

Message from Mayor and Council

Following two years of virtual conventions and other gatherings, Council members were relieved to be able to attend our local government association convention (Southern Interior – SILGA) in person at the end of April. It was nice to reconnect with colleagues in person, learn together, and discuss our (often shared) challenges and accomplishments of this term.

The District of Summerland received a SILGA Community Excellence Award in the Social Responsibility category for the renovated and renamed George Ryga Arts & Cultural Centre. The Centre houses the Summerland Community Arts Council Art Gallery and multi-use rental spaces for community use.

Results of the Alternative Approval Process (AAP) are in; approval of the electors has been obtained for Loan Authorization Bylaw 2022-005 to borrow the necessary funds to undertake the Giants Head Road reconstruction project. This initiative includes replacing the domestic water line and adding a second line for future irrigation water under the roadway, drainage improvements, and extending the multi-use pathway along Giants Head Road to Gartrell Road. Work is expected to commence in fall 2022.

Is the warm Spring weather actually here to stay? Installation of the new playground at Memorial Park is well underway – fingers crossed that the sun ‘shows and shines’ on the exploring youngsters.

Good practice to get prepared

Planned outages like this are a good reminder for Summerlanders to increase their preparedness for extended power and water outages. Unplanned power outages can happen anytime and are often caused by freezing rain, sleet storms, high winds, animals and motor vehicle incidents. During a power outage, you may be left without heating/air conditioning, lighting, hot water, or even running water. You may also be left without phone or internet service. If you do not have a battery-powered or crank radio, you may have no way of monitoring news broadcasts. In other words, you could be facing major challenges.

In order to maintain a resilient community, residents should take the time to prepare in advance. You and your family should be prepared to cope on your own during a power outage for **at least 3 days**. Don't be left in the dark! Having your home emergency kit stocked and ready will ensure you are prepared for power outages. Learn more: <http://ow.ly/gcDs30pxNdx> #BCStorm

Business licence – overdue

Business licence renewal fees for 2022 are now overdue. At this time, outstanding licenses are incurring late fees. Come in as soon as possible to pay. Be aware that operating without a licence is a fineable offence will be enforced. If there are any changes to your business status call (250) 404-4054 or email business@summerland.ca

Utility bill equal payment plan

If you are on the utility bill equal payment plan, April is reconciliation month (due date May 27). Residents wanting to be on the utility equal payment plan have until May 15 to apply. To request an application, contact (250) 404-4047 or email utilities@summerland.ca.

All residents applying to be on the **pre-authorized payment plan** require a “VOID” cheque or customer account information from your financial institution to be included with your application.

Signs of spring

The Parks department planted over 9,000 crocus and daffodil bulbs throughout town last fall. Flower displays can be enjoyed at various locations.



Agriculture water consumption data

In order to provide agricultural water users with timely data, the District posts monthly consumption reports on the website www.summerland.ca. Click on City Services - Water - Agricultural Water to access the consumption reports. Search by meter number using Ctrl + f and enter your meter number in the search box. If users prefer to monitor consumption manually, please take note of the meter read (indicated in the recent letter sent) and check the meter yourself to make sure the 800mm allotment is not exceeded. If you require assistance, please call the Meter Tech/Clerk at (250) 404-4038.



Pay it forward

Send a gratitude email to a co-worker who deserves more recognition.

Snow pack

Snow course survey data is retrieved from the District's two watersheds every month from the beginning of the year until no snow remains. As of April 1, 2022, the snow surveys show the Summerland Reservoir (Headwaters) at 80.5% and Isintok Lake at 56.5% of historical averages.

Each year following the irrigation season staff lower the reservoir level to predetermined levels to provide available storage volume to accommodate the spring freshet. The most significant factor during freshet is the speed at which the snow melts which can increase with significant rainfall. Unfortunately, this is very difficult to predict. To manage the risk associated with this, staff complete regular monitoring and maintenance activities of the dams and meet routinely to decide if adjustments to the outlet flow are required to compensate for the expected volume of incoming water.

Please be reminded that it is the responsibility of each property owner to ensure that debris and obstacles do not restrict water flow in any way. Property owners should identify areas on their property that may be subject to flooding and take the necessary precautionary measures to protect these areas.

For more information and to view the snow course survey graphs, please visit <https://www.summerland.ca/city-services/utilities/water/snow-course-survey>

Recreational, Fun, Competitive and Family Friendly!

Saturday, June 4

Race Starts at the Aquatic Centre
at 6:00 PM

Online registration at
www.summerland.ca/GHR

REGISTRATION INCLUDES:

- T-Shirt for the first 300 registered.
- Eligibility for draw prizes.
- Ribbons for all children 7 and under.



FireSmart your property

Please visit FireSmart BC at <https://firesmartbc.ca> for more information on how to protect your home from a potential wildfire.

Property tax notices

Property tax notices will be mailed out by the **end of May**. Property taxes are **due no later than 4:00 PM, Monday, July 4, 2022**. Contact Municipal Hall (250) 494-6451 or email propertytaxes@summerland.ca if you have not received your notice by early June.

