

Message from Mayor and Council

It has been 100 days since Council's inaugural meeting on November 7, 2022, and since then we have had more than 100 hours of meetings. We started with orientation and governance workshops to clarify responsibilities, and then established the strategic priorities that will guide the Municipality for the next four years. We then deliberated on the 2023 utility and general budgets.

We are making headway across the board. In the priority area of affordability, for example, we held the property tax increase to 3.76% increase -- well below the rate of inflation. To help offset the discontinuation of the utility discount, we matched the Province's electrical rebate so eligible residential account holders will receive a \$200 reduction on an upcoming utility bill. We also waived development fees for a new affordable housing project, and decided to trial free public transit.

The first 100 days in public office is a critical time for laying the groundwork for the remaining 1,300 days of the term. We now have a solid foundation to build on.

~Mayor Doug Holmes

Save energy and stay cool with a fan

Fans are a great option to help cool your home and can be much less expensive to operate than air conditioners. Using fans strategically can be a low-cost and effective way of circulating air to optimize the temperature in your home:

- If the outside temperature is cooler than inside, place a fan at downstairs windows to help bring the cool air in and another one upstairs to push the warm air out.
- If your home is on one level, position fans to draw cool air in through one window and push warm air out through another window.
- Place a portable fan near a window in the cool evening or morning hours to draw the cooler outside air into your home.
- Position a fan to face you while you're sitting or sleeping to help you feel cool.

Ceiling fans

Ceiling fans are the most energy-efficient fan option. They use about one-tenth the energy of an air conditioner. Rotate a ceiling fan counterclockwise in the summer to create a cooling effect and reverse that in the winter to bring warm air down. Look for ENERGY STAR® models to ensure maximum energy efficiency.

Portable fans

Portable fans, such as a tower or tabletop model, are a popular option because of their convenience. They can be moved around the home with relative ease to provide on-demand cooling. Just remember fans cool people, not rooms. A fan left on in an unoccupied room is wasting energy.

Window fans

Window fans (sometimes called box fans) are installed in open windows to move air in and out of a house. These are most efficient to circulate air in single rooms vs. a whole home. Some types will take the hot air out of the home, while others bring cold air in.

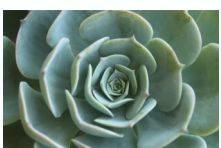
Smart fans

Smart fans, like smart thermostats, can automatically adjust to certain conditions or activities in the home. Some models turn on and off when rooms reach certain temperatures, while others detect when a room is occupied through timers or motion detectors. A smart fan can connect to a smartphone or tablet and other [smart devices](#) in the home.

Sani-station reopening in March

Weather dependent, the Sani-Station located at the Trout Creek pullout will reopen the week of March 6, 2023.

Residents and visitors will be able to access a ****NEW**** RV water fill station located at the Trout Creek pullout that is expected to be installed before the peak tourist season at the beginning of June.



"Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless."

-Mother Teresa.

Notice to Summerland irrigators

The Works Division will begin turning on irrigation services the week of April 11, 2023. Irrigators who wish to have their irrigation turned on prior to this date will be required to complete an Advanced Irrigation application form and pay \$53.41 plus GST per property no later than Thursday, April 6, 2023 at Municipal Hall, 13211 Henry Avenue, Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM.



One-day recycling depot – April 22

The District of Summerland will be holding a one-day recycling depot at the Summerland Arena Recycling Compound located at 8820 Jubilee Road from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM Saturday, **April 22**.



Bring your glass jars/non-refundable bottles, white & coloured foam packaging, plastic bags and overwrap, other flexible plastic packaging, residential batteries and lightbulbs, electronics, TVs, and small appliances to the Summerland Arena Recycling Compound and help us keep recyclables out of our landfill. Staff will be on hand to answer questions on how to sort and place your recyclable materials.

Spring 2023 Recreation Guide

Check out our 2023 Spring Recreation Guide online at <https://www.summerland.ca/parks-recreation> to see all the programs and services we have to offer.

NEW programs for Spring 2023: Canvas Kids, Sportball T-Ball/Soccer, Suspension Pilates and Fitness classes, HIIT Lunchtime fitness.

2023 Earth Week -April 17-23 & Community Planting Day-April 23.

New location for the Community Planting Day will be announced in the April Newsletter. For more information visit <https://www.summerland.ca/parks-recreation>.

Registration is **NOW OPEN** for Spring 2023.

Deadlines for programs are one week from the course's start date. If

registration minimums are not met, the program will be cancelled.

Register online <https://summerland.perfectmind.com>, in person at the Aquatic Centre or phone 250-494-0447.



Be safe—call or click before you dig

Whether your project is big or small. . . call or click before you dig! You may be planning to install fence posts, placing a foundation for a deck, planting bushes or trees or even building a house, if you are disturbing the ground, you may run the risk of cutting into an underground service that may cause potential for loss of life, personal injury, damage to property, or disruption of service(s).



Please call **1-800-474-6886** or email www.beforeyoudigpartners.com at least three working days in advance of your project to request underground locates; the service is free.

Snowpack readings

Snowpack readings are taken monthly from January until the snow is melted. Average snow depth and average water equivalent (amount of water contained in the snow) are recorded and compared to the historical average, measured over 60 years. February measurements for the Summerland Reservoir and Isintok Lake are up from January.

