



**DISTRICT OF
SUMMERLAND**

Mayor's Inaugural address – November 7, 2022

Free and fair elections are the cornerstone of democracy and, with that in mind, I would like to thank every resident of Summerland who turned out to vote in the recent local elections.

And thank-you to every candidate who put their name on the ballot for either mayor, councillor, or school board trustee. Summerland is a better place for your participation in the democratic process.

I'd also like to acknowledge the families and friends of all the candidates. We couldn't have hiked the campaign trail without you by our sides.

As we embark upon a new term, I would like to thank the previous Council, and take a moment to recognize past Mayor Toni Boot and past Councillor Erin Carlson for their service to the community over the last eight years.

Congratulations are in order to Dave Stathers and Linda Van Alphen who were both re-elected as Summerland's trustees on the school board.

And congratulations to each of you here who were elected or re-elected as councillor: Erin Trainer, Marty Van Alphen, Richard Barkwill, Adrienne Betts, Doug Patan, Janet Peake.

For myself, it is truly an honour and a privilege to serve as Mayor. I feel a huge sense of responsibility, and you have my commitment I will always work in the best interests of Summerland.

When I look around the table, I see a Council that is deep with experience. At the same time, I see we've been given an injection of new energy.

And I see we are a diverse group; each of us with different backgrounds, skills, accomplishments, and perspectives.

Together with our capable and dedicated municipal staff, I see the makings of a very productive term of Council.

We have a lot to draw on. And we're going to need every ounce of our collective strength. Over the next four years, we will be facing some major challenges. We'll be making some difficult decisions. And we're not always going to see eye-to-eye. On occasion, we may need to remind ourselves to remain respectful, to be open and honest with each other, and to continue working in a spirit of co-operation. The community will expect nothing less.

The people of Summerland have given our Council a clear mandate. Expectations are high. We have work to do, and I can't wait for us to get started.

Lim lemt. Thank you.