Home Owner Grant applications and Tax Deferments

A reminder that the Province of BC manages both the Home Owner Grant (HOG) and Tax Deferment programs.

Homeowners are unable to apply for these programs at Municipal Hall.

To avoid penalties and interest, homeowners need to apply for their HOG directly to the Province using an online system prior to the property tax deadline of **July 4, 2022**. For homeowners that do not have a computer or would prefer to apply over the phone, please call the Province's toll free number **1-888-355-2700**.

For more information or to learn more about the Home Owner Grant program, please visit the Province's website at: gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant. For details or to learn more about the Tax Deferment program, please visit the Province's website at: gov.bc.ca/propertytaxdeferral.

Sign bylaws

Please be reminded that the District of Summerland does not permit permanent or temporary signs to be placed in the roundabouts, on power poles or light standards or anywhere within highway rights-of-way, unless expressly permitted in Sign Bylaw No. 2022-026. The District may remove and impound any sign on District road rights-of-way that is in contravention with this Bylaw.

Compost load day

A loader will be available for filling trucks and trailers with compost on **Saturday, May 14** from **9:00 AM to 2:45 PM** (not available between noon and 12:30 PM). For the safety of users and staff, please stay in your vehicle during loading. Residents may also bring a container(s) and a shovel and self-load compost products during regular landfill hours. A loader is also available **Monday to Friday from 9:00 AM to 2:45 PM** (closed from noon and 12:30 PM daily).

- Compost is 4 cents per kg up to 1,000 kg, and 3 cents over 1,000 kg
- Wood mulch & topdressing are 6 cents per kg up to 1,000 kg and 4.5 cents over 1,000 kg

Landfill Recycling Depot

Did you know that you don't have to cross the scale to access the Recycling Depot? When arriving at the landfill, keep to the right to access recycling only.

The Summerland Sanitary Landfill Recycling Depot accepts several recyclable items year-round! For more information, please visit <https://www.summerland.ca/city-services/garbage-recycling/landfill-recycling-depot>



Memorial Park Playground – community volunteer day

Saturday **May 14** at **8:00 AM**

Seeking volunteers (16 years and older) to assist with distributing the engineered wood fibre surfacing material throughout the playground. Please sign up by emailing recreation@summerland.ca



Plant smart, stay safe

If you have a power line on or near your property, plan ahead so trees won't interfere with power lines no matter how tall they grow. A few guidelines that will help you ensure your trees won't grow into hazardous trees are:

- Trees planted closer than 7.5m to power lines should be low-growing varieties
- Nothing should be planted closer than 5m from the base of a power pole
- If you have a secondary line connecting your home to a power line, avoid planting trees that will grow into the line.

If you don't see a secondary line connected to your house, your secondary line is underground. Call BC One Call at **1-800-474-6886** or email info@bc1c.ca at least three working days before planting. Once the utility lines are marked, remember to carefully dig around lines with hand tools.

LET'S WIN
\$100,000
SUMMERLAND!



Join the ParticipACTION
Community Better Challenge
June 1-30, 2022

Join us for our
kick off event at
Giant's Head Run
Saturday, June 4



Track your physical activity minutes on the ParticipACTION app or track physical activity minutes for yourself, your family or an organization on the ParticipACTION website (starting June 1).



Check summerland.ca/CommunityBetterChallenge for more information.

Be Bear Smart

With spring upon us bears are waking from their winter slumber. Garbage, bird feeders and tree fruits can attract bears to your yard and neighbourhood. Once a bear becomes used to human food sources it becomes habituated, usually resulting in the bear being destroyed. It is important to keep wildlife wild and communities safe. Please place carts at the curb **no earlier than 5:00 AM** on your collection day.

After hours emergency

To report an emergency that occurs between the hours of **3:30 PM and 7:00 AM** Monday to Friday, or any time on the weekends or statutory holidays relating to water, sewer, roads, parks or electrical utility please contact our answering service at **(250) 493-0005**. Please note that overtime charges may apply if the emergency is deemed to be on your property.



Summerland eco-village

The District of Summerland is planning for a high sustainability-focused, eco-village at the District's property (~66 acres) at the toe of Cartwright Mountain (13500 Prairie Valley Road). For the past six months, the District and a team of sustainable development design and technical experts have been working on creating a concept plan for the proposed village. The Eco-Village Concept Plan takes recent public feedback survey into account, and the survey results summary is also available on the project webpage. The proposed Concept Plan includes over 100 units of a variety of cottage-style residences, townhomes and apartment style housing. The plan also includes a community hub, protection and conservation of over 40 acres of environmentally sensitive area as a District-managed park, new parking areas and a trail head for access to the Cartwright Mountain recreational trail system. For more information, please visit <https://www.summerland.ca/planning-building/planning-development/current-projects/eco-village-concept-plan>

Keep up to date

The District posts community updates to our website and Facebook account. Council meetings can be viewed on the District's YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/c/DistrictofSummerland>

website: summerland.ca

Facebook: facebook.com/SummerlandBC

Sign up for our monthly online newsletter:

<https://www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/newsletter-subscribe>