

Parksville Firefighters Annual Food and Toy Drive

It's that time of year... when Parksville Fire Rescue members ask the community to support the annual "Fill the Boots for Food" drive. Firefighters will collect cash donations for the Salvation Army and new unwrapped toys for the Society of Organized Services on Saturday, November 15 (9 am to 5 pm) and Sunday, November 16 (10 am to 3 pm). Firefighters will be at locations in the City, such as grocery and liquor stores, asking residents to generously support the Salvation Army food bank with cash donations.



Let's Talk Parksville 2026-2030 Financial Plan

Each year, the City prepares a five-year financial plan, a complex process which includes input from City departments, Council briefings and public consultation. Guided by Council priorities, the annual budget is part of the five-year financial plan which sets the priority services, programs and initiatives for the next five years and how the City will pay for them. Public participation ensures the plan reflects the community's priorities and assists Council to balance individual needs and the needs of a growing community.



We encourage residents to attend and ask questions at financial plan meetings open to the public. Refer to the City website calendar for meeting times and letstalkparksville.ca/financial-plan-2026 for information and ways you can be involved. Comments can be submitted in-person at the meetings, online at *Let's Talk Parksville*, or by email to council@parksville.ca. Comments will form part of the public record.



Celebrate with the City at Cookies, Carols and More!

Get ready for a magical afternoon filled with holiday cheer at the City of Parksville's annual Cookies, Carols and More! event. Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 6 from 2 to 4 pm and gather your kids, families, friends, and neighbours to join in the festivities and fun at the Jensen Centre (132 Jensen Avenue East, Parksville). Activities include crafts and games for kids and parents, live music and entertainment, facepainting, cookies and hot chocolate bar, and a visit from Santa.

Parksville Council is excited to host this free event for a third year and look forward to seeing you there. It's a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the season with your community. Everyone welcome! Details on our website.

Next week, the North Pole mailbox will be back at 100 Jensen Avenue East, ready to collect letters to Santa. Kids can bring letters or write one here, envelopes addressed and no postage necessary!

Electric Vehicle Charging Fees Implemented

On November 3, the City implemented usage-based electric vehicle (EV) charging fees at municipal EV charging stations. Since 2013, the City has offered free EV charging at stations maintained by the City at the Parksville Civic and Technology Centre and in the Parksville Community Park. Council approved the rates as part of the *City's Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw, 2025, No. 1515.7*. The rates are \$0.025 per minute (\$1.50 per hour) for the first two hours and \$0.07 per minute (\$4.20 per hour) after two hours. These new fees will help offset operational costs related to ongoing maintenance and upgrades as well as electricity use.

There are seven EV charging spaces provided by the City - six located at Parksville Civic and Technology Centre and one in the Parksville Community Park. For info about City chargers, refer to the our website and for a list of charging stations, visit Chargepoint.com and Flow.com.

REMINDERS AND THINGS TO KNOW...

December 31, 2025, is the deadline to claim a **retroactive homeowner grant** for 2024 (subject to qualifications) as well as deadline to defer 2025 property taxes. Info or to apply, contact Province of BC at 1-888-355-2700 or online gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant or gov.bc.ca/propertytaxdeferral

City does not mail **property tax and utility reminders**. By statutory requirement, outstanding utility balances after December 31 transfer to property tax account as arrears taxes. Current taxes become arrears taxes and arrears taxes become delinquent taxes on January 1 and will incur daily interest. Sign up for MyCity account to monitor property tax and utility account balances. Details [\[Online Services/MyCity\]](http://OnlineServices/MyCity)

Watering restrictions have been lifted through March 31, unless otherwise advised. We appreciate the efforts of our residents to conserve water during levels 3 and 4 water conservation.

Reminder about leaves on City streets – property owners are responsible for leaf control and must not rake or blow leaves from lawns onto the street. The sweeper truck is intended to remove leaves which fall onto the streets and result in blocked catch basins and safety hazards for cyclists and pedestrians. Blowing or raking leaves into the gutter is illegal and subject to a fine of \$75 (Traffic Bylaw 1436).

2026 special events 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 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 [\[Quicklink/Special Event Info\]](http://Quicklink/SpecialEventInfo). Questions to events@parksville.ca.

Parksville Fire annual recruitment begins soon. We are looking for positive, energetic and community-minded citizens to join our team of paid on-call volunteer firefighters. Learn about benefits and what it means to be part of the team. Check out parksvillefirerescue.ca/recruitment or call 250 248-3242.

Licence renewals - business licence and dog licence renewals will be mailed in December and are due January 31, 2026. Details will be posted to our website.

Winter conditions - info about monitoring of road and weather conditions by the City on our website [\[Quicklinks/Winter Conditions\]](http://Quicklinks/WinterConditions) with tips on how residents can prepare and how to help.

City Dates

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, Carols and More! Event
December 15	Council Meeting
December 25, 26	Christmas Day, Boxing Day (offices closed)
January 1	New Year's Day (offices closed)

How to Reach Council

MAYOR		
Doug O'Brien	250 937-1389	council@parksville.ca 100 Jensen Avenue East PO Box 1390 Parksville V9P 2H3
COUNCILLORS		
Mary Beil	250 927-4097	
Adam Fras	250 228-3727	
Amit Gaur	250 954-3060	
Joel Grenz	250 954-3060	
Sylvia Martin	250 954-3060	Comments welcome 250 954-3073 info@parksville.ca
Sean Wood	604 868-7914	