

**September 25, 2025** 

# Parksville Fire Annual Open House October 5



Our members are looking forward to hosting the community at their annual fire prevention week open house on Sunday, October 5 from 10 am to 2 pm at the Parksville Fire training grounds, 1159 Franklin's Gull Road.

It's a great opportunity for residents to learn about fire safety including home fire sprinklers, smoke alarms and home escape. Educational displays and interactive activities where you will learn how to use a fire extinguisher, how to perform CPR, try hose and target practice, and a kids' bunker gear challenge.





#### 1.30 pm side-by-side live burn

There's a live burn demonstration featuring a side-by-side burn with two similarly furnished rooms; one protected with fire sprinklers and the other without fire sprinklers. The shows how quickly a fire can become deadly versus the quick response and effectiveness of a fire sprinkler system in controlling or extinguishing a fire.

Fire prevention week is recognized by the National Fire Protection Association from October 5 to October 11 and this year's theme is *Charge into Fire Safety: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home* to help educate about using these batteries safely. Key safety tips for residents at this link.

#### **MORE INFO**

Contact Parksville Fire Rescue at 250 248-3242 for info about Parksville activities. For general information about fire prevention week and fire prevention, visit nfpa.org/fpw, sparky.org and parksvillefirerescue.ca.





# Help Shape Parksville's 2026-2030 Financial Plan

Each year, the City prepares a five-year financial plan to meet the short- and long-term needs of our community, while trying to balance future financial sustainability

with the current economic reality. Development of the financial plan is a complex process which includes input from City departments, Committee of the Whole meetings which provide background briefings for Council, community group presentations, and an opportunity for public input and comment.

Guided by Council priorities as outlined in its Strategic Plan, the City's five-year financial plan sets the priority services, programs and initiatives for the next five years and, most importantly, how these will be funded. Five years of expected revenues and expenditures are presented for all services provided by the City, including general government, protective services (fire and police), engineering and public works, community planning, parks, solid waste collection, drinking water, sanitary sewer, and capital and long-term financial planning. The City endeavours to maintain quality programs and services for our residents and businesses while keeping property taxes and utility fees affordable.

#### **KEY STEPS IN THE FINANCIAL PLAN PROCESS**

- In September and October, senior staff review department business cases and budgets in the context of Council's strategic plan, economic changes, operating workplans, funding opportunities, and feedback from the community received throughout the year.
- Committee of the Whole meetings to be held in November and open to the public, will review operating revenues and expenditures in the general, water and sewer funds, capital and special project expenditures, as well as community group funding requests.
- At a regular Council meeting in December, a draft 2030-2026 financial plan will be presented which will incorporate Council and public feedback. The plan is expected to receive three readings with approval of the provisional 2026-2030 financial plan in January 2026. Property tax and utility rates will be set in April 2026 after the property assessment roll is received.

#### **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Public input into the process ensures our financial plan reflects the community's current wants and needs and assists Council with balancing the ongoing service needs of a growing community while delivering on strategic priorities and projects. Here are some of the ways you



can be involved in the City's financial plan process:

- Attend or ask questions at financial plan meetings open to the public on November 5, November 6, November 12, and November 24. Refer to the City website calendar for times and Let's Talk Parksville for more information.
- Comments and questions may be emailed to council@parksville.ca and will form part of the public record.
- Learn about our financial planning process and ask questions. Let's Talk
   Parksville offers information to help residents and businesses understand the
   City's financial planning process and how tax dollars are spent. Consider being
   involved by asking questions or sharing comments. Input will form part of the
   public record.
- Council public financial plan meetings will be webstreamed live and archived from our **website**.



The City will observe the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 30. The day was established in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's recommendations and is a time to honour Indigenous peoples

affected by Canada's residential school system, the children who never made it home, and to honour the strength of survivors and the enduring resilience of their families and communities.

To acknowledge the important contributions of Indigenous peoples and communities and in the spirit of reconciliation, the Parksville Civic and Technology Centre will be lit in orange and the survivors' flag will be flown from September 26 to October 3. City offices will be closed on Tuesday, September 30 for the statutory holiday. More information on our website.

