



Lytton Community Meeting December 9, 2021

Community members can watch the recordings of the December 9th Village of Lytton Community Meeting online: <https://youtu.be/oEAORn3TVdA>

Responses to questions not answered during the meeting are below:

Safe Return

Re. danger tree removal: Is there still an opportunity for forestry to help with problem trees on private property? Where is this application form? Will tree removal occur this winter?

Answered during the [Community Meeting](#). The Village of Lytton is working with BC Wildfire Service to support danger tree removal on private property. The Village will require permission from land owners for this process. If you own property in Lytton and are interested in having trees removed, please email communication@lytton.ca.

What emergency planning is underway to respond to potential emergencies we may experience over the winter and upcoming spring?

Answered during the [Community Meeting](#).

Have surveys been completed for all private properties? If so who has paid for it and where can we access our survey certificates? Will these survey certificates be sufficient for future building applications?

Answered during the [Community Meeting](#). To date, we have placed survey markers on properties to reduce risk in losing survey markers during debris removal. Land Surveys are a requirement for building processes. Residents can discuss all rebuilding processes, including survey of land with their insurance providers.

If property owners would like to access their property, whom do they contact? And can that information please be clearly added to a Village update?

Answered during the [Community Meeting](#).

Can staff put together a step-by-step guide for the recovery process to outline the steps to recovery from where we are today, to Homes and other buildings being built?

Certainly. We will work on this and provide it as a resource to the community prior to the next Town Hall meeting. Please also visit this the Resources and Supports for Lytton residents webpage here: <https://lytton.ca/recovery/resources-supports/>.



What is anchoring the Response and Recovery? Is it the BC Emergency Management System and Interim Framework?

The [Short-Term Recovery Plan](#) is guiding the response and recovery, along with all applicable legislation. Successful recovery is led by the community. The Province supports the Village of Lytton in recovery by providing advice, expertise and dedicated resources as requested by the community. Emergency Management BC supports Community Recovery as per the Interim Disaster Recovery Framework. This includes Community-led Recovery Planning.

Why is the KSS site not being used by VOL staff until the Aspen Planers site is up and running? There are phones and amenities there. There needs to be a staff member on the ground now in Lytton.

We are doing our best to re-establish a Village Office in Lytton and our finance staff are currently working out of Boston Bar. Once the office is established and the road to Lytton from Boston Bar is open, they will work out of the Village Office. Currently, our Site Coordinator (Owen Collings) is working as needed out of the Resiliency Centre at KSS, but will work from the Village Office once it is up and running.

Before any in-depth discussions occur about “building back better” and net zero carbon plans, will the Village of Lytton be documenting and posting a Fire Safety plan?

This process will be developed in partnership with key stakeholders and the community. Timeline to be determined.

Was the drafting of Bylaw 750 a Provincial directive or recommendation? Who drafted it – was it a borrowed template for example? What other municipalities in BC have a net zero bylaw?

Lidstone and Company (Village legal counsel) drafted Bylaw 750 based on Council direction (July 28th Special Council meeting minutes). The Bylaw can be found here: <https://lytton.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/2021-08-10-Special-Council-Meeting-Agenda-August-11-2021.pdf>.

Would the VoL consider scrapping bylaw 750 all together in favour of Step 3 building code requirements and an updated OCP? The OCP alone will take considerable time and money. People need to return as soon as possible.

Residents are encouraged to bring concerns such as this forward to Council using the delegation/public comment process. Residents can also tune into the Citizens Advisory Committee meetings to observe – please check the 2022 Council meeting schedule for upcoming dates: <https://lytton.ca/government/2022-meeting-schedule/>.



The question relates to Environmental/Geotechnical Assessments of the area's soil, which has been found to be contaminated with lead and asbestos in some places. These substances not only move about in the soil but can also become airborne, yet testing the soil for private properties remains optional. Thus if one property owner tests and decontaminates his soil, but his neighbours do not, then he and his family are still at risk from these toxins, not to mention that people of all ages in the area, but especially children who might be playing or passing through the neighbourhood, are at risk as well. Can testing and decontamination of the soil be made mandatory, if not at the individual level, then at a governmental level?

