



City of Parksville



it's your City!

December 13, 2016

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 2017.

parksville.ca

A Sad Commentary

The Community Park Ventureland Playground was vandalized again this past November. This time, a slide was burned through with a flare or firecracker and unfortunately the damage was so extensive, the slide is no longer usable. Another slide was damaged in a similar fashion two years ago and although we were able to make temporary repairs, this slide has also been removed. The cost to replace both slides is more than \$10,000. For more than thirty years, the Parksville Lions Club members have worked extremely hard to create the amazing Ventureland Playground for the enjoyment of residents and visitors, making the playground the centrepiece of the Community Park. Since 1985, the Lions Club estimates it has spent more than \$500,000

for equipment as well as \$5,000 in annual maintenance costs. Each year, members volunteer about 2,000 hours at the playground and also face the ongoing challenge of continued fundraising for much needed dollars to maintain and upgrade the equipment. And as we know, it has become more and more difficult for organizations like the Lions Club to find volunteers and it is a shame when hard-earned and scarce funds must go to replace senseless vandalism.

Because our parks crews work alongside, every day we see the commitment of the Lions Club volunteers and how they enthusiastically contribute to the enjoyment of the community. We thank them for their dedication.

City Services

Seeking Input into Master Transportation Plan

The City is finalizing the Master Transportation Plan which identifies key transportation strategies for Parksville. Public comment is a key component of Parksville's transportation decision-making process and comments help to inform Council's decisions and ensure the plan supports growth and development and also reflects current traffic demands. Since the plan was first introduced, the City adopted an Official Community Plan and completed the Storm Water Master Plan and Sanitary Master Plan.

Following a recent open house, the draft plan may be viewed on the City's website and we encourage residents and businesses to provide comments online through December 30. The plan will be presented to Council in the spring. Please contact the engineering department with any questions (250 951-2484, engineering@parksville.ca)



Snow and Ice Control

During winter months, staff monitor road and weather conditions 24/7. The City provides snow and ice control, operating within budget and with available equipment and personnel to provide for reasonably safe movement of vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Despite the best efforts of a highly-motivated crew, conditions can deteriorate and roads can become treacherous. Questions about our snow and ice control program should be directed to operations department, 250 248-5412, during regular office hours. [Quicklink/Winter Conditions].

Please prepare for winter conditions:

- Practice defensive driving and exercise caution at all times.
- When possible, do not park on streets during snowfall as this impedes the travel of plows and may result in your vehicle buried in snow.
- Snow clearing from sidewalks is the responsibility of adjacent property owners who are required to ensure snow removed from the sidewalks is not deposited on adjoining roadway.
- Keep candles or flashlights handy and ensure cell phones are regularly charged should power or phone services be interrupted.
- Ensure an adequate supply of medications, infant formula and supplies, pet foods and non-perishable food items should roads become temporarily impassable and stores closed.
- Unless absolutely necessary to travel, stay home, keep warm, dry and safe.

2017 Dog Licences

Dog licence fees are due by January 31. 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 and the BC SPCA.



- By January 31 Spayed/neutered \$20, not spayed/neutered \$30
- After January 31 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 help to 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.

2017 Business Licences

Existing licence holders may now renew for the 2017 calendar year. Fees are due by January 6 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 on the website [Business/Licences].

2017 Special Events Applications

Applications from organizations and individuals wishing to hold special events at City-owned venues as well as City streets in 2017 will be accepted starting January 1 and reviewed starting January 30. Annual events will be given priority provided the request is received by January 30 after which time, applications will be addressed as first-time events on a first come, first-served basis, depending on availability. After January 30, applications must be received at least thirty days prior to event. The special events policy and application forms are available on the website [City Hall/Special Events Procedures], from the operations department and City Hall. More information, 250 248-5412.

For use of the baseball/soccer fields and lacrosse box, contact Regional District of Nanaimo's Recreation and Parks Department at fieldbooking@rdn.bc.ca.

2017 Council Meetings

Council appointments to committees, boards, commissions and associations from December 6, 2016, to December 4, 2017, are now posted on the website [City Hall/Mayor and Council]. A schedule of 2017 Council meetings is posted on the notice board at City Hall and on the website calendar. Coffee with Council will start up again on January 12.

Things to Know

City News Page - starting in January, this page will move to the third Tuesday of the month, right here in the PQB News.

Amazing Places - Parksville Community Park was chosen as one of ten amazing places in the Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Reserve [mabr.ca/amazingplaces]. In 2017 to recognize this designation, the park will receive interpretive signage and a video produced by the MABR.

Retroactive Home Owner Grant - Subject to qualification, the 2015 home owner grant may be available retroactively. Deadline to apply is December 30, 2016. For more information, contact the finance department, 250 248-6144.

Holiday Hours

City Hall and operations will be closed on December 26, December 27 and January 2. City Hall offices will be closed from noon to 1 pm on December 28, 29 and 30. For after-hours emergency, phone 250 248-6144 (4 pm to 8 am, Monday to Friday, weekends and holidays).



City Dates

December 26/27	Offices closed – Christmas holidays
January 2	Offices closed – New Year's
January 12	Coffee with Council
January 16	Council Meeting
January 19	Coffee with Council
January 26	Coffee with Council
February 2	Coffee with Council
February 6	Council Meeting
February 9	Coffee with Council
February 13	Offices closed - Family Day

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, meeting highlights and minutes.

How To Reach Council

MAYOR

Marc Lefebvre 250 954-4661

COUNCILLORS

Mary Beil..... 250 927-4097
 Kim Burden 250 951-6420
 Kirk Oates 250 802-2059
 Teresa Patterson 250 954-9488
 Sue Powell..... 250 954-3070
 Leanne Salter..... 250 248-8097

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[facebook.com/cityparksville](https://www.facebook.com/cityparksville)
twitter.com/city_parksville
[pinterest.com/cityparksville](https://www.pinterest.com/cityparksville)

It's Your City is published in the PQB News on the third 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.

