

it's your City!



City Services

2012 Budget Deliberations

To date, Council has participated in two budget sessions and has now reviewed the overall budget, priority spending items and proposed spending packages. The draft 2012 budget is based on a continuation of the level of services provided in 2011 along with proposed spending packages to be considered by Council. Service priorities are being reviewed in seven categories - health and safety, legislation, development and maintenance of municipal infrastructure and assets, protection of private property, organizational welfare, economic welfare and community and social welfare.



Additional budget meetings are tentatively scheduled for March 28 and April 3 at 6 pm in the Forum. As we get closer to these dates, please check the City's website to confirm. The public is encouraged to attend these important meetings.

McMillan Street News

Windley Contracting will begin major road rebuilding on McMillan Street this week. Work includes asphalt and road base material removal; the road base will be a thicker, stronger layer covered with an 85mm thick asphalt layer. This will be done in accordance with the City's current downtown road classification, creating a more robust road. Although weather dependent, the work should take four to five weeks. The contractor will do its best to keep traffic moving with alternating lane closures and intersections. Traffic interruptions are inevitable and the public should avoid travelling through the area during this time. Downtown businesses will be open regular business hours; most can be accessed from Alberni Highway and Morison Avenue businesses may be accessed from the lane on Island Highway 19A at Brit Foods. This is a busy area of the City; we thank you for your patience.

It's Easy to View Accounts Online

The City's website includes a section under *Online Services* which allows homeowners and businesses to access their municipal accounts. With *MyCity*, a secure online service, customers can view past billing history, keep track of utility consumption history and claim the Provincial Homeowner Grant. *MyCity* supports business licence, dog licence, property tax and utility accounts. With a valid email address and password, customers may set up a *MyCity* profile and then register each account using the folio or account number and access code shown on your tax notice, utility bill or licence renewal notice.

Reminders

Detailed information about previously published notices may be found on the *What's New* page (under *Newsroom*) on the website.

- Board of Variance Vacancies
- Water Main Flushing



Utility notices covering water, sewer, garbage and recycling will be mailed at the end of March. If you do not receive your notice, please call 250 954-4653.

Become a Volunteer, Paid-call Firefighter

The Parksville Fire Department relies on volunteer firefighters and is now recruiting. You need to live in the Parksville fire protection area, be reasonably fit, with a good driving record, available for weekly fire practices and between the ages of 19 and 60 for regular members and 16 and 19 for the junior member program.



Applications available from the Fire Department at 160 Jensen Avenue East and also from:

- pvfd.ca
- recruiting@pvfd.ca
- 250 248-3242

File Pro Lunch & Learn - March 29

Introduced a few months ago, FilePro is an online database which allows people to easily search, print and publish key documents such as agendas, minutes, bylaws and related reports. To help residents become comfortable with using FilePro, a lunch and learn session will be offered on March 29. Bring your lunch, we'll supply coffee/tea and show you how to navigate through FilePro to find the information relevant to your search. This informal session is open to all; join us from noon to 1pm on Thursday, March 29 in the Forum. Bring your lunch and your questions!

Around The City

Water Wise Veggie Gardening Workshop

In recognition of UN World Water Day 2012, a workshop will be held on March 24 at 2.30 pm on the lawn at 100 Jensen Avenue East. Workshop will talk about building a veggie patch that uses water wisely and the best plants and mulches for low-watering. Workshop is free, register by phone 1 888 838-2069 or email recparks@rdn.bc.ca. More info at teamwatersmart.ca

Around The City

March Proclamations

Information about proclamations and the organizations may be found on the website under *Newsroom/What's New*:

- Community Social Services Awareness Month
- Kidney Health Month

Earth Hour 2012 – March 31

Earth Hour will be recognized on March 31 between 8.30 and 9.30 pm. We have the opportunity to participate again by switching off lights, one simple action to help make a difference. During Earth Hour 2011, more than 5,200 cities and towns in 135 countries saved energy and created awareness for climate change. Information and sign up is available at wwf.ca/earthhour.

Brant Wildlife Festival

Parksville beach is a popular stop for as many as 20,000 Black Brant which migrate from California and Mexico to the Arctic. The festival features many activities for children and adults, including wildlife viewing adventures, spring break nature camps and tours. Event information is listed at brantfestival.bc.ca. Please be aware that dogs are not allowed on the beach in March and April.

City Dates

March 15	Coffee with Council
March 19	Council and Committee of the Whole
March 22	Community Forums on Homelessness
March 22	Coffee with Council
March 28	Special Council Meeting - Budget
March 29	Coffee with Council
March 29	FilePro Lunch & Learn
April 2	Council and Committee of the Whole
April 3	Special Council Meeting - Budget
April 5	Coffee with Council
April 6	Good Friday – office closed
April 9	Easter Monday – office closed
April 12	Advisory Design Panel
April 12	Coffee with Council
April 16	Council and Committee of the Whole

The public is encouraged to attend Council and Committee of the Whole meetings held on the first and third Mondays of the month at 6 pm. The public is welcome to observe the meetings of any advisory committee. Please refer to the City's website for agendas and to confirm times and dates.

How to Reach Council

MAYOR

Chris Burger..... 250 954-4661

COUNCILLORS

Al Greir.....250 248-1285
 Marc Lefebvre250 248-2292
 Peter Morrison.....250 240-4050
 Bill Neufeld250 954-2063
 Sue 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

Facebook: facebook.com/cityparksville
 Twitter: twitter.com/city_parksville

It's Your City is published in the PQB News on the second Tuesday of the month with a copy on the City's website. We are committed to improving communications with our residents and you can help by providing your comments and suggestions to 250 954-3073 or communications@parksville.ca.

PLAN PARKSVILLE Official Community Plan Review

The concept of sustainability is a very important part of our Official Community Plan update. Although the word can mean different things, one approach sees sustainability as a balance of economic, environmental and social factors. What can Parksville do in the next five years to support the following?

- **Economic Vitality** - vibrant downtown, well-paying jobs, diverse economic development.
- **Environmental Health** - reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, biodiversity and protection of natural habitat, water sustainability (quantity and quality).
- **Social Equity** - adequate health care and education facilities, vibrant arts and culture, diverse community and volunteer groups.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions - recent changes to provincial legislation require Official Community Plans to include targets for the reduction of a community's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, based on 2007 levels. For example, the Regional District of Nanaimo has a goal of reducing GHG emissions by 33% below 2007 levels by the year 2020.

