



To address future growth, Summerland will need 671 more housing units in the next five years and 2,212 more units within 20 years, according to an 'interim' housing needs report received recently by Council.

The report, which was required by the provincial government as part of a range of housing-related legislation introduced in late 2023, draws on data provided by BC Stats, Statistics Canada, CMHC, and others, as well as interviews with affordable housing operators, business owners, non-profits, School District 67, and members of the public through an online survey that garnered 383 full and 384 partial responses.

Survey respondents expressed particular concern with the cost of housing, including the cost of construction and the cost of land. One issue for Summerland is the lack housing options, which most affects renters, seniors on fixed incomes, and young families looking to enter the housing market.

The latest data (2021) shows that 71% of all Summerland residents live in single-detached houses. While that proportion has fallen from 76% in 2006, we need to continue to encourage infill housing, subdivisions, carriage housing and secondary suites.

The housing needs report is intended to inform Council for a review of the Official Community Plan (OCP), which the provincial government requires us to do by the end of 2025. While the report can be useful for identifying general trends, determining how and where the community is to grow with an updated OCP will be done through early and on-going consultation with the residents of Summerland.

~ Mayor Doug Holmes

### 37th Annual Toys & Toonies for Tots & Teens

The Summerland Fire Department & CIBC along with its many helpers, are once again sponsoring the annual drive for Toys & Toonies for Tots & Teens. We are now accepting **new** unwrapped gifts and toonies to purchase new gifts for tots and teens in Summerland.

Donations are accepted at:

**Summerland Fire Hall & Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC)**

Closing date: **December 13, 2024**

All gifts are distributed under the direction of the Summerland Food Bank.



### Project updates

#### Prairie Valley Road Improvement Project, Phase 1 - Watermain replacement, stormwater improvements, road widening and lower-lift asphalt are now complete. Look for minor construction over the winter including slope grading and wall building. Phase 2 road, multi-use trail and watermain construction will start up in Spring 2025 and continue towards Cartwright Ave. We would like to thank the public for following detours and traffic control during the duration of the project.



### Development Services Spotlight

The District has completed multiple projects to address housing in recent years. The themes of these actions fall within three areas:

1. Affordable Housing
2. Development Process Improvement
3. Increasing Housing Supply

Examples of these projects range from opening up additional District lands for housing development, increasing density in the



Downtown, and streamlining variance approvals. To learn more about the projects that have been completed to address housing, please visit [www.summerland.ca/affordablehousing](http://www.summerland.ca/affordablehousing).

### Snow removal

Our staff members are ready seven days a week for snow removal on District roads. There are six main routes to maintain, and staff start as early as 5:00 AM to ensure snow removal is started or completed before most people go to work.



Staff also clear public sidewalks and walkways that do not border private property and a contractor assists with clearing municipally owned parking lots.

Designated routes take approximately eight hours to fully plough once it stops snowing, which generally means continuing the next day to widen, clear and clean up further. Each route has its "priority areas" (e.g. school bus routes) that must be revisited if snow continues to fall, therefore it may take some time before side streets are tended to. Heavy snowfall and equipment failures can also affect the delivery of snow removal services.

To help our staff, we ask that you do not park your vehicle(s) on the road and when clearing your driveway, stockpile snow on the right side when facing the road and not onto roadways. This prevents the snow you removed from being ploughed back in front of your driveway. Your cooperation and patience are appreciated.

### General fund budget discussions

General fund budget discussions will be December 9 - 11, 2024 followed by an open house on January 15, 2025 from 5:00—7:00 PM at the Arena Banquet Room located at 8820 Jubilee Rd E.

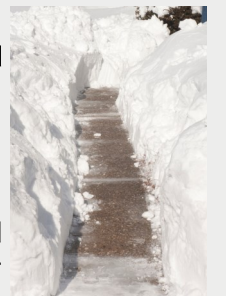
### Important utility information

Due to the office being closed for the holidays, the **due date** for this month's utility bills will be **Friday, December 20, 2024**.

If you are moving, please email [utilities@summerland.ca](mailto:utilities@summerland.ca) or visit our website to provide details.

### Sidewalk 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 agent with "CMA" for sidewalks, please do not use salt as it causes damage to concrete. Please help to keep Summerland's sidewalks safe for all pedestrians.



### Curbside collection delays

The District of Summerland curbside collection contractor will make every attempt to empty curbside carts during winter conditions. However, their top priority is resident and employee safety.

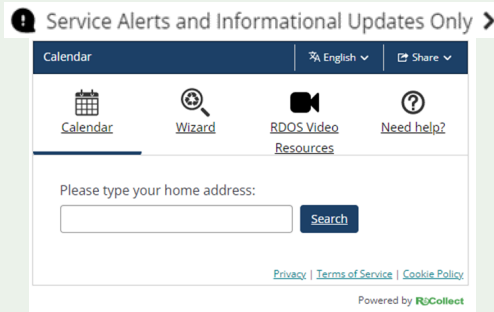
In the event of a collection delay:

- Contact Waste Connections of Canada at 250-490-3888 to see when any missed collection for your property will be collected
- To avoid animals getting into waste, bring in carts overnight
- When service is resumed, the contractor will collect any extra accumulated material, at no extra charge, equivalent to the amount that would have been collected if service had not been temporarily interrupted.

## Curbside collection reminders, service alerts and solid waste information

With winter coming, if you would like to receive curbside service alerts and information visit [www.summerland.ca/solidwaste](http://www.summerland.ca/solidwaste), scroll to the bottom, type in your address, choose the **Get a reminder!** option, and select your preferred method of communication. This will sign you up for both collection day reminders and service alerts/information.

