



City of Parksville

it's your City!

December 8, 2015

parksville.ca



We're Ready for Snow... Are You?

Operating within budget and with available equipment and personnel, our operations department is ready to provide for reasonably safe movement of vehicle and pedestrian traffic during winter conditions. Despite the best efforts of a highly motivated crew, snow and ice conditions can deteriorate and roads can become treacherous.

Clearing of sidewalks is the responsibility of property owners. Every owner and occupier of property is responsible under Bylaw 1436 to remove all snow or ice from sidewalks bordering their property within 12 hours of the end of the snowfall. During periods of heavy snowfall and during regular hours of operation, City crews will support public clearing of sidewalks on streets with high pedestrian traffic, such as arterials and roads in the downtown core.

Wherever possible, drivers are asked to not park on streets during snowfall as this impedes the travel of plows and may result in vehicles buried by snow. As well, residents are asked to remove garbage cans from roadways during snow events.

Please consider these items for personal preparedness in the event of heavy snowfall:

- Motorists should practice defensive driving and exercise caution at all times.
- Have a supply of candles and/or flashlights and ensure cell phones are regularly charged in the event power and/or telephone services are interrupted.
- Ensure an adequate supply of any required medications, infant formula and supplies, pet foods and non-perishable food items should roads be temporarily impassable and stores closed.
- If it is not absolutely necessary to travel, stay home, keep warm, dry and safe.

City staff monitor road and weather conditions 24/7 during



winter months. When snow and icy conditions are forecast, crews and equipment are prepped and when it snows, crews are dispatched to keep roads safe.

The City's first priority during and after a snowfall is to clear major arterial streets (Island Highway, Alberni Highway) as well as access to emergency services (RCMP, fire hall, ambulance station). Clearing collector streets (such as Temple, Pym, Hirst) is the second priority. Once conditions have stabilized on priority routes, crews will begin to clear residential streets. Should snowfall continue, crews may take longer to reach residential streets. Should there be an emergency, call 911 and emergency services will advise the City to send a plow immediately.

During a significant snowfall, one lane of Island Highway East (Highway 19A) between Corfield and McCarter Streets will be closed to allow safe use of the slope from Island Highway into the Community Park sports field for tobogganing. Traffic control measures will facilitate the temporary lane closure.

Please direct concerns about our snow and ice control program to the operations department at 250 248-5412, during regular office hours. To learn more about snow removal, how you can help and how best to prepare, refer to the website [Quicklink Winter Conditions].

Things to Know

Special Events Application Procedures

Every year, we receive applications from community organizations and individuals wishing to hold special events at City-owned venues. Venues were well used with 249 bookings in 2015. Streets and parks accommodated many walks, marathons and cycling events and thousands of residents and visitors enjoyed an energetic year of festivals, sporting events and family celebrations in the Community Park and newly upgraded Foster Park.

Applications are being accepted for 2016 events with the review process beginning January 29. Special events policy and relevant application forms may be obtained from the operations department (1116 Herring Gull Way), from City Hall or from the website [City Hall/Special Events Procedures]. Phone 250 248-5412 for more information.

2016 Business Licences

Existing business licence holders may now renew for the 2016 calendar year. Fees are due by January 8 and may be mailed or paid at City Hall. Bylaw 1483 requires all businesses obtain a valid licence if carrying on business in the City. More information may be found on the website [Business/Licences].

THANK YOU for Making a Difference

The annual food and toy drive held last month was a huge success thanks to the generosity of so many residents as well as the dedication of fire department and Salvation Army volunteers. A record 40,000 pounds of food and \$16,000 in cash was collected and delivered to the Salvation Army by the Parksville, Qualicum Beach and Dashwood Fire Departments with assistance from Arrowsmith Search & Rescue. Our sincere thanks to residents for your generosity.

2016 Dog Licences

Dog licence fees are due by January 29. Current dog licences will receive a reminder notice; if you do not receive a notice and currently own a dog, licences may be purchased from City Hall.



- By January 29 Spayed/neutered \$20, not spayed/neutered \$30
- After January 29 Spayed/neutered \$25, not spayed/neutered \$35

The main benefit of licensing is the quick return of dogs should they become lost. As well, fees collected partially offset the cost to maintain our off-leash dog park, provide doggie bags and dispensers throughout the City and provide bylaw enforcement to handle public safety concerns of stray, off-leash and dangerous dogs.

And, it's the law! Parksville Bylaw 1284 states, "No person shall keep, harbour or have in his possession any dog over the age of six months unless a valid and subsisting licence has been issued in respect of that dog." The bylaw also states no more than two dogs may be kept on parcels of land less than two acres.

Christmas Tree Disposal

Trees are an integral part of holiday celebrations, but what to do with them when Christmas is over? Leaving them on sidewalks/boulevards interferes with pedestrian traffic and impedes vehicle sightlines. Because the City is not responsible for disposing of Christmas trees, here are a few options:

- Trees may be taken to the Church Road Transfer Station.
- Service groups may hold fundraising chipping events; watch PQB News for notices.
- Check the classifieds for individuals/companies offering disposal services.
- Store tree on your property to be included with the City's spring wood chipping program.



Enjoy the Holiday Season!

Council and staff of the City of Parksville wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and a healthy, happy and prosperous 2016.

Holiday Hours

City Hall and operations will close at noon on December 24 and will be closed on December 25, December 28 and January 1. For after-hours emergency, phone 250 248-6144 (4 pm to 8 am, Monday to Friday, weekends and holidays).



2016 Council Meetings

Council appointments to committees, boards, commissions and associations from December 8, 2015, to December 6, 2016, has been approved and posted to the website [City Hall/Mayor and Council]. A schedule of 2016 meetings is posted on the notice board at the City Hall and on the website calendar.

City Dates

December 9	AWS/ERWS Management Board (RDN)
December 10	Advisory Design Panel
December 10	Coffee with Council
December 17	Advisory Planning Commission
December 24	Offices closed at noon
December 25 & 28	Offices closed Christmas holidays
January 1	Offices closed New Year's Day
January 7	Coffee with Council
January 14	Coffee with Council
January 18	Council Meeting
January 21	Coffee with Council
January 28	Coffee with Council
February 1	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.

The next City News Page will publish on January 19

How To Reach Council

MAYOR

Marc Lefebvre 250 954-4661

COUNCILLORS

Mary Beil..... 250 927-4097
 Al Greir 250 248-1285
 Kirk Oates 250 802-2059
 Teresa Patterson 250 954-9488
 Sue Powell..... 250 954-3070
 Leanne Salter..... 250 248-8097

citycouncil@parksville.ca
 City Hall, 100 Jensen Avenue East
 P O Box 1390, Parksville V9P 2H3
 facebook.com/cityparksville
 twitter.com/city_parksville
 pinterest.com/cityparksville

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.