

April 17, 2020

Dear Mayor and Council,

In light of the recent Covid-19 situation, the Squamish Valley fire and the request from all levels of government for people to stay at home, now is the perfect time for homeowners to Fire Smart their properties.

We have a great opportunity to do this Fire Smart-ing now and elevate the safety and preparedness of Whistler neighbourhoods from wildfires. We need municipal support and logistics to get the most out of an initiative like this.

We understand that yard assessments and chipper services have been suspended due to Covid-19. We would suggest the following actions be implemented as soon as possible.

- Place yard waste bins back into as many neighbourhoods as soon as possible and encourage homeowners to use them through communication in your newsletter and in the Pique.
- Place the yard waste bin back into the Nester's Recycling area – the one in Function is too far away (and that distance a deterrent) to those living on the north side of the municipality. There is plenty of space around the back of the Nester's facility for the bins to maintain social distancing.
- If possible, find a way to keep the chipper services going! Residents will be even more motivated to Fire Smart their properties if they can simply drop their branches on their curbs. This also makes it easier for residents to stay at home.

We all see from this week's event to the south of us how easily a small fire can turn into a devastating one. Let's make something great out of our current situations and get ahead of this with cleaner yards and neighbourhoods!

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kevin & Kim Wallace

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