

It's Your City!

parksville.ca

FEBRUARY 8, 2023



The City of Parksville acknowledges with gratitude, we are located on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish Nations, home to the Snaw-Naw-As First Nation and the Qualicum First Nation.

Answer the Call!

Parksville Fire Rescue paid on-call volunteers and career firefighters provide fire and emergency response services in the Parksville Fire Protection Area. Our firefighters are highly skilled professionals who value integrity, honesty, selflessness, commitment, courage, and are hardworking and family oriented.

We rely on the commitment of paid on-call volunteer firefighters dedicated to public safety and community service. We responded to more than 600 calls in 2022 - structure fires, rescues, motor vehicle incidents, medical assistance, and public service requests.

Details, including the many benefits we offer, are outlined on our website ParksvilleFireRescue.ca. Give us a call to chat and learn more, 250 248-3242. Application deadline March 3.



Make firefighting part of your life. Are you ready to answer the call?

THINGS TO KNOW

- Residential family water rates** - large families with five or more immediate family members consisting of parents and dependent children less than 18 years may qualify for modified water rates. Application deadline February 27. Info and application forms from City Hall and website [[Residents/Utility Billing](#)].
- Business licences** were due January 31 and may be paid by credit card from the City's website, by mail or at City Hall. Bylaw 1550 requires all businesses obtain a valid licence if doing business in the City. [[Business/Licences](#)].
- Dog licences** also due January 31 may be purchased from City Hall and the BC SPCA. The cost to renew is now \$25 for spayed/neutered and \$35 for not spayed/neutered.
- Winter conditions** - info about monitoring of road and weather conditions by the City is on our website [[Quicklink/Winter Conditions](#)].

Let's Talk... Financial Plan 2023-2027

Online Survey

We are once again asking residents to complete an online survey to assist Council to better understand where residents would prioritize monies to be spent in 2023 to 2027. The survey, available online until 4 pm, February 24, may be accessed from our website. Paper copies may be obtained from City Hall.

The City's annual budget is part of a five-year financial plan which sets out the services and initiatives for the next five years and how the City of Parksville will pay for them. The City strives to maintain quality programs and services for our residents and keep taxes affordable for businesses and homeowners.

The public is welcome to attend the special Council meetings which will be held to discuss the 2023-2027 financial plan on March 15 and 22 at 10 am, March 27 at 1 pm, and April 12 at 6 pm. There are many ways residents can participate in our financial plan process. Please refer to letstalkparksville.ca/financial-plan-2023.

Spring Grant-in-Aid Applications

Subject to the provisions of the City's grant-in-aid applications policy, the City may provide financial assistance to community groups and organizations for events which benefit our citizens and visitors. Community non-profit organizations in the arts, cultural, recreational, or social services fields are eligible. Deadline 3 pm, March 1. Information on the program, policy, application, and instructions may be obtained at City Hall or from the website [[Mayor and Council/Grant-in-Aid Applications](#)].

2023 Special Events

We are accepting applications from organizations and individuals wishing to hold organized events at City-owned facilities, properties or on City streets; review process started January 31. Annual events are given priority provided the request is received by January 31, after which applications will be addressed as first-time events on a first-come, first-served basis, based on availability. After January 31, applications must be received at least thirty days prior to the event. Special events policy and application forms may be obtained from the City's website. ops@parksville.ca.

Understanding Your Property Assessment Notice

If you recently received a property assessment notice from BC Assessment you may have questions about how it impacts your 2023 property taxes. Property tax rates are approved by Council after the adoption of the five-year financial plan in early May. The change in your property taxes each year is influenced by two factors:

- Total property tax rate change percentage and
- Change in your assessed value compared to the average change for City as a whole.

The average increase for single-family residential properties within the City is 11% for 2023. Therefore, if your assessment has increased higher than the average you can expect taxes will likely increase.

Contact the finance department to discuss property tax pre-payment options including online banking or Pre-Authorized Withdrawal Service (PAWS).



Beach Closures to Dogs

To limit disturbance of migrating Black Brant geese, our beaches are subject to seasonal "no dog" restrictions. This applies to both on-leash and off-leash within the Parksville-Qualicum Beach Wildlife Management Area. Rath Trevor Beach is closed February 15 to April 30 and Parksville Bay Beach from March 1 to April 30.



Watermain Flushing

Our annual watermain flushing program runs through April. An important part of our ongoing maintenance program, flushing ensures the integrity of the water supply system. Flushing occurs mainly between 7 am and 3:30 pm, weekdays. Residents can expect some discolouration of water and intermittent drops in pressure; keep a fresh supply of drinking water in your fridge. Check for discolouration of water before doing laundry and if discoloured, run outside tap (after 3:30 pm) until clear. ops@parksville.ca.

City Dates

February 13	Public Hearing
February 20	BC Family Day
February 22	Council Meeting
March 6	Council Meeting
March 15	Financial Plan Open Meeting
March 20	Council Meeting
March 22	Financial Plan Open Meeting
March 27	Financial Plan Open Meeting
April 3	Council Meeting
April 7 and 10	Easter (offices closed)
April 12	Financial Plan Open Meeting
April 17	Council Meeting

Council meetings start at 10 am; open question period at 9:45 am.

How to Reach Council

MAYOR		council@parksville.ca
Doug O'Brien	250 937-1389	100 Jensen Avenue East PO Box 1390 Parksville V9P 2H3
COUNCILLORS		
Mary Beil	250 927-4097	parksville.ca
Adam Fras	250 228-3727	Comments welcome.
Amit Gaur	250 954-3060	250 954-3073
Joel Grenz	250 954-3060	info@parksville.ca
Sylvia Martin	250 954-3060	
Sean Wood	604 868-7914	



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