



CAO Report - April 3, 2023

I am proud to report our Finance Team has received an award through *The Canadian Award for Financial Reporting Program* in the production of our annual financial report. The Program was established to encourage municipal governments throughout Canada to publish high-quality financial reports and to provide peer recognition and technical guidance for officials preparing these reports. The annual financial report was judged by a group of impartial Canadian Review Committee members to meet the high standards of the program, including the ability of the report to clearly communicate the municipality's financial story and to motivate potential users and user groups to read the report. I am proud of our financial team, and this award demonstrates excellence in the performance of their duties.

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...And on the theme of awards I would like to acknowledge some big awards to members of our own Fire Department. First, I am very proud to have our auxiliary fire fighters selected as this year's Mayor Awards recipients – they are true professionals, and they demonstrate the highest level of public service each day in their work, often putting themselves at risk to help other community members. Second, I would like to congratulate our own Fire Chief Rob Robinson on team BC winning the Gold medal at the Canadian Fire Fighters Curling Association championships in PEI this year. Known as "Robbie" Robinson to his teammates, pictures of Robbie and his team basking in the glory of their win can be viewed at the association's website at <https://cffca.ca>. Congrats to our fire department on these awards!

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Residents are encouraged to mark their calendars for Earth Week which will take place this month from 17-23. Our theme focuses on the impacts of climate change on our food systems, with local events including the Earth Day Fair on Saturday, April 22 and a planting event on Sunday, April 23 at Peach Orchard Park at the boat launch. If you take part in the planting this year, please bring a shovel and a reusable water bottle – OASISS will be providing gardening gloves as well! In collaboration with First Things First Okanagan, a Deep Dive panel discussion on food security and resilience will be happening virtually over Zoom, or the film screening of 'First We Eat' at the Centre Stage Theatre. Student-made bookmarks will be given out for free, designed around the earth week theme, students from Summerland Middle School will be touring the landfill and organics facility, and a display of specially selected books on the theme of Food Security will be at the Summerland Branch Library. Its free fun for the whole family so please check out our Earth Week celebrations, and visit the Earth Week webpage ([www.summerland.ca/earthweek](http://www.summerland.ca/earthweek)) for event details.

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Well, there is no better sign of spring than seeing the street sweepers out on our local roads! We have begun our sweeping program which will continue through the month, followed by line and crosswalk painting, and of course the eagerly anticipated filling of pot holes by our crews. We have quite a bit of road maintenance planned for this year, plus some major project like the paving of Giants Head Road. In fact, we currently are

targeting to have the first stretch of the road paved next week, from Harris to Gartrell, starting right after the long weekend on the 11<sup>th</sup> and finishing up by the end of the week. The next stretch from Gartrell to Hillborn will be paved once we finish up the remaining sub-surface infrastructure there. We are also starting a new program this year for crack filling and patching for the community. What this all means is more time on our roads for our crews so I would like to thank residents for their caution driving when our staff are working on the roadway.

Respectfully submitted,  
Graham Statt, Chief Administrative Officer