There is a distinction between ash/soot and soils. Ash and soot have been sampled and contaminants of concern (COC) such as asbestos and metals have been found at [some locations](#). The soils within the village have not yet been sampled. Once debris removal, including the soot and ash, has been completed, COC's such as asbestos will be greatly reduced. Under the Contaminated Sites Regulation, the Province recommends that Notice of Independent Remediation is undertaken, to sample soils to determine the extent of COC migration, if any. Results from soil sampling will determine risk and hazards. This information will inform any necessary remediation of each site.

The permitting process will specify any required conditions to be met prior to rebuilding.

When will the Evacuation Alert be lifted for the currently populated area of the Village?

We are working with the appropriate authorities to have the evacuation order lifted as soon as possible.

Who is paying for the archaeologist required for individual private properties?

Archaeology is a responsibility of the private landowner. Recommend that individuals discuss building permit requirements including those under the Heritage Act with their insurance company.

Who is paying for Onside Security? How was it decided that Onside be awarded the contract? Why are locals not given the opportunity to work as security as is LFN security? Why have large machines been allowed on private property in the Village without owners permission if we have security?

We are in discussions with the Province. The services were required as part of the response to the fire by the Emergency Operations Centre.

Financial & In-Kind Donations

Where can we get a copy of our property taxes? I was told they were mailed out again Dec. 3? I was also told a deadline of Dec 20th to apply for Home Owner's Grant?

Answered during the [Community Meeting](#). Residents can call into the main office at 778-254-5004 or email finance@lytton.ca and staff will email you a copy of your tax notice.

Will the Village of Lytton be distributing food donations through the Resiliency Centre or elsewhere?

Answered during the [Community Meeting](#).



I checked my mail in Kamloops, head office, today and there wasn't a taxes invoice. Where was it mailed from?

The Tax Notices were mailed from Kelowna the week of Dec 3. Residents can request an emailed copy or a change of address by emailing finance@lytton.ca.

Essential Services

When will the post office open?

Canada Post can't provide a confirmed date, but they assured mailing services will be up and running before Dec. 25.

Local Government & Village Services

Will there be a by-election to fill the vacant council seat? Will it be in January?

Answered during the Community Meeting. There are two vacant positions on Council. Staff is working with the provincial government on the legislated requirements and are preparing a staff report to Council outlining options moving forward.

What was the criteria used to select the citizens advisory committee?

Answered during the Community Meeting. The Terms of Reference for the Advisory Committee can be found here: <https://lytton.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Terms-of-Reference-for-Planning-Advisory-Committee.pdf>.

People on the CAC have commented that there is no ability for them to have items added to the agenda and it has been driven by one person. There needs to be an avenue for Committee Members to have issues raised by the community added to the CAC agenda and a procedure for community members to have their concerns raised to the community committee. What is the process to bring concerns forward through this committee?

Answered during the [Community Meeting](#).

What constitutes correspondence noted in the minutes/agenda packages?

Answered during the [Community Meeting](#).

When and why was there a decision made to use donations to cover sewer/water. Was it made in a council meeting?

Answered during the [Community Meeting](#).

What is the rationale for cancelling Dec 22nd council meeting when there is so much work to be done? There is no time to waste. Every day without access to our properties brings deeper depression.

The decision to cancel Council meetings are made by the Mayor and Council. The December 22nd meeting was cancelled in the fall and reaffirmed. A Special Council Meeting was called for December 15, 2021 to deal with matters of a financial nature and the pending by-election. Special meetings may be called for urgent items if Council feels it is necessary.



Can we expect a formal response to Robert Leitch's comments about his constituents on Twitter?

The personal actions of a Council member do not represent the view of Mayor and Council. Mr. Leitch has tendered his resignation from Council as of December 8, 2021.

