



# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

## District of Summerland – February 6, 2024

**Delegation – Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen (RDOS)** – Representatives from the RDOS presented the proposed requisition for Summerland. Overall, The District of Summerland will collect \$1,082,818 in taxes for the RDOS, which is an increase of \$138,112 over 2023 for a 14.62% increase over last year’s requisition.

**Delegation – Okanagan Nation Alliance** – Council was given an update on the restoration work on Trout Creek just east of the canyon. The work restores a more natural flood plain, allowing room for the watercourse in times of natural high-water levels. The installation of riffles and pools have also created areas where fish can rest. Salmon have now resumed spawning in this area which was formerly heavily channelized.

**2024-2028 Financial Plan Bylaw** – Council provided the first three readings to the bylaw which outlined the proposed tax changes, further to the January 17 budget open house. If adopted, the net impact to a residential home including utilities is as follows:

NET FINANCIAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED BUDGET (RESIDENTIAL) (based on a 2024 Assessment of \$944,156)				
	2023	2024 (proposed)	Net change (annual)	Net change (monthly)
Property Tax (municipal only) – <b>5.38%</b>	\$ 1,870	\$ 1,998	\$ 128	\$ 10.64
Garbage & Recycling Rates – <b>4.80%</b>	219	230	11	0.88
Water Rates – <b>6.78%</b>	915	977	62	5.17
Sewer Rates – <b>0.00%</b>	441	441	0	0.00
Electrical Rates – <b>3.00%</b>	1,711	1,762	51	4.28
<b>Overall</b>	<b>\$ 5,156</b>	<b>\$ 5,408</b>	<b>\$ 252</b>	<b>\$ 20.97</b>

**Council Strategic Priorities** – In the afternoon meeting Council received a detailed updated on the notable progress made in 2023 including the official opening of Giants Head Road, and the commissioning of the Solar and Battery Storage facility, and the Organics Facility. In the evening meeting, Council directed that some changes be made to bundle certain priorities and timelines, such as accelerating Council’s Residential Infill

Housing Priority to align with provincial legislative requirements on housing. Other priorities had their timelines slowed to accommodate the work such as deferring the sale of the Eco-Village lands until fall of 2024.

**Homeless Needs in Summerland** – Council received a letter from the Summerland Food Bank which advocates for better and more supports for the unhoused community. Council directed staff to prepare a letter to the provincial authorities which indicates that there is concern in the community about homelessness, and to inquire how the province addresses homelessness in comparable communities.

**Residential Waste Collection** – Council heard that more than 75% of BC residents have a residential food waste program and that more than 85% of that group is on every two-week collection for regular garbage. It is anticipated that as much as 40% of household waste can be directed to the new organics facility, which extends the life of the landfill, and reduces methane gas which, as a greenhouse gas, is far more potent compared to carbon dioxide. Council heard that an added benefit of the program is a doubling of the frequency of yard waste collection for residents. Council directed that starting April 2 the program be rolled out to collect organic waste in the green bin each week, with regular garbage (grey bin) being collected every two weeks.

**Alberta’s Anti-Free Trade Actions Against BC Wineries** – Council expressed deep concern with the actions of the Alberta government, which appear to target the BC wine industry by prohibiting direct shipping to Alberta customers. Council directed that staff prepare a letter to The Alberta Gaming, Liquor and Cannabis Commission asking that they cease and desist from this course of action.

**Note:** These highlights are intended to provide a brief summary of recent Council proceedings. The summary is not inclusive of all agenda items. For a detailed account of the full agenda, including staff reports, other supporting documents and official meeting minutes, please consult the District of Summerland website at <https://www.summerland.ca> or contact Corporate Services at 250-404-4037.



13211 Henry Ave, Box 159  
Summerland BC V0H 1Z0  
Tel: 250-494-6451 Fax: 250-494-1415  
[www.summerland.ca](http://www.summerland.ca)