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BC'S RESTART: A PLAN TO BRING US BACK TOGETHER

In late May, the province laid out a four-step reopening plan that could see us slowly return to normal as the number of vaccinations rise and the number of cases drop. While these are approximate dates, the plan will be guided by data, not dates, and will not proceed to the next step until it is safe to do so based on guidance from public health and the latest available data. Thank you for continuing to do your part to help stop the spread of COVID-19. If we stay the course, we can resume much needed visits with friends and family and support a strong economic recovery for our province.

For now, outdoor social gatherings are limited to ten. Indoor social gatherings with up to five visitors or one other household are allowed. In terms of organized gatherings, indoor up to ten people seated or 50 people seated outdoors (with a COVID safety plan in place) is allowed. Current non-essential travel restrictions between the three health regions continue. Sports teams can play games outside and restaurant dining can now occur indoors in groups of six. Step 2 is tentatively scheduled to begin June 15 (at the earliest), once 65% of BC is vaccinated and if hospitalizations continue to drop. Please refer to the government's restart program for details.

CITY SERVICES

Property Taxes due July 2

If you do not receive your 2021 tax notice by June 8, phone 250 248-6144. Late payment penalties will not be applied immediately after the due date; 10% penalty will be applied on October 1, 2021, to current year property taxes outstanding and unclaimed home owner grants as of September 30, 2021. When making a payment at a bank or through online banking, allow a minimum of two business days for bank processing time.

New Home Owner Grant Application Process

The province has changed the home owner grant application process and starting with 2021 property taxes, municipalities no longer accept home owner grant applications. All eligible homeowners can now apply for their home owner grant with the province. Property owners will need their property tax notice or assessment notice to apply.

- Online at gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant - for all grants
- By telephone using automated self-service system at **1 888 355-2700 (option 3)** for regular and senior grants (available 24 hours per day)
- By telephone with help from an agent at **1 888 355-2700** (Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 5 pm)

To complete the home owner grant application, you will need:

- Jurisdiction number for the City of Parksville: 559
- Roll number as shown on property tax notice or BC Assessment notice of assessment
- Social insurance number of property owner

Program eligibility is unchanged; however, to avoid penalties and interest, apply before September 30, 2021. A payment is not required to claim the grant. Property owners can request help from a family member or friend to assist with the application. You will be able to check the status of your application by using your application confirmation number.

2020 Annual Report

The City's annual report will be available for review on our website [Quicklinks/Reports] on June 21 and will be formally presented to Council on July 5. Residents may send comments to council@parksville.ca.

Water Restrictions Stage 2

In place 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. Vegetable gardens and fruit trees are exempt from all watering restrictions. Please direct questions to 250 248-5412 or ops@parksville.ca. [Quicklinks/Water Conservation]

No Open Burning or Fireworks

Parksville Fire Rescue wishes to remind residents of the Parksville Fire Protection Area that all open burning and outdoor fires, excluding cooking fires, are prohibited at this time. The department also wishes to remind residents beach fires in the Parksville Qualicum Wildlife Management are always prohibited by provincial legislation. At this time, campfires are allowed. **Fireworks are prohibited** in the City as is the sale of any type of fireworks. Please report beach fires to the RAPP line at 1 877 952-7277 and fireworks should be reported to the RCMP.

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].

Boulevard and Sidewalk Maintenance

Well maintained boulevards add character to neighbourhoods and enhance community pride. Residents, property owners and business operators are responsible for the maintenance and care of the City boulevard next to their property. This includes cutting the grass, trimming hedges and shrubs and keeping clear of weeds and litter.

The boulevard is the area between your property line and the street curb or shoulder which may or may not include a sidewalk. In the bylaw, "boulevard" means the area of a highway between the edge of pavement, sidewalk, and/or curb of the roadway and the adjacent property line but excludes a sidewalk.

As detailed in the City's Traffic Bylaw No. 1436, in keeping with a reasonable standard of maintenance, property owners must maintain the boulevard adjoining their property:

- Keep grassed areas trimmed and free of all weeds
- Trim and maintain all plantings
- Remove all filth, leaves, rubbish, discarded materials, hazardous objects and materials from boulevards and sidewalks

Please note, failure to maintain boulevards may result in enforcement action from City bylaw officers. Questions should be directed to bylaw compliance at bylaw@parksville.ca.

Services During Covid-19

Until June 21, the finance department is open Monday to Friday, 9 am to noon and 1 pm to 3 pm to accept payments and purchase bus passes, licences and permits with all other business by appointment. On June 21, City offices will fully reopen to the public with regular pre-COVID hours of operation. Please refer to the website for details.

City Dates

June 21	Council Meeting
July 1	Canada Day (offices closed)
July 2	Property Taxes Due
July 5	Council Meeting
July 19	Council Meeting

How to Reach Council

MAYOR		council@parksville.ca
Ed Mayne	250 954-4661	100 Jensen Avenue East PO Box 1390 Parksville V9P 2H3
COUNCILLORS		
Mark Chandler	250 951-6651	
Adam Fras	250 228-3727	
Al Greir	250 248-1285	parksville.ca
Doug O'Brien	250 954-2327	Comments welcome.
Teresa Patterson	250 954-9488	250 954-3073
Marilyn Wilson	250 954-3060	info@parksville.ca