

Holiday Message from Parksville Mayor and Council

For many, as we navigate the ongoing challenges of the pandemic, 2021 may have been just as challenging as 2020. We take this opportunity to thank you for keeping one another safe, being vigilant and taking the necessary steps to help stop the spread of COVID-19, which contributed to our recovery. As we look forward to the holidays and 2021 comes to an end, we are excited to see what we can accomplish together in 2022.

Our businesses continue to face day-to-day challenges including staffing resources and now supply chain issues. As you work through your holiday giving list, please consider staying local and supporting those who help build our local economy. During this holiday season, Council's wish for residents is to stay healthy, to be safe and celebrate your moments of joy. We look forward to the new year ahead and hope 2022 brings good health and restored prosperity to all.

Mayor Ed Mayne

On behalf of my family, I wish you all Happy Holidays and the best of health and good wishes for 2022. This is the time of the year to reflect, and I always take time to remember the days of skating on ponds with my new Christmas skates and the waist deep snow and how everyone was in such good spirits. We live in this amazing place where strangers have come together over the years to become good friends and neighbours bringing cheer to our homes. I hope you too are anxious to see what 2022 will bring. We have so much to look forward to!

Councillor Adam Fras

I'd like to wish all of Parksville a very Merry Christmas. This is the season for warm celebrations and goodwill to all. I hope everyone finds joy in simple moments that are filled with a happy heart through the season - and all through the new year too!

Councillor Teresa Patterson

Merry Christmas from me and my family. This year I am so fortunate to have my children live in our community and be able to spend Christmas with us. From stockings, to brunch and maybe an afternoon nap to Christmas dinner and the newest board or card game addition to our family. Spending time with those you love is my absolute most favourite time.

Councillor Al Greir

My family would like to wish everyone in Parksville a very Merry Christmas. My father was a Captain on the Great Lakes, he would arrive home just days before Christmas. This was a special time for our family since he would be gone again first of February. My parents always helped people less fortunate at Christmas and we have tried to continue that tradition. This year will be special, all our family will be home for Christmas; two sons, a daughter, five grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

Councillor Doug O'Brien

Christmas traditions have always been an important part of our celebrations and include those passed on from our parents, grandparents and great grandparents, adding new and treasured memories with our grandchildren. Some of the rituals include, "everybody takes a turn stirring the Christmas cake batter for good luck", "gotta make grandma's best ever shortbread recipe and of course English trifle". New traditions include going to Whiskey Creek with our grandkids to cut our fresh Christmas tree, a campfire with hotdogs, chocolate spider cookies and a thermos of coffee. History remembered and cherished and new memories to celebrate the spirit of Christmas. To everyone that we share this Parksville Community with, I extend my heartfelt gratitude for your kindness and compassion. May the Spirit of Christmas embrace you with peace, joy and good health.

Councillor Mark Chandler

This year, the new Christmas morning will involve an open firepit with a cast iron pan... sizzling bacon and the other usual bunch of breakfast food characters we love to eat. Keeping things simple this year and ordering a local dinner prepared by a business that could use the boost. Traditions from the past include the Chandler Clan venturing out to find the Christmas tree and then having a couple of days of family time. So many great memories to reflect upon. My best to Parksville residents for the Christmas and holiday season.

Councillor Marilyn Wilson

Season's greetings to all Parksville residents from my home to yours. Thank you to the community and to the resilient businesses and front-line workers for providing our City with services despite the challenges. All the best in the New Year; I look forward to gathering for events in the Parksville Community Park in 2022! My favourite family tradition over the holidays is to connect with my son on Christmas Day thru facetime and hopefully soon, in person... and enjoying the festive Christmas lights and decorations throughout the City. My most favourite holiday memory is the last Christmas we celebrated with my mother, we spontaneously decided to wrap up the half-cooked turkey, pack our bags and fly home on Christmas Day to spend with family and say a special goodbye, making my mum so happy... I treasure that memory.

**Council and staff wish you and your family a Merry Christmas,
Happy Hanukkah, and Happy Holidays!**

