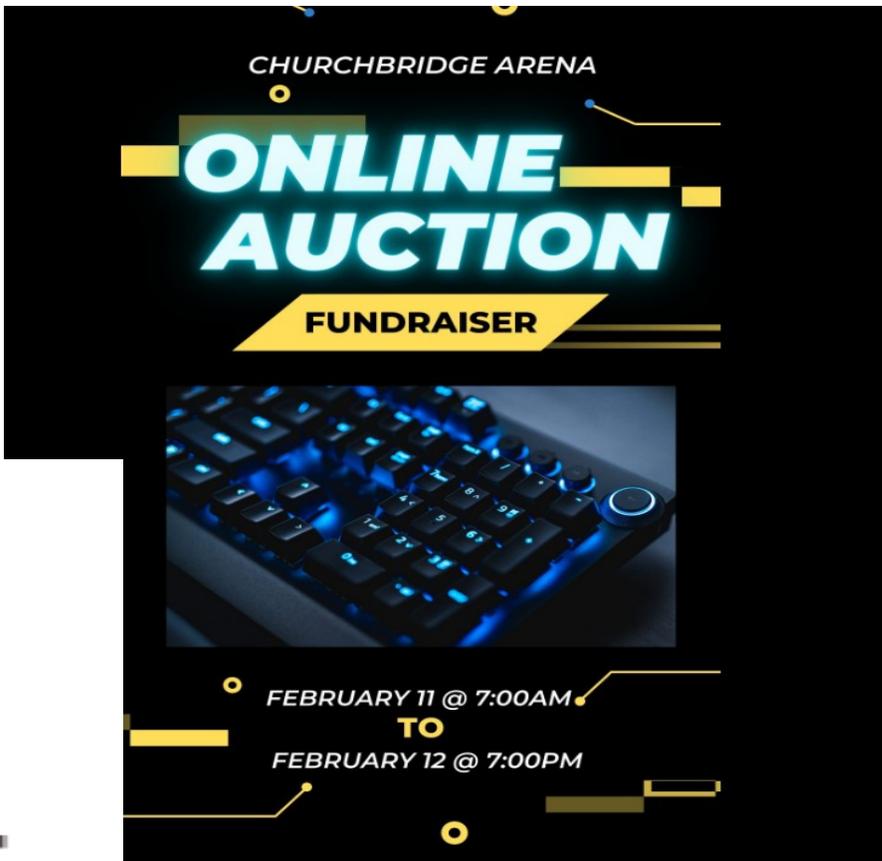
The online auction will take place on Facebook – Check out the Kaminski Arena Facebook page to access the event page. The auction will start on February 11 @ 7 a.m. and end on February 12 @ 7 p.m.

Anyone wanting to donate an item for the auction, can drop off an item at the town office until February 4 at 4:30p.m.

A preview of items will be on February 10th.

Items belonging to the highest bidder will be available to be picked on February 14 & 15th at the Town Office.

Keep an eye out on Facebook for additional information and fundraisers!



Get your tickets!

Draw Date March 15th at 7:00pm
LIVE on the Kaminski Arena Facebook Page

TICKETS 3/\$5

PURCHASE FROM
CANSKATE/MINOR SPORTS FAMILIES OR
AT THESE CHURCHBRIDGE BUSINESSES:
CHURCHBRIDGE CREDIT UNION
BB LIQUOR & VARIETY
RUM OF THE MILL BAR

Donated by Drew & Katie Pulland

Public Skating at Kaminski Arena is as follows:

- Jan 15- 12:30-2:30pm
- 17- 10-3pm
- 18-12-2pm
- 19- 9-3pm
- 20- 9-3pm
- 21- 9-3pm
- 24- 10-2pm
- 25- 10-3pm
- 26- 12:15-2pm
- 27-9-3pm
- 28- 9-3pm
- 31- 9-3 pm

ARENA BOOKINGS

To book the Arena go to www.churchbridgearena.com. The price is \$125.00/per hour. Click on 'Rentals' at the top of the page and fill out a rental request and agreement form. Everyone entering the rink must wear a mask unless eating or drinking. Those under the age of 18 are allowed to remove their mask while on the ice.

The Economic Development Committee

The Economic Development Committee is seeking volunteers. The EDC is a committee dedicated to the support of economic growth in the Town of Churchbridge. The original committee was instrumental in the creation of the sign corridor and the current committee intends to continue and build upon this foundation. If you are interested in joining the EDC, please contact the Town Office. The EDC has also created a survey through which residents can provide input. This survey can be found on the Town Facebook page or Town Website.

Youth Member on Council

The Town Council is currently looking for a youth member, someone under 18 to sit with council and participate in its deliberations for a term. The ideal candidate would be interested in politics or local government. If anyone is interested please contact the town office by email at churchbridge@sasktel.net or by phone at 306-896-2240.

