

Message from Council

City Council is following the advice of health agencies and provincial and federal governments by implementing measures to protect residents and staff from COVID-19. Council's priority is to protect and help ensure the safety of this magnificent community and its residents. This is where you must help.

We all know about physical distancing and know some are ignoring the requirement to distance by at least two metres to combat the spread of this virus. By not abiding, the community's health is jeopardized. Should these constraints not be followed, Council will be forced to further limit movement.



The City has been the leader in our region and in some cases, in the province. Playgrounds were closed prior to mandate by the province and all City facilities are closed excepting the use of our parks as open spaces. Non-essential businesses are closed and those open are doing following protocols. Bylaw officers and other staff are out reminding people to respect the rules.

We are experiencing the biggest challenge to our community since World War II. The reality, this virus will cause deaths in our City as well as affect us economically. We need the help of every resident while we are still able to limit the spread of COVID-19. Please do what is right.

During these uncertain times, please do everything you can to prevent the spread of COVID-19. To protect the health and wellbeing of our residents and employees, **here's what we are doing**:

- •Monitoring direction provided by local, provincial and federal health authorities and will take immediate action as directed.
- Closing City facilities to the public until further notice.
 City services continue to operate to support the community and maintain our core services such as water, sewer and fire.
- Cancelling meetings and the closure of Council meetings to the public. Meetings may be viewed through webcasting.
- Working together, Parksville and Qualicum Beach have activated Level 1 emergency operations centre.
- Essential functions identified and ready to make changes to operations when necessary.
- Keeping the public informed. Information is communicated through our websites and social media channels. We regularly share information and operational updates.
- Activation of pandemic policies and pandemic communications strategy.

- Internal updates for staff. Every effort is being made to keep employees healthy. Increased hygiene includes deep cleaning of offices, physical distancing as well as other measures.
- Regular calls with Island Health chief medical officer three times each week.

Here's what you can do:

- If you have symptoms and may have been exposed to COVID-19, you must call your local primary care provider, or 811. Non-medical info, 7:30 am to 8 pm at 1 888-COVID19 (1 888-268-4319)
- Continue to refer to trusted sources for info. The City provides current info links at letstalkparksville.ca/covid-19-information-and-resources.
- Practice two metre minimum distancing and avoid contact; be vigilant in reducing the risk and spread of COVID-19 - when coughing or sneezing, use a tissue or the sleeve of a shirt or jacket to cover the spread of droplets and most importantly, wash your hands multiple times a day.
- Don't hoard, the supply chain is healthy.
- Stay healthy, get some fresh air, look after one another and follow the rules.

Wood Chipping

This year's program runs from April 6 to May 1. The City is divided into two zones; west of Craig Street and east of Craig Street.

For collection, materials must be at curbside by 8 am on **April 6** for properties **WEST of Craig Street** and **April 21** for properties **EAST of Craig Street**.

The only items to be placed on the boulevard in piles no larger than 5 feet wide, 5 feet long and 3 feet high are branches with a maximum diameter of 6 inches (15 cm), stacked with the larger end of the branch/trunk facing the roadway and smaller shrub branches piled for ease of access by the chipping crew. Rocks, stumps and construction waste must NOT be included in the piles and materials such as pampas grass, yucca and clematis and wisteria vines should go to the Church Road Transfer Station. Details on our website.

Notice of Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel

For those who received written notification from the City, the Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel will meet on April 20 at 5:45 pm (in the Forum) to hear complaints and review and correct the assessment rolls. With our offices closed to the public due to the COVID-19, written notices must be sent to <code>finance@parksville.ca</code>.

The panel will hear complaints to ensure names and addresses of the owners are correct; parcels of land not abutting the water and/or sewer mains and errors or omissions respecting the inclusion of property on the roll. The revised Water, Sewer and RDN Parks Parcel Tax Rolls are available for inspection on our website. The panel will not hear a complaint unless written notice is submitted to the City at least 48 hours prior to the meeting time of the panel.

For the next while, we will publish this page more frequently (April 15, April 29, May 13) to keep our residents as up-to-date as possible about City operations.

Please email questions to info@parksville.ca

Budget Deliberations

Council will meet on April 8 at 6 pm to discuss the final 2020 budget and 2020-2024 final plan. March 30 meeting was postponed following announcement of the BC COVID-19 Action Plan and the need to understand how our budgeting process will be affected. Public input is important to the budget process; comments to *council@parksville.ca*.

| Water Restriction - Stage 2

The region has moved to Stage 2, in effect through September (unless otherwise notified) which allows for every other day lawn watering between 7 and 10 am or 7 and 10 pm for a maximum of two hours. Vegetable gardens and fruit trees are exempt from restrictions. [Quicklink/Water Conservation]



Beach Closures to Dogs

Our beaches are popular spots for migrating Brant geese, vulnerable to disturbances and for this reason, Parksville beaches within the Parksville-Qualicum Beach Wildlife Management Area are closed to dogs, both on-leash and off-leash. Parksville beach is closed until April 30.

City Dates

April 6 Council Meeting
April 8 Council Budget Meeting
April 10 Good Friday (offices closed)
April 13 Easter Monday (offices closed)
April 20 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, meeting highlights and minutes. Council meetings from October 1 to March 31 start at 3 pm and April 1 to September 30 at 6 pm

How To Reach Council

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It's Your City is published in the PQB News with a copy on the City's website. We welcome your comments.

250 954-3073 or communications@parksville.ca.