

A Message from Mayor Peter Waterman



First, I would like to wish the community a very Happy New Year. Council and staff are looking forward to a busy and successful 2017. Now entering the second half of our term, Council is anxious to move forward on some of the initiatives that they have been working toward.

The District has been successful in application for grants for a number of major projects. The preparation required to move from concept to funding to letting of contracts and on site work is considerable and is now bearing fruit. A few examples include the Garnet Valley Water Separation and Road Improvement Project, and the funding received for the \$3.2m Grit Removal Project which will ensure longevity of the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Funding was also received to proceed with a project to assist in our efforts to enhance local economic activity. As part of the funding received through the provincial Rural Dividend Fund Program, we will be hiring an individual to lead this project early in the new year. The initial

priorities for this project will focus on improving the signage throughout the District, exploring opportunities in the Agri-Tech sector and in streamlining our processes within the District to improve access to information for residents, visitors and businesses. The District will work in collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce and community groups on this exciting project.

A funding application has also been submitted for the replacement of the intake and flume at the Water Treatment Plant. This is another critical project as the concrete exposed flume is in a poor state of repair. If the funding application to the federal/provincial Clean Water and Wastewater Fund is successful, work will begin in 2017.

Summerland's first official Cultural Plan was completed in 2016 and adopted by Council. A Cultural Committee will be formed early in the year to assist in guiding the community forward with arts and cultural development. Council recognizes the positive value that cultural activity has on the economic development of a community and by designating the former library building for arts and cultural activity, Council has taken first steps in recognition of this.

Most are familiar with the necessary maintenance required for the PRV10 replacement which will require a District wide water shutdown in early March. This is critical maintenance to avoid a catastrophic failure. Staff is continuing to work on the logistics of the shutdown to ensure that the impact on residents and businesses is reduced as much as possible. Information sessions will continue prior to the shutdown and the District's webpage is updated as new information is received.

As we move into 2017, we welcome two new senior managers to the District. David Svetlichny has taken on the role as Director of Finance replacing Lorrie Coates who retired late last fall, and Dean Strachan is the Director of Development Services who replaces Ian McIntosh who will retire at the end of January 2017.

We continue to work on streamlining many of our services, particularly in finance, development services and recreation. The Recreation Department will be introducing online registration in early spring 2017 making it much easier to sign up for our many recreational programs.

Summerland is taking a progressive role in efforts to improve our carbon footprint and ensure that sustainability is considered in each district initiative. Currently, it is a council priority to examine opportunities that exist to maximize the economic benefit of owning our own electrical utility in Summerland by investing in alternative energy projects such as solar.

I believe that this sets the stage for the community, and the District to move forward for a successful 2017.

Senior's Housing Development Proposal (Banks Crescent) Public Information Sessions

Council recognizes the magnitude of this comprehensive senior's housing development proposal and would like the community to have the opportunity to provide and receive information before any decisions are made. The District will be holding two separate public sessions (details are listed below) before the Public Hearing. Please plan to attend. Correspondence regarding the above can be emailed to council@summerland.ca. Enquiries can be directed to Development Services at developmentservices@summerland.ca or call 250-494-1373. Information can also be found on our website.

Public Open House: 3:30pm - 7:30pm Monday, January 16th 2017 at the Arena Banquet Room (2nd floor 8820 Jubilee Road). Residents can drop in anytime between 3:30pm-7:30pm to meet with staff as well as review information boards and application documents.

Public Information Presentation and Q&A Session: 7:00pm Thursday, January 19th 2017 at Centre Stage Theatre (9518 Main Street). This will be a moderated session with staff and the Mayor on stage to provide information and answer questions from the public.

Please view the District website and Facebook for further information on the scheduling of a Public Hearing.

Mark Your Calendar - Solar Energy Conversation February 16th!

The District of Summerland invites you to a community conversation event happening at 6pm on February 16, 2017, at the IOOF Hall (9536 Main Street). This event will allow community members to learn more about solar energy in Summerland and to discuss the question "What is Summerland's future in solar?"

As one of only a few municipalities in British Columbia to own an electric utility, Summerland is uniquely positioned to be able to generate power within the District. Solar energy has become a leading source of power across the globe, and Summerland is interested in how the community feels solar energy can best be utilized by our electrical utility.

Stay tuned for more details, or contact Tami Rothery at 250-404-4068 or trothery@summerland.ca if you'd like to be kept informed about this and other solar related events.

