



### BUDGET DISCUSSIONS IN 2020

On behalf of the District of Summerland Council, Happy New Year, Summerland!

January and February are busy months for Council and staff as we review strategic priorities and continue with budget sessions. These discussions—those in regular meetings or any additional scheduled budget meetings—are open to the public. If you are interested in knowing the true costs of running a municipality or how staff

determines which projects to recommend to Council, we welcome your attendance. You can view agendas for dates, times, and information on our [website](#) as they are posted.

In February's newsletter you can expect more information on the outcome of budget discussions, including the date of the Budget Open House. Please note that the open house will also include updates on several proposed projects, including the replacement of the aquatic centre. This will be the first of several opportunities to voice your thoughts on these projects.

*Mayor Toni J. Boot*

### COUNCIL MEETINGS

- Council meetings take place in Council Chambers on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month (or Tuesday following a holiday). Effective 2020, Regular Meetings will be held at 1pm and 6pm. Public Hearings and Council discussions on development items will take place at the 6pm meeting—most other items will take place at 1pm. If there are no items scheduled on an agenda, the meeting may be cancelled.
- Meetings are open to the public.
- The public has two opportunities to speak - 15 minutes is designated at the beginning of the meeting to speak on an item on the agenda prior to any decisions being made (two minutes per person). This excludes items on the agenda that have an opportunity for public input during the meeting. Also, 15 minutes is designated at the end of a meeting to speak on items relating to local government.
- Agendas for the meetings are available the Wednesday before the meeting, on the website and also at Municipal Hall.
- Once adopted, minutes are posted on the website.
- Shaw TV broadcasts Regular Meetings on Thursdays at 11:00am.
- Video recordings of the meetings can be found on our website.

For more information, please contact Nicole Cressman, Manager of Legislative Services at [ncressman@summerland.ca](mailto:ncressman@summerland.ca).



### CHRISTMAS TREE PICK UP

With a donation to the 2020 Dry Grad class you can have your Christmas Tree picked up from your house by the Summerland Fire Department and 2020 Grads. Trees will be chipped and composted.

To book a pick up for Sunday, January 12 please call the Fire Department 250-404-4087 or email [sfd@summerland.ca](mailto:sfd@summerland.ca).

### BE A "SNOW ANGEL" THIS WINTER



Snow Angel is a snow removal awareness and recognition program to encourage residents to help their neighbours in need during the winter months.

To be a Snow Angel, simply help out a neighbour and shovel snow or adopt a sidewalk and keep it clear whenever it snows. Residents are encouraged to complete the nomination form found on the front page of the District's website [www.summerland.ca](http://www.summerland.ca) or at Municipal Hall and let us know if a Snow Angel came to your rescue so the District can acknowledge them.

### REGULATIONS FOR YOUR BEST FRIEND

**Dog Licence renewals have now been sent for 2020 and are due by January 31.**

All dogs in Summerland must be licensed by the age of six months. Having a licence is the best way to ensure a lost dog is returned.

Unless you are authorized to run a kennel, no more than three dogs are allowed per household. Licences cost \$40 per year, but if your dog is spayed or neutered the cost is \$20.

Dogs must always be leashed in a public place and secured/fenced or tethered while in a building, on property or in a vehicle. They can run freely at the Doggy Beach anytime or at Peach Orchard Beach from October to April.

Owners are required to pick up after their dogs, so please carry plastic bags with you or find one in a District Doggy Bag stand.

The District contracts out Dog Control services. If you've found or lost a dog, have a complaint about a dog barking or being aggressive, or see a dog at large, please call **Dog Control at 250-494-6446**.



**HAPPY NEW YEAR SUMMERLAND**

## BUSINESS LICENCES

The 2020 Business Licence renewals have been mailed out and are due January 31.

If you operate a business in Summerland (even if it is from your home) you must have a valid licence.

Businesses with a Business Licence can automatically become a member of the Summerland Chamber of Commerce. InterCommunity Licences, to operate in surrounding areas, are also available to qualified businesses that already have a regular licence.

