



## Legalization of Cannabis (Marijuana)

Many residents do not yet realize that the federal government intends to legalize the use of cannabis in 2018. Legislation is being developed by all levels of government. There will be much more information coming and the District will continue to inform the public as this information becomes available. Residents will have the opportunity to provide their input and ask questions.

### Did You Know?

#### Retail Sales & Personal Use

- Cannabis, also referred to as marijuana, weed or pot, refers to any product made from the leaves and flowers of the cannabis plant. Cannabis can be smoked like a cigarette or in a pipe, used with a vaporizer, or added to food or drinks. Dried and fresh cannabis, cannabis oils, and seeds and plants for personal cultivation will be legal for purchase.
- Adults 19 years or older will be able to purchase up to 30 grams of cannabis for their own use or to share with other adults.
- Individuals will be able to purchase cannabis from a provincially licensed retailer. This means there will be private run and government operated retail stores and government online sales. Operating rules will be similar to liquor sales.
- Municipalities will be able to regulate and restrict the location of retail stores. The District will be seeking input from the community before Mayor and Council consider the options available for regulation.
- Public consumption of cannabis will be regulated the same way tobacco and vaping are. Municipalities will implement these regulations through bylaw amendments. Consideration will include consumption in public spaces, near schools, etc.
- Landlords and strata councils will be able to restrict or prohibit cannabis smoking and vaping at tenanted or strata properties.
- The federal government has stated that individuals will be able to grow up to four (4) cannabis plants per household for personal use from licensed seed or seedlings. The province may put in further restrictions around the number of plants, as well as around public visibility, security requirements and administrative penalties.
- A new 90 day administrative driving prohibition is being created. Use of cannabis in vehicles is banned for all occupants. Additionally there is a zero-tolerance for drivers in the graduated licensing program.

#### Large Production Facilities/Growing

- The District is responsible for determining zoning regulations for the production of cannabis. The Federal Government is developing the rules regarding licensing for large production facilities. Questions to consider include items such as where, and if, such facilities be allowed.
- Operations currently producing cannabis may not be allowed to continue once Federal licensing regulations are finalized, however municipalities and RCMP have not yet received clear direction.
- The Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) has identified cannabis as an agricultural crop and is reviewing the policies and allowances around production (growing). This is a topic receiving a great deal of attention. More information is expected soon.

### Who is Responsible for What?

Cannabis legalization is a complex issue involving all levels of government. A breakdown of responsibilities is shown below:

#### Canadian Government

Personal Cultivation/Growing  
 Medical Cannabis  
 Possession Limits  
 Impaired Driving  
 Production  
 Public Health · Education  
 Taxation · Home Cultivation  
 Regulatory Compliances  
 New Criminal Offences

#### B.C. Government

Possession limits  
 Impaired Driving · Public Health  
 Education · Taxation  
 Workplace Safety  
 Distribution · Retail Model  
 Retail Locations and Rules  
 Regulatory Compliance  
 Public Consumption  
 Home Cultivation · Age Limit

#### Municipality

Retail Sales Locations and  
 Regulations · Business Licences  
 Land Use and Zoning  
 Home Cultivation · Enforcement  
 Public Consumption  
 Number of Stores  
 Store Location  
 Hours of Operation  
 Security Requirements

### Give Us Your Feedback

Over the next two months the District of Summerland will be gathering input from the community before making decisions surrounding the sale and production of cannabis. The District will be sharing information to keep everyone informed. There will be many ways for residents to stay informed and provide input. Please watch Summerland's newsletter, website ([www.summerland.ca](http://www.summerland.ca)), and Facebook for information regarding upcoming open houses and surveys.

**Information Open Houses will be scheduled in the upcoming weeks.**

## Curbside Collection Carts

As of July 1, 2018, Summerland households that currently receive curbside collection will change to carts rather than bags. Many residents have already come to Municipal Hall and the Arena to see the sample carts on display, and staff have also received a number of calls and emails with questions or comments about the program. Thank you to everyone for your feedback and ideas!

A full list of Frequently Asked Questions are posted on [www.summerland.ca/carts](http://www.summerland.ca/carts)

To discuss your questions or comments about the cart program, please contact 250.486.3765 or email [carts@summerland.ca](mailto:carts@summerland.ca) \*Please note that due to an email server glitch, some emailed questions were not received by the District. If you sent an email and have not had a response, please resend your email and staff will attend to it right away. Thank you for your patience and apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused.

## SPRING REMINDERS

**Irrigation services will be turned on starting the week of Monday, April 16.** Call Works and Utilities 250.494.0431 if you have any questions.

