



### Message from Mayor and Council

The Mayor's Award of Excellence is given out by the mayor of the day to recognize a local group's outstanding contribution to the community. This year's recipients are the Summerland Auxiliary Firefighters.

Currently we have 29 on-call auxiliary firefighters, all of whom have regular jobs in the community like tradespersons, orchardists, school teachers, and municipal employees.

Auxiliary Firefighters can be called out to an emergency at any time, day or night, and their work is strenuous and often performed in hazardous conditions. They are a special group of people who provide an invaluable service to the community.

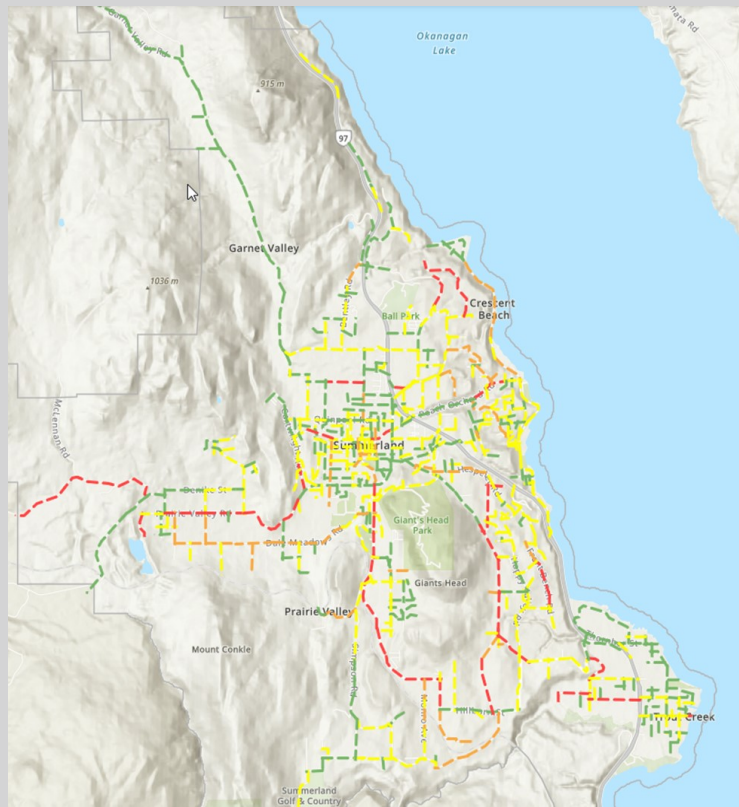
The award was announced by Mayor Holmes at the Business and Community Excellence Awards hosted by the Chamber of Commerce on April 1, and five of the auxiliaries were in attendance and able to take to the stage to accept the honour on behalf of their colleagues.

Congratulations to **Captains:** Dave Chuback, Martin Austin, Ricky Leardo and Mervin Minty; **Lieutenants:** Billy Boerboom, Mike Fetterer, Dale Hooper and John Gove **Firefighters:** Allana Gould, Russ Sieben, Graeme Cooper, Kevin Bond, Steve Edwards, Anthony Leardo, Steven Hacking, Steve Almas, Dustin Chadburn, Jake McAstocker, Jesse Murphy, Jeremy Storvold, Travis Lorencz, Jesse Coffey, Mitchell Gove, Colin Kennedy, Ben Lewis, Andrew Rolston, Cameron Nymeyer, Bailey Burdick and Matt Dykstra.

~ Mayor Doug Holmes

### Roads and Water Master Plan

The Roads and Water Integrated 20 Year Asset Management Plan is now complete. The interactive story map at will be available mid-May at [www.summerland.ca](http://www.summerland.ca). This tool will allow you to view the current assessment of all watermains and roads within the District as well as future priority projects within the District.



### 2023 Grant-in-Aid Recipients

The District's annual Grant-in-Aid process opened in early fall of 2022, with all 2023 applications due by October 31st, 2022. In total, the District received 19 Grant-in-aid applications. The District of Summerland's Grant in Aid Policy No. 200.5 outlines the criteria applicants must meet, which include registration as a not-for-profit or charity. Funding requests can be defined as events with local significance, projects or programs that support, sustain, promote, inform, educate, celebrate, preserve, and/or provide access to the arts, culture, environment, heritage, recreation and/or health activities.

Council is pleased to support these organizations and recognizes their volunteers for their commitment in providing beneficial programs and services to the community.

The District of Summerland Council is pleased to support 17 organizations with Grant-in-Aid funding for 2023. The approved 2023 Financial Plan includes a Grant-in-Aid budget of \$73,919. To view the list of recipients, please visit the District website <https://www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/press-releases>.

### Parks, fields and public washrooms

Kick off to spring in our parks is here. The sports fields, parks gates and outdoor washrooms (Powell Beach, Memorial Park, Dale Meadows) are now open. Please note that Peach Orchard Beach and Rotary Beach washrooms are closed for renovations (funded through a Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program grant) and are targeted to open in June. Portable toilets have been placed at these beaches until the washroom renovations are completed. Giant's Head Mountain gate is open for vehicle traffic 12:00 noon to 9:00 PM Monday to Saturday, closed on Sundays.

