



Do you have what it takes to be a firefighter?

Parksville Fire is recruiting positive, energetic and community minded women and men to join their team of paid on-call firefighters. Classes begin in the spring and applications are accepted until March 4. You need to live within our fire protection area (ideally within City boundary), be reasonably fit, available for weekly fire practices, have a good driving record and between 19 and 60 for regular members. Details at *parksvillefirerescue.ca*. If interested, call 250 248-3242, weekdays, 8 am to 4 pm, to chat with an officer or arrange a tour.

Pride • Courage • Passion • Teamwork

Parksville in Top Five BC Business Best Cities

The City is in great company and pleased to be in the top five position in the BC Business magazine's 2022 list of BC's most resilient cities. The City is in good company with communities such as Langford, New Westminster, Comox, and Kelowna. The annual ranking of fifty BC communities examines ten indicators such as social, economic resilience, population growth, resident sense of belonging, and environmental aspects. In 2020, Parksville was in fifteenth position and in 2021 placed second. News release available here and the BC Business Magazine article is available here.

Regional Growth Strategy Review is Underway

The Regional District of Nanaimo in partnership with the City of Parksville, City of Nanaimo, Town of Qualicum Beach, District of Lantzville, and the seven unincorporated electoral areas to update the Regional Growth Strategy (RGS). The current RGS, *Shaping Our Future*, was adopted in November 2011, to establish a collective vision for how anticipated growth will be managed to sur



collective vision for how anticipated growth will be managed to support the creation of sustainable, complete communities.

Community input is being sought on the topics of growth, land use, active

transportation, housing and climate adaptation and mitigation planning. Community and key stakeholder engagement will begin in February 2022, including a survey open to all residents in the region. Join the conversation at www.getinvolved.rdn.ca/RGSreview

Licence Renewals for 2022

2022 Dog Licences - If you own a dog and live in the City, licences may be purchased in-person from City Hall (open Monday to Friday, 8 am to 4 pm) and the BCSPCA (open Tuesday to Saturday, noon to 4 pm). All dogs over the age of six months must wear a municipal dog tag to be renewed yearly. Rates for tags are as follows:



By January 31 Spayed/neutered \$20, not spayed/neutered \$30 After January 31 Spayed/neutered \$25, not spayed/neutered \$35

2022 Business Licences - Fees which remain unpaid after January 31 will be subject to fines. Business licences may be paid as follows:

- Credit card (Visa or Mastercard) payments from the City's website.
- By mail (P O Box 1390, Parksville V9P 2H3)
- Dropbox at City Hall (100 Jensen Avenue East)
- In-person at City Hall (weekdays, 8 am to 4 pm)

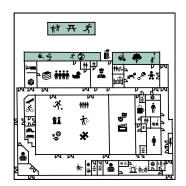
What's happening on...



Parksville Community Centre

We are excited to create a vibrant child, youth and community-focused centre for Parksville and the region. Council has taken a leadership role in facilitating the development of new childcare spaces in Parksville by recognizing the key role childcare plays in economic development and stability as well as the benefits to healthy child development. The City chose to partner with the non-profit organization, **BGC Central Vancouver Island**, to create licensed childcare spaces and programming for our community.

The contract for design and renovations was awarded to MKM Projects Ltd in December. The Parksville Community Centre will be operated by BGC Central Vancouver Island as a full-time child and family centre with 91 new daycare spaces as well as programs for different age groups, family supports, outdoor recreation space and buses to facilitate daycare activities. The PCC is scheduled to open for programs this summer with full opening of the childcare spaces in September along with community access to the



centre. The City's online engagement platform, *Let's Talk Parksville*, provides project updates and info about BGCCVI.



Parksville Aquatic and Recreation Centre

On February 16, Council will meet as a Committee of the Whole to discuss the proposed aquatic and recreation multiplex and possible next steps. Details and how residents can be involved will be provided the first week in February.

The atrium in the Parksville Civic and Technology Centre features a small display with engagement to date. We encourage residents to complete a short survey; copies available at City Hall and online. Information about the project may be viewed on Let's Talk Parksville.

THINGS TO KNOW

Playground Upgrades – The installation of the new play equipment in the Ventureland Playground in the Parksville Community Park are nearing completion. The rubber surfacing will be installed next week and although weather dependent, the playground upgrades should all be completed by the end of January.



Spring Grant-in-Aid Applications - Subject to the provisions of the City's grant-in-aid applications policy, the City may provide financial assistance to community groups and organizations for events that benefit our citizens and visitors. Community non-profit organizations in the arts, cultural, recreational, or social services fields are eligible. Deadline 3 pm, March 1. Information on the program, policy, application, and instructions may be obtained at City Hall or from the **website**.

Watermain Flushing - Our annual watermain flushing program runs mid-February through early April. An important part of our ongoing maintenance program, flushing ensures the integrity of the water supply system. Flushing occurs mainly between 7 am and 3:30 pm, weekdays. Residents can expect some discolouration of water and intermittent drops in pressure; keep a fresh supply of drinking water in your fridge. Check for discolouration of water before doing laundry and if discoloured, run outside tap (after 3:30 pm) until clear. Please direct questions to 250 248-5412.

2022 Special Events Applications - Applications are now being accepted from organizations and individuals wishing to hold special events at City-owned venues or on City streets; review process starts January 31. Annual events will be given priority provided the request is received by January 31, after which time applications will be addressed as first-time events on a first-come, first-served basis, based on availability. After January 31, applications must be received at least thirty days prior to the event. Policy and forms on the **website**. Contact 250 248-5412 or **ops@parksville.ca** for info.

City rebates - We continue to offer rebate programs for security cameras (up to \$100 toward purchase and installation); tree program (\$50 for owner of residence/business) and low flush toilet (one \$75 rebate per residence/business). Details and applications are available on our website.

In-person Attendance at Council - Aligned with PHO restrictions, the maximum number of residents to be accommodated in the Parksville Civic and Technology Centre for a Council meeting is forty with ten spaces allocated to Council and support staff. For everyone's safety, please consider:

- Do not attend in-person unless fully vaccinated.
- Masks are always mandatory while in the building.
- You must remain seated when in attendance.
- Stay home if sick or not feeling well.

Recent news from the City



City to Require Vaccines for Municipal Employees Understanding your BC Property Assessment Notice Funding Announced for Oceanside Track

CITY DATES

February 16 Committee of the Whole

February 21 Family Day

February 23 Council Meeting
March 7 Council Meeting
March 21 Council Meeting
April 4 Council Meeting
April 15 & 18 Easter holidays
April 20 Council Meeting

For more information:

Deb Tardiff, Manager of Communications 250 954-3073; dtardiff@ parksville.ca

parksville.ca | letstalkparksville.ca







City of Parksville | PO Box 1390, 100 Jensen Avenue, Parksville, V9P 2H3 Canada

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