**District of Summerland Newsletter** 

June 2022

# Message from Mayor and Council

Last month the Province introduced the new Local Government Climate Action Funding program, including the criteria to access the funding for climate action initiatives. The District is in an enviable position because, due to Council's ongoing support for a fulltime Sustainability and Alternative Energy coordinator, we already meet the necessary criteria to apply for the funding and can use these monies to continue the work towards a more resilient community.

As we move towards summer, Council is so pleased to see the return of events and activities we and visitors have come to enjoy, including the District's Giant's Head Run on ActionFest weekend. Our thanks go out to the community volunteers who take on the significant task of organizing a weekend full of sports and other activities.

In May, Council adopted an Anti-Racial Discrimination and Anti-Racism policy that covers District of Summerland Council, staff, contractors and volunteers, including those who sit on committees of Council. Summerland is not a racist town. As community leaders, we feel that modeling what we want to see—all residents and visitors feeling safe and welcome to participate in civic engagement and use public facilities—is an important first step.

# Community Climate Action Advisory Committee (CCAAC) wants your input!

The CCAAC would like to know what environmental information you would like to hear and learn more about!

Scan the QR code to access the anonymous survey or go to <a href="https://www.summerland.ca/climateaction">www.summerland.ca/climateaction</a> to find the survey link to share your thoughts.



## One-day recycling depot

Visit us at the Summerland Arena Recycling Compound, 8820 Jubilee Road E on **Saturday, June 25, 2022 from 8:00 AM**— **3:00 PM**.

Items that can be recycled:

- batteries, ballasts, & lightbulbs
- TV's, electronics, & small appliances
- smoke detectors & alarms
- styrofoam (white and coloured)
- glass jars/non-refundable bottles
- simple plastics, such as plastic bags and overwrap
- fancy plastics, such as other flexible plastic packaging

Please sort simple and fancy plastics prior to arrival. Staff will be available to answer questions on sorting and placing your recyclable materials.



Please recycle cardboard, metals, bulky appliances, household hazardous waste and other recyclable items at the Summerland Landfill Recycling Depot, 17202 Bathville Road. For more information on how to separate recycling into the above categories, please visit <a href="https://www.summerland.ca/recycling">www.summerland.ca/recycling</a>.

#### Simple ways to save energy

There are many reasons to dry your clothes on the line instead of a dryer:

- save money
- save energy and curb emissions
- gentler on your clothes
- reduces wrinkles
- encourages you to go outside

If you must use your dryer, be sure to use your dryer's

"cool down" cycle — usually the "permanent-press" setting. No heat is supplied in the last few minutes, but drying continues as cool air is blown through tumbling clothes. For optimum efficiency choose an ENERGY STAR® model with a sensor that automatically shuts off the machine as soon as the clothes are dry.



#### Pay it forward

Practice self-kindness and spend 30 minutes doing something you love today.

# **Waterfront Concept Plan Open House**

**Thursday, June 16, 2022 from 4:30 PM — 6:30 PM** (drop-in anytime) Located in the Arena Banquet Room, 8820 Jubilee Road E Presentation at 5:30 PM

The District of Summerland is developing a Waterfront Concept Plan to set the direction for parkland, beaches, amenities, swimming and water activities, and infrastructure spanning from the Peach Orchard Beach boat launch to the south end of Rotary Beach Park and everything in between plus "Horse Beach" (16997 Lakeshore Drive). The project consultants will present the results of the first public survey and provide draft concepts for public input at the Open House. A second public online survey will also be issued (targeted for June 6 - 26).

Visit <u>www.summerland.ca/waterfront-concept-plan</u> for more information.

#### FireSmart your home and property

Wildfire mitigation and preparedness are a shared responsibility and everyone in the province plays a role. Residents of BC can help protect their property and community from wildfire threats by using proven FireSmart principles. Your home and property's wildfire risk level is within your control. The journey to becoming FireSmart starts where you live. Simple landscaping tasks and chores like watering and mowing the lawn are proven to increase a home's survivability from wildfire. FireSmart BC puts the power of prevention into the hands of property owners through its many resources found at <a href="https://www.FireSmartBC.ca">www.FireSmartBC.ca</a>



Join the ParticipACTION
Community Better Challenge

June 1-30, 2022

Check out our list of FREE & FUN Activities in the Summer 2022 Recreation Guide





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).





