

Water Intake and Treatment Project

On November 21, the citizens of Parksville will be asked to participate in an "assent voting opportunity" (previously called a referendum). The City is asking residents to approve a bylaw which will authorize the borrowing of up to \$5.6 million to construct a new water intake, water treatment plant and transmission lines. The process will be conducted in the same manner as an election – advance voting on November 12 and November 18 and voting day on November 21. The citizens of Parksville will be asked to vote on this question:

Do you agree to the adoption of City of Parksville Loan Authorization Bylaw, 2015, No. 1519 which will authorize the City of Parksville to borrow \$5.6 million to construct a water intake and treatment facility in accordance with Island Health requirements.

In anticipation of a positive outcome, Englishman River Water Service has begun detailed design which includes:

- In-river water supply intake designed and located to consider the needs of river users and to protect aquatic habitat.

- Water treatment plant with a minimum of 16 million litres per day of firm membrane filtration capacity to comply with the new water regulatory treatment standards imposed by Island Health.
- Transmission supply mains to homes and businesses.

The project received \$6 million in funding from the federal and provincial governments and Parksville's portion of the project (shared with the Regional District of Nanaimo) will come from existing reserve funds, development cost charges and borrowing. The cost to the average residential homeowner will be about \$10 per year.

The ERWS currently supplies water to 18,000 individuals in Parksville and the Nanoose Bay Peninsula, as well as a seasonal influx in tourist population of 10,500.

Over the next few weeks, detailed information about the project will be provided to residents.

In the meantime, please refer to www.englishmanriverwaterservice.ca



Benefits of Tree Watering Bags

Over the summer, the parks department installed 170 tree watering bags throughout the City in an effort to lessen stress during the drought period and promote healthy tree growth in the City's urban forest. The bags are hand-filled with non-potable water and installed where the irrigation system is turned off. The bags have holes which slowly release the water into the soil over five to seven hours, supplying the tree with water for up to a week. There are many benefits to watering bags –

- Double as a way of mulching because bag ensures no direct exposure of the watered ground to the sun so there is minimal evaporation of water.
- More efficient watering by directly applying water to the roots to limit wasteful runoff.
- Amount of water used for irrigation is minimized since the rate of release is controlled.
- Provide support for new trees with weak stems.
- Great time saver!
- Works within Level 4 Water Conservation.

Tree watering bags, available from local hardware stores and garden centres, are easy to use. The bag goes around the tree; it is filled with water and then zipped up. Bags are then refilled so the process continues. The bags work best with immature trees and can be joined together for larger trees. An alternative is a five gallon bucket with a couple small holes drilled in the bottom and placed near the tree base. Fill it with water once or twice a week for slow deep watering. Larger trees could use more buckets placed further away from the trunk.

PARKSVILLE WATER Assent Voting

As mentioned on this page, the City will be asking residents to approve a bylaw to authorize the borrowing of up to \$5.6 million to construct a new water intake, water treatment plant and transmission lines. Voters must bring two pieces of identification (one containing name and address and the other with name and signature) to the voting place and register on the day of voting, at either advance voting or on general voting day. If you do not have documentation showing residency, then two pieces of identification (at least one with a signature) are still required and you will be required to make a solemn declaration as to residency. Website [[Quicklinks/Vote](#)]

Documents which may be accepted:

- BC driver's licence
- BC identification card issued by Motor Vehicles Branch
- Owner's certificate of insurance and vehicle licence issued by ICBC
- BC CareCard or BC Gold CareCard
- Birth certificate
- SIN card issued by Human Resources Development Canada
- Canadian passport
- Citizenship card issued by Citizenship and Immigration Canada
- Real property tax notice issued by City of Parksville
- Credit or debit card issued by a savings institution
- Utility bill for electricity, gas, water, phone or cable services

Reminder of Level 4 Water Restrictions

Despite the rain we welcomed last week, Level 4 Water Conservation (comprehensive watering ban) continues. Outdoor water use is the primary stressor on supply so outdoor sprinkling is prohibited as well as any outside washing and filling of swimming pools. Details may be found on the City's website [[Quicklinks/Water Conservation](#)].

ShakeOut Day BC – October 15

Reminder to register and mark your calendars for the 2015 Great BC Shakeout drill. Participating is a great way for families or for businesses to become better prepared to survive and recover quickly from major earthquakes. Participating creates a positive understanding of the importance of earthquake awareness and emergency preparedness. Info and resources at shakeoutbc.ca.



Property Tax Sale

Property tax accounts with delinquent taxes outstanding from 2013 are subject to tax sale on September 28 which, if required, will take place in the Forum (100 Jensen Avenue East) at 10 am on September 28.

Late Payment of Property Taxes

After the first due date of July 2, 2015, a penalty of 5% was added to the outstanding taxes. Another 5% penalty will be charged to current taxes after the second penalty date of September 30. These penalties are a requirement of the Community Charter and the City has no authority to either waive or modify these penalty amounts. A payment which is one day late is subject to the full amount of the penalty.

Fire Prevention Week Open House

The Parksville Fire Department will open its doors on Sunday, October 4 from 10 am to 2 pm to recognize Fire Prevention Week (October 4-10). Residents are welcome to drop by for a little fun and most importantly, to learn some possible lifesaving strategies for fire prevention. Tours of the fire hall will be conducted by firefighters and the RCMP will be on hand to check car seats. The fire hall is located at 160 Jensen Avenue West. This year's Fire Prevention Week theme is "Hear the Beep Where You Sleep" which underscores the importance of having a working smoke alarm in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of your home, including the basement. The PVFD would like families to focus on prevention by planning ahead and integrating a few simple fire safety activities into everyday lives. nfpa.org

Prepare to Survive!

In a large scale disaster your neighbour may be your first responder if roads are damaged and emergency services are without access. The Regional District of Nanaimo along with Parksville, Lantzville and Qualicum Beach will host a free event on October 3 and October 4 at the Coombs Fairgrounds. "Prepare to Survive" offers training for critical skills in an emergency and the opportunity to practice those skills in a disaster simulation setting. The event is open to Neighbourhood Emergency Preparedness teams, Emergency Social Services and Emergency Communications Team volunteers and those members of the public who may be interested in volunteering with NEPP, ESS or ECT. Detailed information at rdn.bc.ca. Although the event is free, registration is required to beready@rdn.bc.ca or 250 390-6526.

City Dates

September 9	Council Meeting
September 17	Advisory Planning Commission
September 17	Coffee with Council
September 28	Property Tax Sale (if required)
September 30	Second Property Tax Penalty
October 1	Coffee with Council
October 4	Fire Prevention Week Open House
October 5	Council Meeting
October 8	Advisory Design Panel
October 8	Coffee with Council
October 12	Thanksgiving Day Holiday
October 15	ShakeOut Day BC
October 15	Advisory Planning Commission
October 15	Coffee with Council
October 19	Council Meeting

The public is encouraged to attend Council meetings held on the first and third Mondays of the month and may observe advisory committee meetings. Refer to the website for agendas and meeting highlights and minutes.

How To Reach Council

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COUNCILLORS

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Drive safely
 ... Kids are
 back to
 school



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.