

New Era for Parksville Fire Department



Photo by John Harding

The City is pleased to announce the change of command for the Parksville Volunteer Fire Department took place on February 29 when Chief Doug Banks (left) retired following 45 years' service and Deputy Chief Marc Norris assumed command as the new fire chief.

Chief Norris joined the department in 1990 as a junior member. He was promoted to lieutenant in 2001 and in 2002, became the full-time deputy chief. Marc is a second generation firefighter; his father, Chief Paul Norris was a member of the department from 1976 to 1997.

Chief Norris is a Certified Fire Inspector, Fire Service Instructor Level II and has a diploma in Fire Service Leadership. In 2010, he was BC Fire Training Officer of the year and is currently completing a Bachelor Degree in Public Safety Administration. Chief Norris is an instructor/evaluator for several fire service training providers in such topics as scene management, fire control (live fire) and company officer/team leadership.

Our warmest wishes to retired Chief Banks for a long and healthy retirement and to Fire Chief Norris, our congratulations on your well-deserved promotion.

Things to Know

"No Dogs" Beach Closures

Our beaches are popular spots for migrating Brant Geese, vulnerable to disturbances and for this reason, Rath Trevor beach is closed to dogs, both on-leash and off-leash, until April 15 and Parksville Bay beach from March 1 to April 30. As usual, dogs on-leash are welcome on the waterfront walkway in the Community Park.

Parksville Museum Survey

The Museum encourages residents to complete a short survey intended to provide them with invaluable information to guide in developing relevant and engaging exhibits and programs. The more information the Museum is able to collect the better they will be at sharing this region's history with residents and visitors. Available from the City's website and at parksvillemuseum.ca.

A Celebration of Nature!

The 2016 Brant Wildlife Festival, a celebration of nature on Vancouver Island, runs from March 19 to April 17. The festival features a series of activities as well as guest speakers, youth nature photo exhibit and spring break camp for kids. brantfestival.bc.ca. [Photo credit to Sandra Gray]

Celebrate Canada Water Week!

Team WaterSmart, in partnership with local governments and environmental organizations, will host free Water Day events on March 20 at Bowen Park Complex and April 3 at Qualicum Commons. From 10 am to 5 pm, events will feature speakers, workshops, interactive booths, displays, children's activities and live music to recognize and honour water as our most precious resource. Info at teamwatersmart.ca.



City Dates

March 10 & 17	Coffee with Council
March 14	Special Council Meeting
March 21	Council Meeting
March 24	Coffee with Council
March 25 & 28	Easter Holidays
March 30	Budget Meeting
March 31	Coffee with Council
April 4	Council Meeting
April 7 & 14	Coffee with Council
April 14	Advisory Design Panel

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.

Downtown Traffic Movements – March 14 Meeting

A special meeting of Council will be held on Monday, March 14 at 6 pm in the Forum, 100 Jensen Avenue East to receive a presentation from Boulevard Traffic Consultants about traffic movements in and around Parksville downtown. This meeting will provide residents and business owners an opportunity to hear the presentations and Council's discussion and to ask questions and provide comments.

The presentation will include an update to Boulevard's 2013 study as well as traffic simulation or modelling of the impacts of current and future traffic flows in the downtown. The reports, presentation and public comment introduced at this meeting will provide Council with the information necessary to discuss and decide on pending capital projects and future site development.

Meeting agenda and reports will be available on the City's website by March 11. The meeting will also be webstreamed live and archived from the City's website.

Canada 150 Legacy for Parksville

Canada's 150th anniversary will be celebrated in 2017 and to recognize this significant birthday, an initiative was launched to create a national mural made up of 150 individual murals in cities and towns across Canada. The City was approached and, Council approved our participation.

The mural will be made up of about 400 individual tiles painted by members of the community. The 4 x 4 inch tiles will create a unified mural eight feet square which will be installed in the Atrium, 100 Jensen Avenue East. All skill levels and ages are welcome to paint a tile. The cost of mural is \$12,000 and to recoup \$8,000, we will be selling tiles for \$20 each on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Canada 150 artists are now designing our mural which will tell the "Parksville story" in a way that links our community to the 150 others across Canada. We will partner with Parksville's Beach Festival Society to host this project while the sandcastles are on display and painting days are scheduled for August 5 and August 6 in the Community Park. More details will be available in the next couple weeks. Questions should be directed to Deb Tardiff, 250 954-3073.

City Services

Water Main Flushing to March 25

Flushing continues through March 25. Between 7 am and 3.30 pm expect some discolouration of water and intermittent drops in pressure. Keep a fresh supply of drinking water in your refrigerator, check for discolouration of water before doing laundry and should water be discoloured, run an outside tap (after 3:30 pm) until water runs clear. Direct questions to 250 248-5412.

Annual Wood Chipping Program

The City's wood chipping program runs from March 29 to April 21. Details are now on our website [Newsroom/Public Notices] and collection dates for neighbourhoods will be advertised in the PQB News. Please direct questions to 250 248-5412.

Great Ways to Save Water

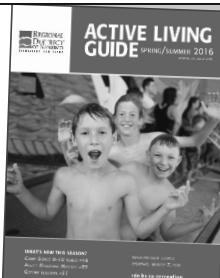
The City is offering rebates of up to \$50 for the purchase and installation of rain barrels. One rebate per residence of 50% of the cost of the rain barrel, up to a maximum of \$50 for barrels purchased on or after January 1, 2016. This offer is for owners of residential buildings located within the City and connected to the City's water system. Rebates will be issued on a first come/first serve basis. Please see the website for information and application forms. [Residents/Residential Services].



The Spring Summer Active Living Guide is here and registration begins March 7.



Register at rdn.bc.ca/recreation
 Ravensong Aquatic Centre
 737 Jones St, Qualicum
 250-752-5014
 Oceanside Place Arena
 830 W Island Hwy, Parksville
 250-248-3252



Pick up your guide at Parksville City Hall.

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

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twitter.com/city_parksville
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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.