Does the citizen advisory committee have minutes of all meetings?

Agendas and minutes for the Citizens' Advisory Committee can be found on the Village website at <https://lytton.ca/government/committee-agendas-and-minutes/>.

Is Fraser Basin Council fulfilling any roles in the recovery and rebuild then? If so, is this information on village website?

Fraser Basin Council worked with the Village to complete the Short-Term Recovery Plan, further they are the facilitators for the Town Hall meetings that were held on Nov 8 and Dec 9, and will be working with the Village to draft a Medium-Term Recovery Plan.

Who does publicworks@lytton.ca go to?

This email address is monitored by public works staff.

Economy

At the time the Short-Term Recovery Plan was made public, many items did not have secured funding. When will you provide an updated version of the plan, indicating newly secured funding for the priorities and actions? Will those priorities and actions not happen if funding is not secured?

Answered during the [Community Meeting](#).

Critical Infrastructure

What is the status of our 2021 utility bills?

Answered during the [Community Meeting](#).

Please explain for those many homes who still are in the Village boundaries where our water is coming from, creek or well? What the issue is as to why we cannot drink it. What is the Village doing about it? What is the plan to get our water drinkable?

Answered during the update in the [Community Meeting](#).

For the Anglican parish buildings - have the water lines been blown out or drained to prevent further damage? These buildings will be useful in the build back.

Answered during the [Community Meeting](#).

Why has water testing taken so long?

Answered during the [Community Meeting](#).



Why, if the water system works fine are we needing to replace it? The testing so far shows nothing horrible. Locals are using it and, in some cases, drinking it anyways. What is the hold up?

The Do Not Consume order was rescinded on December 13, 2021.

What is the plan around Public Works for those of us currently living within the Village boundaries? Who do we contact if we have a water or sewer issue? Can we expect timely plowing of snow and sanding of ice? Can we expect mowing, cleaning, etc of our current small green spaces such as flag park or that on Loring Way?

Public Works will continue to function within the Village. Please contact the Village Officer number at 778-254-5004 to activate a service request.

Canadian Red Cross

Can you tell me why Red Cross would need mortgage documents as proof of home ownership in order to be able to offer support?

There are a number of documents that may be requested by Red Cross Case Managers to help identify supports that may be available to the individual or family. For more information on your individual situation, please contact 1-800-863-6582.

Other / Open Discussion

What about the Official Community Plan? How will that be addressed throughout the recovery and rebuild?

Answered during the [Community Meeting](#).

What (if any) process are underway for a government-to-government agreement or framework to guide the long-term recovery? (prov, fed, municipality, indigenous governments)

There are multiple meetings held every week that provide updates to a wide variety of stakeholders, including all levels of government. We are in the beginning stages of developing long-term recovery plans and will have more to share in the coming weeks.

Although we all know that VOL does not have jurisdiction over CN and CP train schedules and fire prevention plans, the actions of these corporations still have a profound effect on Lytton residents. Are Council members willing to press provincial or federal officials for corporate responsibility around fire prevention?

Yes – CN has already committed to work with the municipality (Mayor and Council) on Safety Planning.

What does reconciliation “look like” from the Mayor and Council perspective? What active steps are currently underway to advance discussions and with whom?

Council is working with the Fraser Basin Council to activate this process. Mayor Polderman is in weekly discussions with Chief Janet Webster, Lytton First Nation and Chief Patrick Michell, Kanaka Bar Indian Band regarding building back the Village of Lytton.



Is there a way to donate to the organizations who are distributing food out to Lytton?

The Village of Lytton is grateful to the community leaders who have worked long and tirelessly in the Relief Centres at Siska, Skuppah and at the West Side Hall. To donate to these organizations, please visit their websites as follows:

- Lytton First Nation (West Side Hall): <https://www.lfn.band>
- Skuppah Indian Band: <https://www.skuppah.ca>
- Siska: <https://www.bcafn.ca/first-nations-bc/thompson-okanagan/siska>