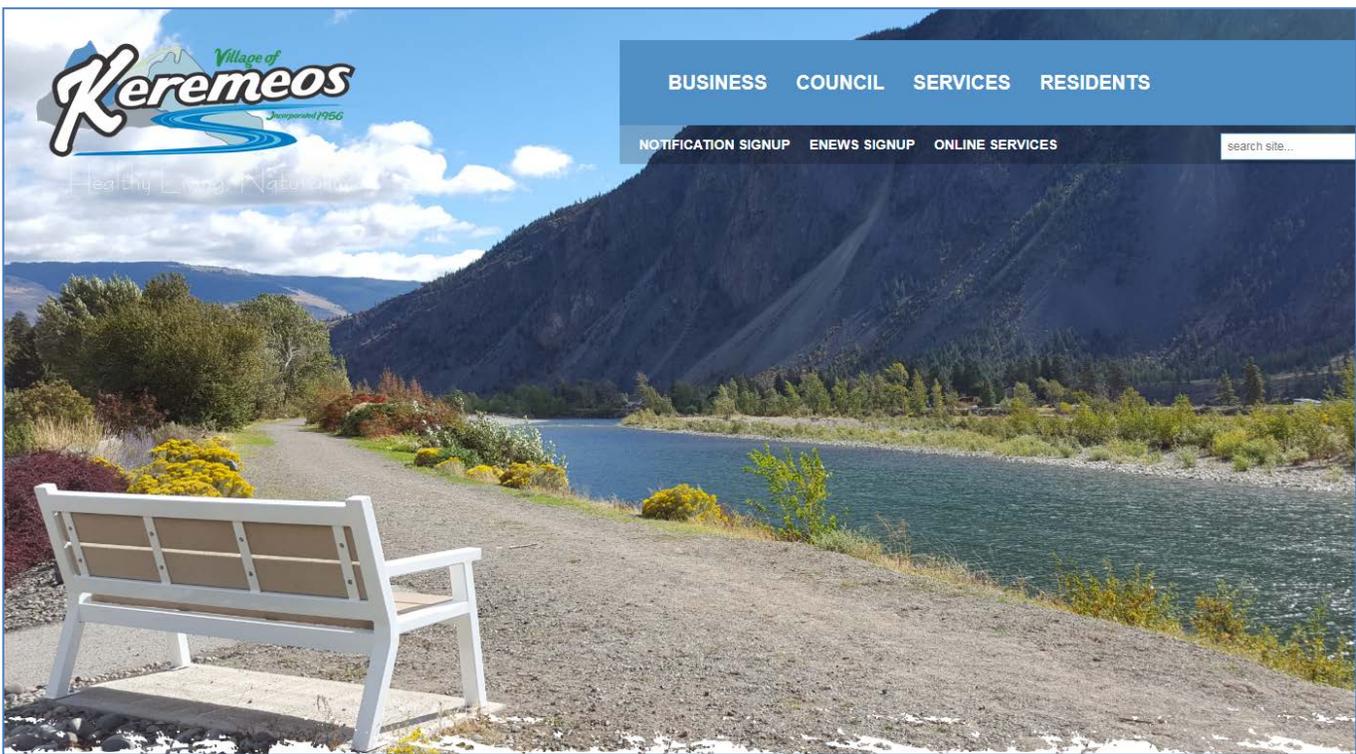


Village's Website Gets a New Look



The Village's website has just unveiled a clean new look and more content, thanks to grant money received earlier this year from the Ministry of Forest's Rural Dividend Fund. More functionality and new information pages will be added in upcoming weeks and months.

A Facebook page and Twitter and Instagram tools will go live early in the new year, further enhancing the Village's ability to communicate with all residents and prospective visitors. A social media advertising blitz for Keremeos tourism will follow.

Have a look at the new website and let us know if you have any ideas for further improvement!



2019 Focus: Infrastructure and public safety

Village staff efforts and capital funding will be concentrated on infrastructure improvement in 2019. During 2018, the Village performed condition assessments on streets and manholes. The results of those assessments have been reviewed and prioritized, and will direct our actions in 2019.

The Village has also started phase three, the final phase, of our Liquid Waste Management Plan. The completion of phase three will help shape the detailed planning of the upgrades to the wastewater treatment plant.

The other primary focus for 2019 is emergency planning. The scope of the work will depend on grant funding success. The Village has applied for grant funding for planning of evacuation routes, emergency social services and improvement of the town's resiliency. Elements of the resiliency plan would include:

- Resident education
- Firesmart assessments on public and private lands
- Development of emergency protocols
- Cross-jurisdictional planning

Some of the resiliency strategies will also incorporate report recommendations (due December, 2018) from the Village's Wildfire Prevention and FireSmart efforts in 2018.

Another step toward pedestrian safety on 7th Avenue



New curb flares and crosswalks have been added downtown to reduce the distance for pedestrians to cross busy 7th Avenue. The curb flares also slow traffic and improve visibility of the intersections.

Hazard markers will soon be added to the curb flares by the Ministry of Highways to improve visibility of the extended corners for drivers, and to mark the curbs for snow removal.