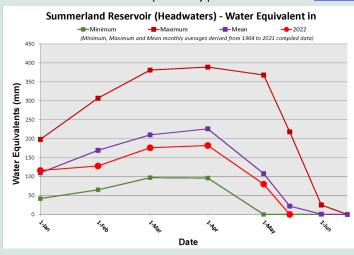
#### **Snow pack**

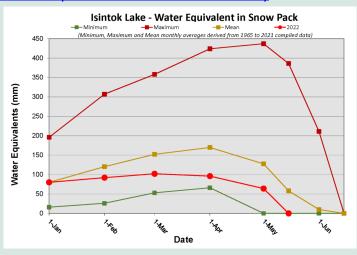
Snow course survey data is retrieved from the District's two watersheds every month from the beginning of the year until no snow remains. As of May 15, 2022 surveys showed no measurable snow at either location. Having no snow at these sites by May 1 or May 15 is not uncommon.

Each year following the irrigation season, staff lower the reservoir level to predetermined levels to provide available storage volume to accommodate the coming 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. As of May 13, most of the District's reservoirs are spilling or very close to spilling. Isintok is lower than it typically is this time of year, but it is still anticipated to fill. In 2021, the reservoir was drawn down much lower than usual to allow for the replacement of the low level outlet pipe and associated work.

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 on the snow pack survey please visit our website <a href="https://www.summerland.ca/city-services/utilities/water/snow-course-survey">www.summerland.ca/city-services/utilities/water/snow-course-survey</a>.





## Invasive plant alert— hoary alyssum

The District has partnered with OASISS (Okanagan and Similkameen Invasive Species Society) to control an invasive plant called hoary alyssum. This plant has single or multiple stems with clusters of small white flowers at the end of branches. It can bloom and produce seeds all summer long. The leaves are greenish-grey and lower stems are purple. It spreads quickly, crowding out native plants and moving into pastures or fields. This plant can be poisonous to horses,



whether green or dried in hay. If you have this invasive plant on your property, take action. Mowing, hand-pulling, revegetation, and chemical treatments can help control outbreaks.

For more information visit the Okanagan Invasive Species Online website: <a href="https://www.oiso.ca/species/hoary-alyssum/">https://www.oiso.ca/species/hoary-alyssum/</a>

#### **Property Tax Notices**

Property tax notices were mailed May 24. If you have not received your property tax notice please call the Finance department at **250-494-6451** or email propertytaxes@summerland.ca.

The due date for property taxes, including eligible homeowner grants (HOG), is **Monday**, **July 4, 2022 by 4:00 PM**. Any payments for outstanding current taxes or homeowner grants received after the due date will be subject to a 10% penalty.

#### Homeowners can no longer apply for their HOG at Municipal Hall.

Residents must apply for the HOG directly to the Province of BC by phone **1-888-355-2700** or online <a href="https://www.gov.bc.ca\homeownergrant">www.gov.bc.ca\homeownergrant</a>.

Payments for property taxes may be made in person by cheque, cash, debit, or post-dated cheque. You may also pay your property taxes at your financial institution or through online or telephone banking. **Please note that credit card payments are not accepted.**Postmarks are not considered as date of payment so do not wait until the last day to post your payment.

#### **Voyent Alert!**

The District of Summerland has chosen Voyent Alert! notification



service to keep you informed during emergencies as well as day-to-day notifications. Register now to receive important notifications that matter to you! The service is FREE, easy to use, and anonymous. Choose how you want to stay informed. Receive emergency or day-to-day notifications from the District of Summerland via the Voyent Alert! mobile app, text/SMS messaging, email or voice calling to a landline. Visit the following link to register and for more information <a href="https://www.summerland.ca/city-services/notifications">https://www.summerland.ca/city-services/notifications</a>.

# Compost loading—revised hours

Following a successful Compost Loading event on Saturday, May 14, we wish to remind residents that a loader is available to assist with compost loading every **Monday to Friday from 9:00 AM**— **2:00 PM** (except 12:00-12:30 for our operators lunch break). Self load compost is available during regular operating times at the landfill.

# Slow down, kids at play

As the weather warms up and school winds down, please watch out for children playing in our parks and residential areas.







## 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 <a href="https://www.youtube.com/c/DistrictofSummerland">https://www.youtube.com/c/DistrictofSummerland</a>

website: <a href="mailto:summerland.ca">summerland.ca</a>

Facebook: <u>facebook.com/SummerlandBC</u>
Sign up for our monthly online newsletter:

 $\underline{https://www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/newsletter-subscribe}$ 

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