



2010 Parksville Resident Survey

Residents should watch their mailboxes this week for the opportunity to share thoughts about City priorities, programs and services. The survey is being distributed by Canada Post to about 6,700 households. Because some routes cover both Parksville and the RDN, if you receive the survey and do not live in the City, please just disregard. If you have not received your survey by May 14, please call 250 954-3073. As well, you are most welcome to complete the survey online at www.parksville.ca.

Around the City

May 15 - Celebration in the Park

The official opening ceremony for the City's spectacular waterfront walkway is set for Saturday, May 15 at 11 am. Participating in the ribbon cutting ceremony will be Parksville - Qualicum MLA, Ron Cantelon, former mayors Randy Longmuir and Sandy Herle and Mayor Ed Mayne. The ceremony will be held rain or shine at the start of the new walkway, closest to the gazebo in the Community Park. Light refreshments will be served in the gazebo following the ceremony.



The recently completed 445 meter long walkway was funded by a major grant from the Province of British Columbia, the City of Parksville and a contribution from The Beach Club towards the portion of the walkway in front of their building.

The Beach Club will also celebrate the walkway opening with complimentary cookies and a kids' style lemonade stand set up in the gazebo at the foot of McMillan Street from 10.30 am until noon.



The Parksville Downtown Business Association is hosting a kids' bike decorating contest and parade following the ceremony; kids ages 2 to 12 should marshal near the park concession at 10.30 am.

Please join us!

AQUASTAR Water Awareness Program



Congratulations to all winners of the "Water in Parksville" art contest. The overall winner, 11 year old Bethany Scholfield whose inspiration came from the Englishman River Falls, was chosen to have the best artwork depicting the theme of the contest. An AquaStar update with conservation tips is available at www.parkvilleaquastar.ca



City of Parksville Proclamations

- National Public Works Week (May 16-22)
- Missing Children's Month (May)
- Missing Children's Day (May 25)
- ALS Awareness Week (June 6-12)
- Access Awareness Day (June 5)

City Services



At the May 3 meeting, Council approved moving forward with a review of the Official Community Plan (OCP); a most difficult and controversial decision for Council. Although their reasons differed and there were many factors involved, the decision to proceed was thoroughly researched and thoughtfully considered by Council. A sustainability plan and the final transportation plan will be completed in conjunction with the review.

The City's current OCP, adopted in 2002 has served the City well. The City has grown from an estimated 8,389 in 1994 to close to 12,000 today. Expected to take between 18 and 24 months, the update will provide many opportunities for residents to be involved and each phase of the review will provide community engagement activities. Residents will be kept up to date with newsletters, ads and website information.

As a first step, the City has issued a request for proposal for a consulting team for the preparation of the plan. During the summer, the City will advertise for OCP advisory committee members who will assist in "keeping us on track," provide advice to staff, the consultant and Council on the community engagement process, and monitor from a public perspective, the quality and outcomes of the process.

What is an OCP?

The OCP outlines the City of Parksville's long-term vision. The BC Local Government Act defines an OCP as a "statement of objectives and policies to guide decisions on planning and land use management, within the area covered by the plan, respecting the purposes of local government." It will also outline a general framework of policy or directions for action to take at a broad level to lead toward the vision. In broad terms, an OCP sets out as a blueprint, the location, type, and density of all types of land use, from residential and commercial to utilities and parks. An OCP can also include policies relating to social needs and sustainability.

Strategic Planning

Council recently approved the hiring of a consultant to prepare the City's draft strategic plan. Mark Holland will work from information provided from the Blue Ribbon Panel meetings, from discussions with Council and from the City's current strategic plan. The draft plan is expected within two months and when merged with the budget, will establish the priority for the actions to be taken by the City over the next five years.

Request for Proposal – Official Community Plan Update

The City of Parksville is issuing a request for proposal for the preparation of an Official Community Plan update and is seeking a consulting team with proven experience in community planning and sustainability. The deadline for submissions is 3 pm on June 11, 2010. For a copy of the terms of reference and request for proposal, please see the City's website at www.parksville.ca. For additional information contact Blaine Russell at 250 954-4673; BRussell@parksville.ca.

What's an APC?

The Advisory Planning Commission is a Council appointed group of seven citizens who are tasked with advising Council on planning matters, notably, rezoning applications. As the name implies, the Commission is 'advisory' in nature and does not make decisions. It brings a citizens' perspective into the review of applications. For example, members may offer specific knowledge of a site or be aware of issues that may not be of common knowledge. Their advice is presented to Council in the form of a 'recommendation'. The recommendation is generated after hearing an applicant's presentation and considering it in the context of existing policy, technical advice, and current conditions. Members are appointed for a two-year term. When positions become vacant and in need of replacement, the City advertises to attract new candidates.

City Dates

- May 12 Special Council Meeting (Budget/Tax Rate Bylaw)
- May 13 Advisory Design Panel
- May 13 Coffee with the Mayor
- May 15 Official opening of new waterfront walkway
- May 17 Council and Committee of the Whole (Ballenas)
- May 20 Advisory Planning Commission
- May 20 Coffee with the Mayor
- May 24 Statutory Holiday (office closed)
- May 27 Coffee with the Mayor
- June 3 Coffee with the Mayor
- June 7 Council and Committee of the Whole
- June 10 Advisory Design Panel
- June 10 Coffee with the Mayor

**please check the website to confirm times*

Council and Committee of the Whole meetings are held on the first and third Mondays of the month, beginning at 6 pm. If Monday is a holiday, meetings are scheduled to Wednesday. The public is encouraged to attend.

It's Back to School for City Council

The May 17 Committee of the Whole and Council meetings will be held at Ballenas Secondary from 10 to 11.30 am. This is the second Council meeting to be held at Ballenas and is being held in May to recognize Youth Week.

How to Reach Council

MAYOR

Ed Mayne250 954-4661

COUNCILLORS

Chris R. Burger250 240-8255
 Al Greir.....250 248-1285
 Marc Lefebvre250 248-2292
 Teresa C. Patterson250 954-9488
 Susan E. Powell.....250 951-1082
 Carrie Powell-Davidson.....250 954-3758

citycouncil@parksville.ca

City Hall, 100 Jensen Avenue East
P O Box 1390, Parksville V9P 2H3

We welcome your comments on this issue of *It's Your City*:
250 954-3073 | communications@parksville.ca

You will find *It's Your City* in the PQB News on the second Tuesday of the month with a copy provided on the City's website. We are committed to improving "two-way communications" with our residents and you can help by providing your feedback, comments or suggestions. Please call 250-954-3073 or email communications@parksville.ca. The next issue of *It's Your City* will be published on June 8.