Look for a stamped 2020 Licence displayed in the places where you shop and support our local businesses.

For inquiries regarding Business Licences, or if you no longer require a licence, please call Municipal Hall at 250-494-6451 or email [business@summerland.ca](mailto:business@summerland.ca).

## SNOW CLEARING

Municipal bylaws require that you remove the snow and ice from public footpaths and sidewalks bordering your property (business or residential). Any snow or ice that accumulates before noon must be removed by noon that day. If it snows in the afternoon, you have until noon of the next day to remove it. Failure to do so could result in the District having the sidewalk cleaned at your expense. We ask that you use a de-icing "CMA" for sidewalks, please do not use salt as it can cause damage. Please help to keep Summerland's sidewalks safe for all that use them.

**Parking your vehicle off the road helps our snow removal crew.** When clearing snow from your driveway, stockpile snow on the right side when facing the road. This prevents the snow you removed from being pushed back in front of your driveway by the snow plough.



## GET IN SHAPE IN 2020

The Summerland Aquatic & Fitness Centre can help with your New Year's resolution fitness goals. Check out the Winter Guide for a variety of fitness programs. Consider signing up for a Health Club membership for access to our Fitness Centre, lane swimming, aquatic classes, hot tub and sauna. For more information or to register, go to [www.summerland.ca/recreation](http://www.summerland.ca/recreation) or call 250-494-0447.

## BC ASSESSMENT

In January of each year, BC Assessment sends out property assessment notices for 2020. Please note, on the form it tells you how to contact them if you want to appeal an amount. This is NOT done through the District of Summerland. If you have questions, please call BC Assessment at 1-866-825-8322 or check their website.

## SAVE A TREE - SIGN UP

If you are receiving this newsletter by mail and would like to receive it by email please email [info@summerland.ca](mailto:info@summerland.ca) and we can set you up. To receive utility bills by email, sign up by registering on the District website at [online services](http://online.services).



## RECYCLE AND DISPOSE OF HAZARDOUS WASTE PROPERLY

Placing hazardous materials such as propane and butane canisters, bear spray, knives, ammunition, lighters, lithium-ion batteries, etc. in your garbage or recycling can cause explosions, fires and even injuries or death to landfill and recycling workers.

Across North America, the industry saw a 26 percent increase in the number of fires in waste and recycling facilities in 2018, with 371 unique incidents reported between February 2018 and January 2019. The waste industry also reported three deaths and 13 injuries.

Residents should DISPOSE OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS PROPERLY, which means not placing these materials in your garbage and recycling, instead TAKING THEM SEPARATELY TO THEIR DESIGNATED AREA AT THE SUMMERLAND SANITARY LANDFILL for safe disposal and recycling.

For questions regarding where to recycle hazardous materials nearby, residents can contact the Recycling Council of British Columbia at [www.rcbc.ca](http://www.rcbc.ca) or 1-800-667-4321.



## UTILITY RATE INCREASES

In order to meet Council's strategic priority to sustainably finance the District's future asset replacements, as well as to strengthen capital reserve levels, residents will see a 5% rate increase in water and a 3.5% rate increase in sewer effective January 1, 2020. Additionally, the two-tiered electrical rate billing system is being harmonized into one rate, with the average increase for residents at approximately 4.4%.

Public Council Meetings were held regarding utility rates and an open house took place before adoption of the increase.

An average single-family home will see the following annual utility increase in 2020:

Sewer	\$13.81
Water	\$37.63
Electric	\$95.87

If you have any questions, please call our Director of Finance at 250-494-6451 or email [dsvetlichny@summerland.ca](mailto:dsvetlichny@summerland.ca).

## PREPARE YOUR FAMILY FOR AN OUTAGE

Most power outages will be over almost as soon as they begin, but some can last much longer. 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.

You can greatly lessen the impact of a power outage by taking 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 72 hours.

Visit [www.getprepared.gc.ca](http://www.getprepared.gc.ca) for details on how to be prepared.