### IN OTHER NEWS!

#### Veteran Remembrance Banners

Banners will be on display along Island Highway East and Alberni Highway through November to honour local veterans who gave their lives in World War I and World War II.

Approved by Council in 2020, this program honours the sixty veterans listed on the cenotaph. There is a section on Let's Talk Parksville about this project which tells the heartwarming stories of these veterans. We hope you will take a few minutes to read the stories, we're sure you won't be disappointed.



#### Phase 2 Waterfront Walkway Repairs

The second phase of the City's waterfront walkway replacement program is delayed until later in October and is still expected to take about one month. The section from the Parksville Community Park to in front of Park Sands Beach Resort will be replaced during this phase. While the work is underway, this section will be closed to the public and those wishing to use the walkway will be required to navigate around the construction area by walking on the beach. Signage, fencing and barricades will indicate the work zone.

#### 2026 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. The review process will start on November 30. Annual events will be given priority provided the request is received by November 30, after which time applications will be addressed as first-time events on a first-come, first-served basis, based on availability. After November 30, applications must be received at least thirty days prior to the event. Policy and forms on the **website** and questions to **events@parksville.ca**.

## REMINDERS AND THINGS TO KNOW...

### Seeking Online Feedback on Transportation Master Plan

There's still time to comment on our transportation master plan. The plan along with relevant reports and maps may be viewed on **Let's Talk Parksville**. We encourage you to provide your comments at **Let's Talk Parksville**; comments will help to inform the 2026-2030 financial plan process and will be presented for Council consideration.

#### Campfire Restrictions Lifted for Parksville Fire Protection Area

Effective today, campfires are permitted throughout the Parksville Fire Protection Area. The lifting of the closure on campfires is in conjunction with the rescinding of the fire prohibition across the south coast by the BC Wildfire Service Coastal Fire Centre. Although the fire danger has declined, the public is strongly encouraged to exercise extreme caution with any campfire. More info at this **link**.

Campfires, cooking fires and fires in outdoor fireplaces are permitted subject to the provisions of applicable municipal and regional district burning bylaws which include:

- City of Parksville Bylaw No. 1428 Outdoor Burning Bylaw
- Regional District of Nanaimo FRENCH CREEK Bylaw No. 920, Bylaw to Regulate Outdoor Burning
- Regional District of Nanaimo PARKSVILLE (Local) SPECIFIED FIRE PROTECTION AREA - Bylaw No. 922, Bylaw to Regulate Outdoor Burning

The City remains on level 4 water conservation until further notice. The efforts of our residents to conserve during level 4 have made a difference. Vegetable gardens and fruit trees are exempt from all water conservation levels as are businesses which require water for operations, essential municipal sports fields and nurseries. Detailed information about water conservation is available on Let's Talk Parksville. Questions should be directed to bylaw compliance department at bylaw@parksville.ca.

#### Cookies, Carols and More!

We are set once again for Saturday, December 6 from 2 to 4 pm at the Jensen Centre. Celebrate the holiday season with family and friends. Hosted by the City, this event will feature entertainment, cookies, hot chocolate and coffee, activities for kids and their families, and a visit from Santa. Everyone welcome!





# **CITY DATES**

September 30 National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

(offices closed)

October 5 Parksville Fire Open House

October 6 Council Meeting

October 13 Thanksgiving (offices closed)

October 20 Council Meeting November 3 Council Meeting

November 5 Financial Plan – Committee of the Whole November 6 Financial Plan – Committee of the Whole

November 11 Remembrance Day (offices closed)
November 12 Special Council Meeting - Financial Plan
November 15-16 Fill the Boots for Food - Food and Toy Drive

November 17 Council Meeting

November 24 Special Council Meeting - Financial Plan

December 1 Council Meeting

December 6 Cookies and Carols Event

#### For more information:

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

parksville.ca | letstalkparksville.ca









