



City of Parksville

it's your City!

January 15, 2019

www.parksville.ca

Do you have what it takes to be a volunteer paid on-call firefighter?

Interested in making a difference in your community?



Who are we?

Parksville Fire is a composite department staffed by four career and up to forty volunteer firefighters. Members are a dedicated and diverse group of highly trained professional

women and men, who do the same job as paid firefighters. Each year, the department responds to about 500 calls for service, such as structure fires, grass fires, rescues, auto extrication and support for emergency health services.

We believe the qualities of a firefighter include such values as integrity, honesty, selflessness, commitment, courage, family-oriented and hardworking. Paid on-call firefighters respond to emergencies 365 days a year and are the backbone of fire and rescue operations in the Parksville region.



Why volunteer?

There are many reasons to consider joining. It's a great way to contribute to your local community. You will learn new skills, from firefighting and first aid to communications and technical rescue. Benefits include great training opportunities, some training stipends, strong sense of accomplishment and technical education. Being a volunteer firefighter is about community service, teamwork and camaraderie.

Who can volunteer?

Basic requirements include good physical fitness, available for weekly fire practices, have a good driving record and between the ages of 19 and 60 for regular members. The department also offers a junior program.

Need more info?

Talk to members of the department, stop by the firehall at 160 Jensen Avenue West, call 250 248-3242 or visit parksvillefirerescue.ca. Our website has information about the proud history of the department, our many different roles and more details on how to join.

Practice Night Open House – January 21

The department's regular practice night will be open to the public on Monday, January 21 from 7 pm to 9 pm. The practice will be held at the firehall at 160 Jensen Avenue West; please arrive by 6.45 pm and stay as long as you wish.

This is a great opportunity to see firsthand what's involved in training to be a firefighter, observe a practice, ask questions and speak with the chief officers.

City Services

Understanding Your Property Assessment

Parksville property owners will have recently received their 2019 assessment notices. Property assessments are announced on an annual basis and the 2019 assessments are based on market values at July 1, 2018. The average assessment increase in the City of Parksville for residential properties was 12.53%, 6.96% for business and 9.05% for light industry. We encourage property owners to visit <https://evaluatebc.bcasessment.ca/> to search your property, compare assessments and review recent sales of nearby properties to see if your assessment is reasonable. The deadline to appeal your 2019 assessment (through BC Assessment) is January 31. Should you have questions or concerns about your assessment, please contact BC Assessment at 1 866 825-8322.

Increases in your property assessment do not mean your 2019 property-tax bill will increase by the same amount. If your assessment increase is the same as the average increase for the City of Parksville then the City's portion of your property taxes will rise by only the amount of the tax increase to be set by Council for 2019. Parksville Council budget deliberation meetings will be held in the spring.

Watermain Flushing in February

The City's annual watermain flushing program starts on February 11 and will run through the first week in April. Flushing is an important part of our ongoing maintenance program to ensure the integrity of the water supply system. Flushing will occur mainly between 7 am and 3:30 pm, Monday to Friday. During these times, residents can expect some discolouration of water and intermittent drops in water pressure and should keep a fresh supply of drinking water in your fridge. Check for discolouration of water before doing laundry and should water be discoloured, run an outside tap (after 3:30 pm) until the water runs clear. Please direct questions to 250 248-5412.

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 applicants. Deadline is 4 pm, March 1. Information on this program, the policy, application and instructions may be obtained at City Hall or from the website [\[Mayor and Council/Grant-in-Aid Applications\]](http://www.parksville.ca).

Things to Know

- **Business licences** for 2019 are due by January 31 and may be mailed or paid at City Hall. Bylaw 1483 requires all businesses obtain a valid licence if carrying on business in the City. *[Business/Licences]*.
- **Dog licences** for 2019 are also due by January 31 and may be purchased from City Hall and the BC SPCA. If paid by January 31 the cost is \$20 for spayed/neutered and \$30 for not spayed/neutered. If licence fees are paid after January 31, the cost is \$25 for spayed/neutered and \$35 for not spayed/neutered.
- **Parksville library** - reminder the Parksville branch of the Vancouver Island Regional Library remains closed for renovations until February 7.
- **Residential family water rates** - Large families with five or more immediate family members consisting of parents and dependent children less than 18 years of age may qualify for modified water rates. Application deadline is February 27 at 4 pm. Information and application forms may be obtained from City Hall and from the City's website *[Residents/Utility Billing]*.



City Dates

January 17	Coffee with Mayor
January 21	Council Meeting
January 21	Open Practice – Fire Department
February 4	Council Meeting
February 7	Coffee with Mayor
February 18	Family Day Statutory Holiday
February 20	Council Meeting
February 21	Coffee with Mayor
March 4	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.

How To Reach Council

MAYOR
Ed Mayne.....250 954-4661

COUNCILLORS
Mark Chandler.....250 951-6651
Adam Fras.....250 228-3727
Al Greir250 248-1285
Doug O'Brien250 954-2327
Teresa Patterson.....250 954-9488
Marilyn Wilson250 954-3060

council@parksville.ca

City Hall, 100 Jensen Avenue East

P O Box 1390, Parksville V9P 2H3

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pinterest.com/cityparksville

It's Your City is published in the PQB News on the third Tuesday of the month with a copy on the City's website. We welcome your comments. 250 954-3073 or communications@parksville.ca.