Snowpack readings from February 1 measured 144% of historical average for the Summerland Reservoir (Headwaters) and 105% for Isintok Lake. For further information, please visit the District's website at www.summerland.ca/city-services/water/snow-course-survey

Street sweeping

The Works Crews will be heading out soon to sweep Summerland's 315 lane kilometres of roads, which is equivalent to driving to Salmon Arm and back! Crews start in the lower town area and work their way up to the higher elevations. Sweeping takes approximately two months to complete and is a two-step process as follows:



Step 1 - Sand laden areas are cleaned with a front broom articulating sweeper, loader and dump truck

Step 2 - Remaining sand particles are cleaned with a vacuum sweeper, this is a slower process as it takes several passes to cover the same amount of road area

If you see or hear the sweeper in your neighbourhood, please give us a helping hand by moving your vehicle if it is parked on the street.

Nominate your Snow Angel

If you would like to have someone acknowledged with a certificate from the Mayor for being a helpful Snow Angel, please submit the nomination form via email to info@summerland.ca or bring it into Municipal Hall by **March 13**.

Introducing "The Mayor's Podcast"

The Mayor's Podcast with Summerland Mayor Doug Holmes is a monthly podcast relating to local issues and the work of the District of Summerland. Each month Mayor Holmes sits down with a municipal councillor, District staff, community member, or other people of interest to discuss a specific topic of importance to Summerland residents.



The podcast can be found on Apple podcasts, Spotify, Amazon Music, iHeartRadio, or the District's website <https://www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/mayor-council/mayor-s-podcast?pname=The%20Mayor%27s%20Podcast>.

Tune in now to listen to the first episode with guest Deputy Mayor, Erin Trainer, regarding Summerland Council's strategic priorities for 2022—2026.

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 www.youtube.com/c/DistrictofSummerland

website: summerland.ca

Facebook: facebook.com/SummerlandBC

Sign up for our monthly newsletter online:

www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/newsletter-subscribe

Gardening and invasive plants

If you are a gardener, you are probably excited about the longer days and sunny skies. It's a good time of year to remind gardeners about being PlantWise. Unfortunately, there is currently **no provincial regulation** that bans the sale of invasive plants in BC. Invasive plants (potted plants and seeds) are still being sold, in stores and online. Examples include: Russian olive, myrtle spurge, bachelor's buttons (pictured above), teasel, English ivy, yellow flag iris and periwinkle. It is also important to use wildflower mixes with caution. One of the main problems is the assumption that a packet of wildflower seeds contains seeds of flowers that are native to the local area. This is usually not the case.



Whether you are adding new plants to your garden, starting a landscaping project or running a horticulture-based business, you can be PlantWise. Learn which plants are invasive, and what alternatives to grow instead. In the Okanagan we have produced our own guidebook, available online at www.oasis.ca/homeowners.

By undertaking responsible gardening practices, gardeners can help decrease the impact of invasive plants while still achieving vibrant and dynamic gardens.

Short Term Rental business licence

If you wish to operate a short term rental in Summerland, you must obtain a short term rental business licence. Short term rentals will require compliance with District bylaws, including the Good Neighbour Bylaw (noise, property maintenance, etc.) and zoning regulations. Please visit our Business Licencing page for licence application information (forms, guidelines, requirements) at <https://www.summerland.ca/business-economy/business-licencing>.

Short term rental advertising is being actively monitored by the District and any operation without a licence may result in enforcement action.

If you have a nuisance complaint regarding a short-term rental, please submit a Bylaw Complaint form, available at: <https://www.summerland.ca/city-services/bylaw-services>

Smoke alarm maintenance

- Working smoke alarms save lives! Install smoke alarms outside each bedroom and sleeping area. Put them on every level of the home.
- Make sure your smoke alarms work! Your family is not safe if they can't hear the smoke alarms.
- Practice your home fire escape plan so everyone in your home knows what to do when the smoke alarm sounds.
- Test smoke alarms every month and replace 9-volt batteries twice a year (change your clock / change your battery), or according to manufacturer's recommendations.
- Smoke alarms do not last forever. Replace smoke alarms every 10 years or according to manufacturer's recommendations.
- If you have a broken or expired smoke alarm, replace it and drop it off free of charge at the Summerland Recycling depot..
- When you hear a smoke alarm, you may have less than two minutes to get everyone outside to safety.



Did you know?

The District of Summerland has been ranked in BC's Top 10 Most Economically Resilient Cities in 2023 by BC Business. The report noted Summerland's efforts to lean more into the agricultural sector and roots to provide greater economic opportunities as a contributing factor to this ranking. Moving up two places from 2021, Summerland was added to the list in 2019.

Read why business leaders and analysts alike are forecasting Summerland as a municipality to highlight, watch and celebrate <https://www.bcbusiness.ca/BCs-Most-Economically-Resilient-Cities-in-2023>.

Summerland Rodeo Grounds Master Plan

For an opportunity to review draft concept plans and provide your input, please complete the online survey at www.summerland.ca/rodeo-grounds-master-plan.

Deadline for submission is **March 15**.