

District of Summerland Launches Community Engagement for Official Community Plan Update

SUMMERLAND – The District of Summerland is excited to announce the launch of the first phase of community engagement for the Official Community Plan (OCP) update. This long-term plan will guide Summerland’s growth and development for years to come, ensuring it reflects the evolving needs and aspirations of the community.

An OCP is a comprehensive planning document that outlines the vision, priorities, and strategies for the future of a community. It guides decision-making in critical areas, including land use, infrastructure, transportation, housing, environment, arts and culture, parks, and economic development.

Summerland's existing OCP was last updated in 2015. Since then, our community has experienced growth and change, highlighting the need for a refreshed plan that will:

- Address emerging trends
- Reflect the voices of its residents
- Align with the District's current policies and initiatives
- Meet recent provincial legislative requirements

Community participation is an important part of this process. Over the next year, the District will be actively engaging with residents and community members to craft a plan that aligns with their values and priorities.

To kick off the first phase of engagement, Community Visioning, the District invites residents to participate in the following:

- **Open House:** Join us on February 18, 2025 at the Georga Ryga Arts and Cultural Centre (2nd floor) to learn more about the OCP update process and share your ideas. Drop in between 12 p.m. and 8 p.m. Presentations at 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.
- **Community Visioning Survey:** Participate online to help shape the District’s future. Open until February 28, 2025. Paper copies are available at the Development Services counter at Municipal Hall (13211 Henry Avenue).

For more information about the OCP update and details on how to participate, visit www.summerlandocp.ca.

Quote:

“The Official Community Plan is Summerland’s roadmap to the future. This update is an important opportunity to communicate our collective vision of Summerland -- who we are today and who we want to become. I encourage all residents to get involved and share their voices—it’s your input that will make this plan truly representative of our community’s values and vision.”

~ Mayor Doug Holmes

For further information:

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