The little park that will be....

It may not look like a lot yet, but the little Pocket Park is progressing! When the plan for the park was approved by Council, it was agreed that we would proceed as funds were available so as not to impose the cost on taxpayers.

The ground has been cleared and levelled, and a contractor has just been engaged to run underground electricity throughout the park for lighting and receptacles. The receptacles would be enabled for events such as a mini-market or musical entertainment.



The public information posting board has been constructed, but will not be installed in the park until all concrete pads have been constructed in the spring of 2019. The information posting board and a future shade pergola for the park are made from original timbers from the 1911 heritage Red Bridge, which was replaced by the current bridge in 2005. The new pergola over the Keremeos welcome sign (below) was also made from the reclaimed timbers.

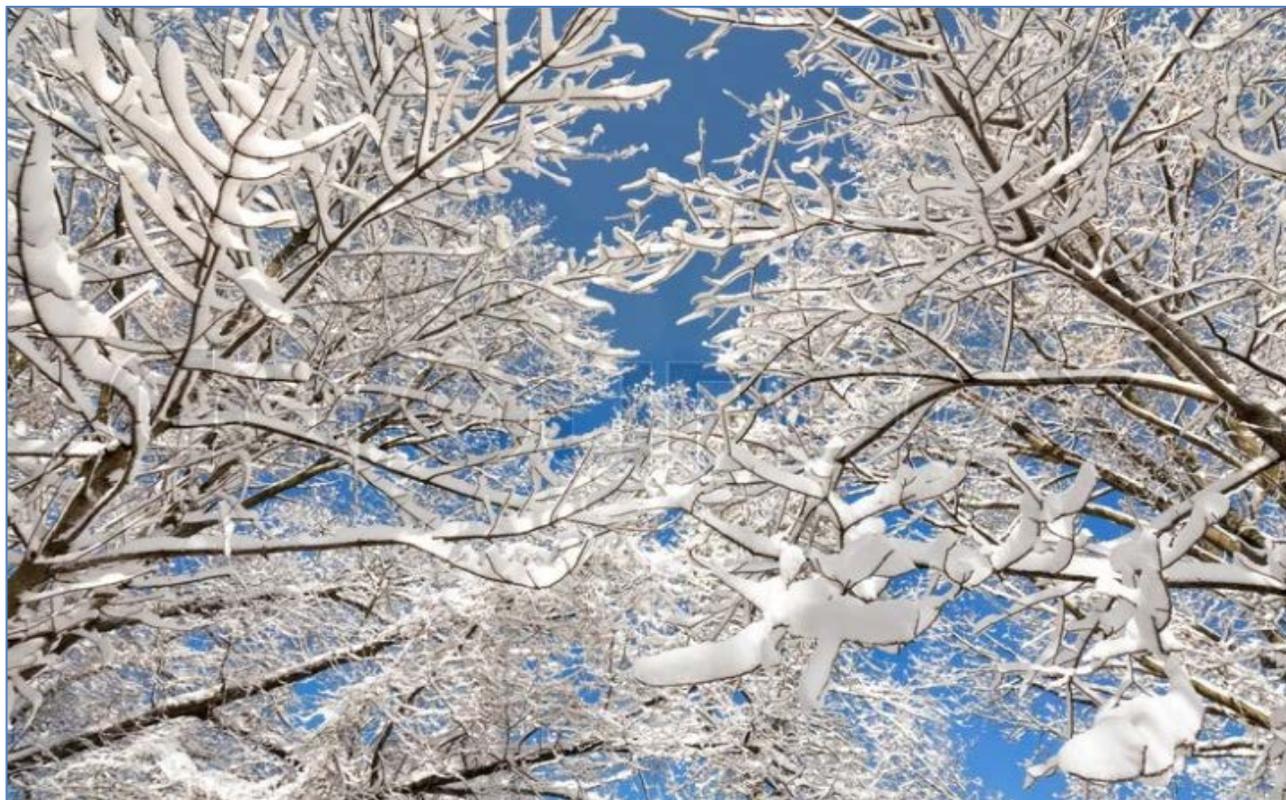
A new hedge now lines the west rear border of the park. Other trees and shrubs have been purchased, and are generously being stored at Don and Anna's nursery until they can be planted. Grass turf will be added after the concrete pads are in place.



Picnic benches, park benches and trees with a tree guard have already been adopted through donation and will be placed in the park along with plaques in the spring.

Commemorative items are still available... inquire at the Village Office!

Happy holidays to all!



Mayor Bauer and Councillors Evans, Holley, Philpott-Adhikary and Wiebe, along with all the Village staff, wish you and yours a wonderful holiday season!!



Village holiday hours: The Municipal Office will be closed the week of December 24 to 28 inclusive. For public works emergencies, call the Village Office at 250-499-2711 to page on-call staff.

Snowfalls requiring road plowing or sanding will automatically trigger a public works staff call out.

Has your contact information changed?

Let us know, so that we may keep our Resident Notification System up to date.

Not signed up yet? Visit our website and click on the "Resident Notification sign up button, or call the municipal office. We would be pleased to help!