Remembrance Day Banners

Thank you to the Veterans Affairs Canada's Commemorative Partnership Program 'Canada Remembers', for providing a grant towards our Remembrance Day Banners! Also, thank you to Pamela Marfleet for the awesome design!

Arena Kitchen:

Please note that the Arena kitchen is open Thursdays and also during tournaments and games!



2021 has been a very eventful year for the Town of Churchbridge. At long last our Water Treatment Plant upgrades, which include a new well and Reverse Osmosis (RO) water treatment system, are basically complete, although there are still a few hiccups to be dealt with. We've been receiving a lot of positive comments about the improved quality of water coming out of our taps and I, for one, am very grateful for not having to lug heavy bags of water softener salt. Given the possibility the changeover to RO treated water may cause waterline breaks, particularly in copper pipes, I strongly recommend that *everyone regularly check their in-home lines* to make sure there are no problems. In addition to that major project, basically mandated by the province and which will come in at a cost of around \$3 million, the town has also, to meet provincial standards, begun decommissioning our landfill site, plus we have taken the first steps towards developing a new residential subdivision on Cedar Crescent on the east side of town, adding badly needed opportunities for new families wanting to build homes. We are also continuing to deal with water drainage issues throughout the town, including along First Avenue North.

At this time I want to extend town council's appreciation to **all of our community volunteers** without whom Churchbridge would not be the great place it is to live in and raise a family. One doesn't have to look far to see where volunteers have made, and continue to make, lasting contributions to our town in terms of facilities -- arenas, aquatic centre, ball diamonds, playgrounds, campground, dog park, walking path, floral displays, town cemetery, community centre, disc golf course, library, and more -- and the on-going programs those facilities provide us.

Thanks also to all of the **staff at Churchbridge Public School** who, despite all of the uncertainties and changing protocols brought about by a second year of dealing with the Covid-19 crisis, have continued to provide our kids get opportunity to learn and interact with their friends, teachers and classmates. We know it has been an incredibly challenging year at CPS.

The same must be said about the work all Churchbridge and area residents **working in the health-care field** have continued to do, despite the constant Covid threat. We truly appreciate what you have and continue to do to keep us healthy and safe.

Thanks also to the members of **Churchbridge Fire and Rescue, our EMTs, First Responders and RCMP** for always being there when needed. We're hoping to see a stepped-up presence of First Responders in the community in the coming months.

This has been a very challenging year for our town staff, headed by our **Chief Administrative Officer, Renea Paridean**, who we're proud to announce recently received her Advanced - Level 1 certification from the Urban Municipal Administrators Assoc. of Saskatchewan, which has required a great deal of studying and hours of practical work. Dealing with all of the red tape which higher levels of government are very good at creating, particularly for major capital projects such as the RO plant, has required a lot of extra work and patience on Renea's part. For much of the year she was supported by **Administrative Assistant Cindy Buchberger** who, unfortunately, was drawn away by a new opportunity in her chosen career field. Thanks Cindy. Taking on the Admin. Assistant's duties in the Town Office is **Tasha Hykawy**, who comes to the job with training in municipal governance. Feel free to drop in and say hello to her and Renea.

2021 has been a particularly difficult and challenging year for our **Town Foreman, Jason Poppenheim**. Dealing with the many different Works Dept. responsibilities which are always present ranging from clearing snow to dealing with watermain breaks (which always seem to happen at the most inopportune times) Jason has also had to learn how to operate an entirely new water treatment system which has come with more than its share of problems and aggravations. He has put in a huge amount of extra time dealing with all of the issues. "Thank you" falls far short of what Churchbridge owes Jason.

Fortunately for us all, we have been very fortunate to have **Hanzel Laus** join our Works Dept. team late this year, coming to us from Gladstone, MB. with the experience and qualifications to take a lead role in working with Jason in, as they put it, "making water." If you haven't had the opportunity to say Hello and Welcome to Hanzel please do so the next time you see him.

Rounding out our Works Dept. team is **Ron Sopko** who joined our town staff just a month or so ago. Other members of our year-round town staff are **Julian Kaminski**, who keeps our Community Centre in good shape, **David Weston**, our always friendly landfill site attendant, and **Gloria Erickson**, our town librarian. With the combination of our community volunteers and our town staff, Churchbridge is well prepared when it comes to providing what a good and growing town needs to succeed.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to express town council's appreciation to **our local businesses** which have had to deal with many new obstacles created by Covid to ensure the health and well-being of their customers and staff while still providing valuable essential services. It was also great to see some upgrades to some of our main street businesses this past year.

Finally, I'd like to thank my fellow council members, **Councillors Jody Antosh-Cusitar, Jim Gallant, Rob Gosselin, Nick Thies, Russ Thies and Peter Vaughan**, for all the work they have done on your behalf. I invite all residents to sit in on one of our council meetings to see how committed your town council is to the job at hand. **All The Best In 2022 To All Churchbridge Residents. Let's hope the new year brings a new sense of friendship and spirit of co-operation which the world so desperately needs these days.**

Bill Johnston

Mayor