



November 23, 2023



Cookies, Carols and More!

We're excited to host families, friends and neighbours at *Cookies, Carols and More!* on Saturday, December 9 at the Parksville Community Centre on Jensen Avenue East, from 2 to 4 pm. Mark your calendars for this free, fun, full of holiday cheer community event. Everyone is welcome! Should you wish, donations of non-perishable items will be accepted for the Salvation Army foodbank.

Here's what we have planned for you!

- Live entertainment, holiday music and a singalong.
- Special cookies, coffee and hot chocolate bar.
- Activities for kids, their families and the young at heart with ornament decorating, holiday colouring, letters to Santa, and face painters.
- A visit from Santa.
- Perfect holiday photo backdrop, mistletoe, and props for your photos. Bring your camera and someone will be there to help you take the picture.



Parksville's 2024-2028 Financial Plan

Coming up next week is the first open Council meeting to discuss the 2024-2028 financial plan which guides how the City will provide services and infrastructure to residents. The five-year financial plan outlines how resources will be allocated to achieve Council's identified strategic goals and enable City departments to deliver services in a fiscally responsible manner. The City strives to maintain quality programs and services for our residents and keep property taxes and utility fees affordable for businesses and homeowners.

As part of the process, we are looking for your input. The public is encouraged to attend meetings where Council will discuss the provisional financial plan.



Monday, November 27
10 am to noon and 2 to 4 pm

Monday, December 11
10 am to noon and 2 to 4 pm

Ways to get involved

Here are ways residents may engage in the financial planning process:

- Learn about the financial plan. [Let's Talk Parksville](#) has details such as previous plans and frequently asked questions.
- Submit comments by email to council@parksville.ca.
- Residents wishing comments to be considered by Council prior to the meetings, should be received by 4 pm on the working day before the meeting (November 24 and December 8).
- Meetings may be viewed live and archived through webstreaming from the City's [website](#).
- Add your comments, questions, and ideas to [Let's Talk Parksville](#).

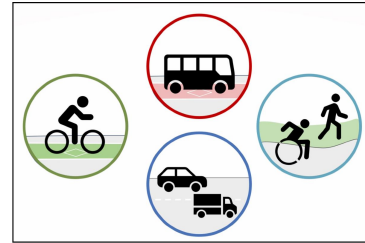
Please note, all comments about the financial plan received by the City will form part of the public record.

[More Info](#)

Transportation Master Plan Online Survey

Work on a new comprehensive Transportation Master Plan which will guide the future direction of transportation infrastructure in Parksville is well underway. The information presented at the first open house on November 8 is available for review on [Let's Talk Parksville](#).

Your input through an online survey, open until December 3, will help us understand the key issues impacting your mobility in the City, where there should be improvements, and how this plan can improve experiences of mobility in the City for all modes of transportation, including walking, cycling, transit, and driving. The survey is at this [link](#) and paper copies may be obtained from City Hall.



[More info](#)

Fill the Boots for Food Drive Results

Once again, Parksville Fire Rescue's *Fill the Boots for Food* drive was a huge success because of the generosity of the community. A total of \$94,090 in cash for the Salvation Army food bank was collected over the weekend along with new unwrapped toys for the Society of Organized Services. Craig Bay residents were beyond generous, donating a record \$64,680 in cash.

Residents in the Parksville Fire Protection Area generously support the annual drive and are the true reason this annual campaign is so successful. Parksville Fire Rescue appreciates the charity of our residents who make the difference for many families in our community. The department values the support of Canadian Tire, Save-On-Foods, BC Liquor Store, Quality Foods, and Thrifty Foods. More info and how you can donate to the Salvation Army and Society of Organized Services [here](#).



Parksville Fire Recruitment Begins Soon

Parksville Fire Rescue will soon begin the annual recruitment campaign looking for positive, energetic and community-minded citizens to join our team of paid on-call firefighters. To learn about the benefits and what it means to be part of the team, checkout the recruitment section on our [website](#) or call 250 248-3242.