**Canyon View Cemetery spring maintenance will commence May 1.** Crews will be cleaning up and removing offerings such as expired flowers and ornaments that do not meet the requirements of the Cemetery Bylaw. Please call Works and Utilities with inquiries 250-494-0431, email [works@summerland.ca](mailto:works@summerland.ca), or visit [www.summerland.ca](http://www.summerland.ca) for complete guidelines and to view the Bylaw.

**Giants Head Park and College Road will be open to vehicular traffic April 15.**

The temporary period that **dogs can be off leash at Peach Orchard Park will come to an end April 30.**

**Open burning season ends April 15.**

**Street sweeping is underway.** If you see or hear the sweeper in your area, please give us a helping hand by moving your vehicle if it is parked on the street.

The **Sani-Station** located at the Trout Creek Pullout is now open. A \$10.00 fee is payable by credit card.

A reminder that all loads being taken to the **Landfill** must be **secured and covered** to avoid additional tipping fees.

## Snow Pack Levels are High—Be Prepared

Snow course survey data is retrieved every month from the beginning of the year until no snow remains. The April 1 survey showed both Headwaters and Isintok reservoir locations at 159% of historical average. This increase could impact local creeks/streams so residents should be prepared.

Each year following the irrigation season, the District lowers the reservoir level to predetermined levels to provide available storage volume to accommodate the coming freshet in the spring. The most significant factor during freshet is the speed at which the snow melts which can increase with significant rainfall. Unfortunately it is very difficult to predict. The District regularly monitors and maintains activities of the dams and meet routinely to decide if adjustments to the outlet flow are required to compensate for the expected volume of incoming water.

Residents living near creeks/streams that could be impacted by flooding should be proactive and take the necessary precautions. Sandbags are available at the Fire Department.

## Celebrate Earth Week in Summerland!

**April 16-22, 2018**

Join the District in celebrating Earth Week and do your spring cleaning all at once! From beach cleanups to tours, to an art supply sale, there's something for everyone! Events are ongoing throughout the week, and include:

**April 20, 3pm: New Cycling Hub Unveiling.** A new cycling routes map display and bicycle repair station will be unveiled at Memorial Park.

**April 21, 10am-3pm: Recycling Roundup.** Bring your **household hazardous waste** and **other depot-only recyclables** to the Summerland Arena for FREE. Accepted materials include lightbulbs, household chemicals such as pool cleaners or bleach, used oil and antifreeze, paints, electronics, glass, styrofoam, plastic wrap, smoke detectors, and small appliances.

**April 22, 10am-12pm: Earth Day Celebration.** FREE family celebration to enhance the natural creekside habitat in the Adams Bird Sanctuary. Planting, display booths and more.

Go to [www.summerland.ca/earthweek](http://www.summerland.ca/earthweek) or call 250.404.4068 for more information about these and all of the other exciting 2018 Earth Week events!

## Summerland's Solar+Storage Project is Shining Bright!

The District of Summerland has received conditional approval for \$6,000,000 in funding to support the development of a 1MW solar array with 2MW of battery storage as part of the Summerland Integrated Solar Project. By generating energy locally Summerland will strengthen its existing utility resource, enhance the local economy and create jobs, increase energy security and independence, support innovation, and attract new residents and visitors. Choosing a site is the next major milestone in the solar+storage project and will allow more detailed technical and financial studies to be completed. Community consultations on available options and their respective benefits will take place over the summer. Staff are also continuing work on developing recommendations to Council regarding updates to the District's Net Metering program for those who wish to have solar on their properties. These updates will reduce the time required to start net metering and will help clarify what customers can expect when they start generating their own energy.

Information about upcoming public consultation events and education workshops will be announced as they are scheduled. If you'd like to be kept informed about those events and other updates to the solar project, please write [climate.action@summerland.ca](mailto:climate.action@summerland.ca) to be added to the solar energy email list.

## Utility Bill Equal Payment Plan

If you are currently on the utility bill equal payment plan, the April billing period (due May 29) is the reconciliation month. The total amount due on your April invoice will reflect the difference between the actual utility charges for the year, less monthly instalments paid. If the total payments made were higher than your usage charges, a credit will show on your account (- negative amount) and will carry over onto next month's bill. Next month's statement will reflect your new recalculated equal payment amount.

To apply for the Utility Equal Payment Plan, complete an application at Municipal Hall by May 15. You must have lived in the residence for a minimum of 12 months and payments must be set up to be automatically withdrawn from your bank account.