

# It's Your City!

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## City Delivers Balanced Budget, Penalty Date Extended

At the May 3 meeting, Council formally adopted the 2021-2025 financial plan bylaw and extended the property tax penalty for late payments to October 1 from July 3. This provides support to Parkville taxpayers who may be financially impacted by COVID-19.

The City's 2021 budget delivers a balanced budget for the 2021 financial year and established the 2021 property tax increase. Council set the overall property tax increase for 2021 at 3.5% for all classes except Class 5 Light Industry which was set at 10.8% to bring this rate in line with the business property class rate. Of the 3.5% increase for 2021, Council directed that .5% be set aside into a capital reserve for future capital replacements.

The property tax rate increase will increase the municipal portion of the property taxes by about \$56 from 2020 for the average priced residential property. For the average residential property, the RDN wastewater charge will increase by about \$3 and the Regional Hospital District tax will increase by \$26 (34%). The RDN's taxes will decrease by \$11. The school tax decreased by about \$8.

The consolidated expenditure budget of \$43.9 million includes capital expenditures of \$19.6 million. This plan sets out the financial requirements which enable City departments to carry out approved projects in 2021. The plan may be viewed on the City's website [[Quicklinks/Reports/Financial Plans](#)].

## More Than Ever...

More than ever, with the introduction of quickly spreading variants, it is important to know the risks to protect yourself and others. The pandemic is impacting us all in so many ways as we navigate the road to recovery and a new normal.

By continuing to stay close to home, we are giving ourselves the best chance to enjoy this summer and be in a place where we can put the pandemic behind us. Avoiding non-essential travel within our region and staying local means we are not going to and from COVID hotspots and inadvertently bringing the virus along with us. We can enjoy the warmer weather outdoors at local beaches and parks, just closer to home. Thank you for keeping us safe and doing your part to limit the spread of COVID-19.

### COVID-19 Vaccinations

Residents who wish to receive the COVID vaccine are encouraged to register online. Your confirmation number will be used to book an appointment when eligible. Please refer to Island Health's website for information or call 1 833 838-2323 to book an appointment. [Gov.bc.ca/getvaccinated](http://Gov.bc.ca/getvaccinated)

## Members for Advisory Technical Working Group

### Parkville Aquatic and Recreation Centre Project

We are seeking qualified individuals to apply for consideration of appointment to the Advisory Technical Working Group to assist the public and Council with the review of complex reports on the condition of the proposed location of a new aquatic and community recreation centre. The group will review technical aspects of the design, construction and operation of the project and provide neutral expert advice on the recommendations contained in the consultant reports.

Applications should be sent to Administration, PO Box 1390, 100 Jensen Avenue East, Parkville V9P 2H3, or by email to [administration@parkville.ca](mailto:administration@parkville.ca). Please include relevant background information. Applications will be received until 3 pm, May 28. Terms of reference for the working group may be viewed on the City's website.

## New Four-way Stop Despard and Moilliet

Last week, a four-way stop was installed at the corner of Despard Avenue and Moilliet Street. Traffic flow at this intersection will change for both vehicles and pedestrians and signage will be installed at the intersection indicating the new traffic pattern. The installation of the four-way stop was directed by Council through resolution with pedestrian safety top of mind for members of Council. City staff will monitor the four-way stop over the next six months and provide a report to Council in the fall.

## Non-native Species

Invasive plant species are concerning to the City. Many invasive plant species thrive in our mild climate and can displace our native species. Since 2015, Council has funded a budget for the control of invasive plants in our community, primarily focusing on Japanese Knotweed and Giant Hogweed. If you know of locations of these plants within the City, please contact the Coastal ISC regional hotline at 1 844 298-2532.

## THINGS TO KNOW...

### New Homeowner Grant Process

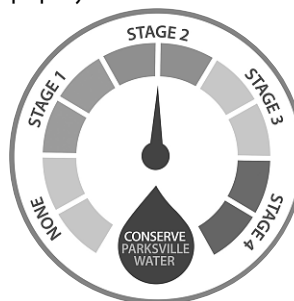
Homeowner grants must now be submitted directly to the provincial government through an online application. The new system helps ensure homeowners receive their full grant entitlement, including the additional grant for seniors or persons with a disability. Current year and retroactive grants are now being accepted online; however, the application will not be processed until taxes are levied in May. Information about this change [gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant](http://gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant) or by phone 1 888 355-2700. Property tax notices will be mailed the last week in May.

### Permissive Tax Exemptions

Under the provisions of the *Community Charter*, Council may exempt land and/or improvements from municipal property taxes for the next calendar year, subject to certain requirements which in general, restrict exemption to non-profit organizations using the lands for specific non-profit purposes. Application deadline is noon, June 30. Details, form and policy may be obtained from City Hall or from the website [[City Hall/Mayor and Council/Permissive Tax Exemptions](#)].

### Water Restriction Stage 2

Stage 2 watering restrictions are now in effect through September 30 (unless otherwise notified). Stage 2 allows for every other day lawn watering between 7 and 10 am or 7 and 10 pm for a maximum of two hours. Please note vegetable gardens and fruit trees are exempt from all watering restrictions. Information was mailed to residents with utility notices in March. Please direct questions to 250 248-5412 or [ops@parkville.ca](mailto:ops@parkville.ca). [[Quicklinks/Water Conservation](#)].



## Services During Covid-19

The finance department is open Monday to Friday, 9 am to noon and 1 pm to 3 pm to accept property tax, utility, tickets/licence fee payments and purchase bus passes, dog licences and building permits. All other business by appointment and walk-in services not available. Please access services electronically. Info on payment options on our website. Phone 250 248-6144 or refer to website to book appointment.

## City Dates

May 17	Council Meeting
May 24	Victoria Day Holiday (offices closed)
June 3	Parks and Open Spaces
June 7	Council Meeting
June 21	Council Meeting
July 1	Canada Day (offices closed)

## How to Reach Council

MAYOR		<a href="mailto:council@parkville.ca">council@parkville.ca</a>
Ed Mayne	250 954-4661	100 Jensen Avenue East PO Box 1390 Parkville V9P 2H3
COUNCILLORS		
Mark Chandler	250 951-6651	
Adam Fras	250 228-3727	
Al Greir	250 248-1285	<a href="http://parkville.ca">parkville.ca</a>
Doug O'Brien	250 954-2327	Comments welcome.
Teresa Patterson	250 954-9488	250 954-3073
Marilyn Wilson	250 954-3060	<a href="mailto:info@parkville.ca">info@parkville.ca</a>