2024 Special Events Applications

We are now accepting applications 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 are on the [website](#) and more info at 250 248-5412 or events@parksville.ca.



2024 Business Licence Renewals

Licence renewals will be mailed in early December for payment of your 2024 business licences. Payment is due January 31 and fees which remain unpaid after January 31 will be subject to fines. Payment options are listed here. Please direct questions to Biz@parksville.ca or 250 954-4650.

- Credit card (Visa or Mastercard) payments from our [website](#)
- By mail (P O Box 1390, Parksville V9P 2H3)
- Dropbox (100 Jensen Avenue East)
- In-person (weekdays, 8 am to 4 pm)

2024 Dog Licence Renewals

Dog licences for 2024 must be purchased in person from City Hall starting December 1 and fees are due by January 31. If you do not receive a notice in December and currently own a dog, licences must be purchased in-person from City Hall (Monday to Friday, 8 am to 4 pm) and the BCSPCA (open Tuesday to Saturday, noon to 4 pm).



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 bags and dispensers throughout the City and provide bylaw enforcement to handle public safety concerns of stray, off-leash and dangerous dogs.

All dogs over the age of six months must wear a municipal dog tag, which must be renewed yearly. Rates for dog licence tags are as follows:

By January 31

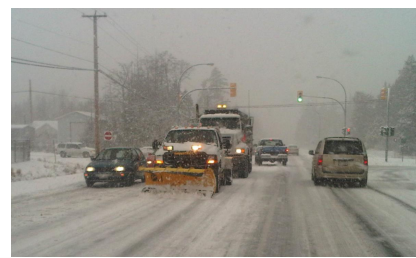
Spayed/neutered \$20, not spayed/neutered \$30

After January 31

Spayed/neutered \$25, not spayed/neutered \$35

Snow and Ice Control

Information about how we maintain and manage roadways during winter conditions is detailed in a news release available [here](#). We maintain and manage about 100 kilometres of paved roadways, classified into three priorities.



- **First Priority Roadways (A)** - about 23 kilometres of strategic and arterial roads which include transit routes, major access to hillside areas and emergency routes.
- **Second Priority Roadways (B)** - about 11 kilometres of remaining hillside and collector routes.
- **Third Priority Roadways (C)** - the remaining approximately 66 kilometres of local roads, cul-de-sacs, and laneways.

During snowfall, staff will continue to maintain first priority roads until they are in a reasonably safe winter condition, once those road conditions have stabilized, they will move to second priority and then third. If at anytime conditions worsen, staff will revert to first and second priority routes which may then take additional time to attend to third priority local and residential roads.

More info about how we monitor weather forecasts, clearing of sidewalks, and general info can be found on our [website](#).



REMINDERS AND THINGS TO KNOW...

- The deadline to claim a retroactive **Home Owner Grant for 2022** (subject to qualifications) as well as the deadline to defer 2023 property taxes is December 31, 2023. For more info or to apply, contact the Province of BC at 1 888 355-2700 and online at BC Home Owner Grant [website](#) or BC Property Tax Deferment [website](#).

WORKING FOR US!

Employment opportunities at the City of Parksville are posted regularly.

CLICK HERE and check us out!



CITY DATES

November 27	2024-2028 Financial Plan Meetings
November 29	Advisory Design Panel Meeting
December 4	Council Meeting
December 9	Cookies, Carols and More!
December 11	2024-2028 Financial Plan Meetings
December 18	Council Meeting
December 25/26	Christmas and Boxing Day (offices closed)
January 1	New Year's Day (offices closed)
January 15	Council Meeting

COMING UP AT COUNCIL

Monday, December 4 at 1 pm

Regular Council Meeting

Council Meeting Highlights - November 20

[Agendas](#) | [Minutes](#) | [Reports](#)

For more information:

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

parksville.ca | letstalkparksville.ca



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