Say "Thanks" to your Snow Angel



Nominate a friend or neighbour who has helped shovel your sidewalk or driveway this winter. The Mayor will acknowledge your Snow Angel with a certificate and their name will be entered into a draw for a prize. Nomination forms are available on the website or at Municipal Hall.

A reminder to please check your listing in the **Summerland Telephone Directory**. If you need any changes please fill out the form in the back of the directory or email the Chamber of Commerce any changes by January 15, 2017 to visitors@summerland.com. Call 250-494-2686 if you have any questions.

Trash Talk...2017 Curbside Garbage/ Recycling/Yard Waste Calendars are available at Municipal Hall or on the website if you did not receive one in the mail.



Dog and Business Licence Renewals are due for 2017. Please pay by January 16, 2017 to avoid a late penalty. If you did not receive your renewal in the mail or no longer require a dog or business licence, please let us know by calling Municipal Hall 250-494-6451.

The District of Summerland is excited that the former library building on Wharton Street will become the new Summerland Arts & Cultural Centre. The dedication of this building as a gathering place for arts and culture is an important step in supporting and strengthening Summerland's arts and cultural community. The Summerland Community Arts Council will play an integral role in this facility. The ongoing success of the new Arts & Cultural Centre will depend on the strength of the Summerland Community Arts Council's membership. The following is information on opportunities to participate:

Artists, Designers, Writers, Musicians, Actors, Photographers, Quilters, Supporters of the Arts *Dream Create Enjoy*

The Summerland Arts Centre invites you to become a member!
Be a part of the arts in 2017 - open to all experience levels.

- ◆ Vote at the AGM
- ◆ Gain exposure with other artists
- ◆ Learn about grants and promotions
- ◆ Use the arts library and resources
- ◆ Attend exhibitions and events



Photo by Dianne Hildebrand

Annual General Meeting on February 18, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. at the Arts Centre, 9525 Wharton Street
Membership: Young Artist \$10, Individual \$20, Family \$25

Call 250-494-4494 or email: admin@summerlandarts.com

Connect with: artspalette@summerlandarts.com for the arts newsletter.

Jones Flat and Garnet Valley Water System Separation Update

During the first two weeks of December, Pyramid Excavation Ltd. connected the new water services on Garnet Avenue, Tingley Street and on Garnet Valley Road from Tingley Street to Jones Flat Road. Pyramid also installed the new watermain from Garnet Valley Road up the embankment to Jones Flat Road. Due to the winter weather, construction stopped the week of December 12 and is anticipated to begin again by February 2017.

For construction updates and other project information, please check the District website at summerland.ca/garnetvalley.

Christmas Tree Pick Up



Call the Summerland Fire Department today if you would like your Christmas tree picked up on Sunday, January 8th or Sunday, January 15th (by 10am). Donations will be accepted for the Summerland Dry Grad Class. Trees will be chipped and used for compost. Call 250-404-4087 or email sfd@summerland.ca to book an appointment or for more information.

March 2017 Water Shutoff



The District continues to work on the logistics for the water shutoff scheduled for March 3rd - 6th and there is a possibility that some residents will have intermittent water during the weekend of the shutoff. It is still imperative that all residents are prepared for a shutdown. Over the next couple of months information sessions will

be available to residents and businesses. For up to date information, please visit the District website summerland.ca/watershutoff or check out Facebook.com/SummerlandBC.



The Vehicle Idling Myth

Do you leave your car running when it's cold outside to "warm up the engine"? You may not know that if your car has a fuel injection system (almost all cars made after 1980 do), then idling the engine actually does more harm than good – both for your vehicle and the environment.

Even on the coldest winter day, most cars can be driven away less than 30 seconds after starting. The most effective way to warm the vehicle is to drive away and stay at lower speeds until the engine warms up, accelerating gently as you go. Running an engine while it's cold increases wear on the engine itself and the exhaust system. Excessive idling builds up carbon and soot in your engine, and reduces the lifespan of engine oil. It also wastes fuel and creates emissions that create air pollution. Further, idling only warms the engine, not the wheel bearings, steering, suspension, transmission, and tires. These parts also need to be warmed up, and the only way to do this is to get the vehicle moving on the road. Of course, be sure the windshield is defrosted before leaving - safety comes first!

To protect your vehicle and the environment, do your part and turn the key – be idle free!



Snow Removal

Please help our snow removal crew by parking your vehicle(s) off the road. When clearing your driveway, stockpile snow on the right side when facing the road. This prevents the snow you removed from being ploughed back in front of your driveway. Thank you for your cooperation.