If you would only like to be notified of alerts and information, select:



The screenshot shows a web interface for "Service Alerts and Informational Updates Only". It features a "Calendar" tab, a search bar for home addresses, and navigation links for "Wizard", "RDOS Video Resources", and "Need help?". The page is powered by R3Collect.

## District of Summerland Holiday Closures

**Municipal Offices**  
Closed Dec 24 at 2:00 PM  
Closed Dec 25 - Jan 1 (inclusive)

**Aquatic & Fitness Centre**  
Closed Dec 24 & 31 at 2:00 PM  
Closed Dec 25, 26 & Jan 1

**Summerland Arena**  
Closed Dec 24 & 31 at 3:00 PM  
Closed Dec 25, 26 & Jan 1

**Fire Hall Office**  
Closed Dec 24 & 31 at 2:00 PM  
Closed Dec 25, 26 & Jan 1  
Please always call 9-1-1 for emergencies

**Landfill**  
Closed Dec 25, 26 & Jan 1  
\*Reminder that the landfill is always closed on Sundays

Check out Summerland Recreation's holiday swim and skate schedules on pages 17 & 18 of the Fall 2024 Recreation Guide.

For after-hours emergencies relating to water, sewer, roads, parks or the electrical utility, please call 250-493-0005.



## Christmas tree pick-up

With a donation to the 2025 Dry Grad Class, you can have your Christmas tree picked up from your house by the Summerland Fire Department. Trees will be chipped and composted by the Summerland Fire Department and the District of Summerland.



### Pick-up dates will be:

Sunday, January 5 and Sunday, January 12, 2025 starting at 9:00 AM

Starting December 15, you may contact the Fire Department to schedule a pick-up: 250-404-4087 or [sfd@summerland.ca](mailto:sfd@summerland.ca).

## 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](http://www.youtube.com/c/DistrictofSummerland)

website: [summerland.ca](http://summerland.ca)

Facebook: [facebook.com/SummerlandBC](https://facebook.com/SummerlandBC)

Sign up for our monthly newsletter online:

[www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/newsletter-subscribe](http://www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/newsletter-subscribe)

Check out the Mayor's podcast on all major streaming platforms or on the District's website: [www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/mayor-council/mayor-s-podcast](http://www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/mayor-council/mayor-s-podcast)

**Municipal hall hours of operation:** Tuesday - Friday from 8:15 AM to 5:00 PM. Closed Mondays and Statutory Holidays.

## Save leaves for winter food scraps

Saving leaves is a great way to keep your Food Scrap/Yard & Garden Waste cart (green) cleaner over winter. Place the leaves at the bottom of your cart before adding food scraps throughout the winter to reduce wet food scraps from sticking. Use a paper bag or a plastic can to store the leaves.



You can wrap food scraps in newspaper or use a paper bag to also help keep food scraps from sticking to your cart.

Your green cart will be collected weekly throughout the winter. It can look a bit silly to only put food scraps in the cart, but food scrap composting at the landfill is a year-round program.

The District is now selling two types of compost at the landfill. Compost made from food scraps and compost made from wastewater sludge. Summerland staff will load the compost for trucks and trailers from 9:00 AM to noon, Monday to Friday (excluding Statutory holidays). Food scrap compost is also available for residents that want to bring their own shovel to load small amounts of compost into their own containers, bags or their vehicle. Compost is sold by weight.

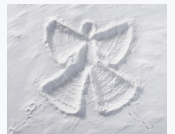
## Skate with Santa

Join Santa and Summerland Recreation at the Summerland Arena on December 22 from 1:00 – 2:30 PM, for hot chocolate, crafts, skating and photos with Santa. This event is FREE, however; donations to Summerland Food Bank are encouraged and will be collected on location.



## Be a "Snow Angel" this winter

When there is snow and ice, getting around can be difficult and dangerous, especially for seniors and those with limited mobility. The Snow Angel program is all about neighbours helping neighbours. Simply shovel snow or adopt a sidewalk and keep it clear whenever it snows. Nominate a Snow Angel online [www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/snow-angel](http://www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/snow-angel). All nominees will receive a certificate of acknowledgement and have their name entered into a draw to win a prize!



## Winter travel and invasive species

If you are planning to travel to warmer climates to escape the cold and wintry weather, this article is for you. Vacationers can unknowingly bring back new species to Canada that are invasive. It's equally important we avoid the unintentional movement of species from our backyards into new locations abroad. Global trade and travel has led to a dramatic increase in the number of new introductions to our country. Soil is considered one of the highest risk pathways of spread. Many invasive insects lay their eggs in and around the roots of plants. Vacationers may bring back little palm trees, small grapevines and even pepper plants in luggage and carry-on baggage. When these plants have soil attached to their roots, non-native species associated with this soil can quickly become a massive infestation because they have no natural predators here in Canada. Other insects may be hidden in souvenirs we bring home or shipping containers. So before you embark on your next journey, be sure to thoroughly clean your footwear and travel gear before and after your travels. And resist the temptation to bring home seeds or plants. We can all help to prevent the spread of invasive species. The Asian Long-horned Beetle (pictured above) made its way into Canada via wood products. It is now killing thousands of trees in North America.



## Route 30 free fare pass

The District of Summerland would like to encourage Summerland residents to make sure they get the 2025 Free Fare Pass on their UMO card in advance of our office holiday closures. This is to ensure residents have uninterrupted free fare access on Route 30 when the new year starts, as our offices are closed between December 24 at 2:00 PM and January 1, 2025. Please visit one of our vendors, Municipal Hall or the Aquatic Centre, to upload the pass and be ready to ride in 2025.