### Utility bill equal payment plan

If you are on the utility bill equal payment plan, April is reconciliation month (due date May 29). Residents wanting to be on the utility equal payment plan have until May 15 to apply. To request an application, contact (250) 404-4047 or email [utilities@summerland.ca](mailto:utilities@summerland.ca).

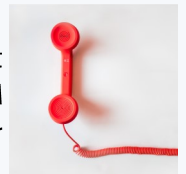
All residents applying to be on the **pre-authorized payment plan** require a "VOID" cheque or customer account information from your financial institution to be included with your application.

### Signage

Please be reminded that the District of Summerland does not permit permanent or temporary signs to be placed in the roundabouts, on power poles or light standards or anywhere within highway rights-of-way, unless expressly permitted in Sign Bylaw No. 2022-026. The District may remove and take away any sign on District road rights-of-way that is in contravention with this Bylaw.

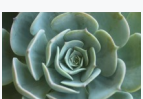
### After hours emergency

An after hours emergency means an emergency that occurs between the hours of 3:30 PM and 7:00 AM Monday to Friday, any time on the **weekends** or **Statutory holidays** relating to water, sewer, roads, parks or electrical utility. If you have an after hours emergency, contact our **Answering Service** at **250-493-0005**. Please note that **overtime charges may apply if the emergency is deemed to be on your property.**



### Agriculture water consumption data

In order to provide agricultural water users with timely data, the District posts monthly consumption reports on the website [www.summerland.ca](http://www.summerland.ca). Click on City Services - Water - Agricultural Water to access the consumption reports. Search by meter number using **Ctrl + f** and enter your meter number in the search box. If users prefer to monitor consumption manually, please take note of the meter read (indicated in the recent letter sent) and check the meter yourself to make sure the 800mm allotment is not exceeded. If you require assistance, please call the Meter Tech/Clerk at (250) 404-4038.



"You will face many defeats in life, but never let yourself be defeated."

~Maya Angelou

## Property tax notices

Property tax notices will be mailed out by the end of May. Property taxes are **due no later than 4:00 PM, Friday, July 7, 2023**. Contact Municipal Hall (250) 494-6451 or email [propertytaxes@summerland.ca](mailto:propertytaxes@summerland.ca) if you have not received your notice by early June.

## Home Owner Grant applications and tax deferrals

A reminder that the Province of BC manages both the Home Owner Grant (HOG) and Tax Deferral programs.

### Homeowners are unable to apply for these programs at Municipal Hall.

To avoid penalties and interest, homeowners need to apply for their HOG directly to the Province using an online system prior to the property tax deadline of **July 7, 2023**. For homeowners that do not have a computer or would prefer to apply over the phone, please call the Province's toll free number **1-888-355-2700**.

For more information or to learn more about the Home Owner Grant program, please visit the Province's website at [gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant](http://gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant) For details or to learn more about the Tax Deferral program, please visit the Province's website at [gov.bc.ca/propertytaxdeferral](http://gov.bc.ca/propertytaxdeferral).

## Plant smart, stay safe

If you have a power line on or near your property, it doesn't mean you can't plant trees. The safest bet is to plan ahead so trees won't interfere with power lines no matter how tall they grow. Here are a few guidelines that will help you ensure your trees won't grow into hazardous trees.

- Trees planted closer than 7.5 metres should be low-growing varieties.
- Nothing should be planted closer than 5 metres from the base of a power pole.
- If you have a secondary line connecting your home to a power line, avoid planting trees that will grow into the line. If you don't see a secondary line connected to your house, your secondary line is underground.
- Call BCOneCall at 1-800-474-6886 or email [info@bc1c.ca](mailto:info@bc1c.ca) at least three working days before planting. Once the utility lines are marked, remember to carefully dig around lines with hand tools.

## Good practice to get prepared

Unplanned power outages can happen anytime and are often caused by freezing rain, sleet storms, high winds, animals and motor vehicle incidents. During a power outage, you may be left without heating/air conditioning, lighting, hot water, or even running water. You may also be left without phone or internet service. If you do not have a battery-powered or crank radio, you may have no way of monitoring news broadcasts. In other words, you could be facing major challenges.

In order to maintain a resilient community, you and your family should be prepared to cope on your own during a power outage for **at least 3 days**.

Having your home emergency kit stocked and ready will ensure you are prepared for power outages.

Learn more: <http://ow.ly/gcDs30pxNdx> #BCStorm



## Spring bulbs are flowering

Watch for the many different species of spring flowering bulbs around Summerland.

The Hyacinth 'Hollyhock' pictured here is flowering now at Municipal Hall.



## Keep up to date

The District posts community updates to our website and Facebook account. Council meetings can be viewed on the District's YouTube channel [www.youtube.com/c/DistrictofSummerland](http://www.youtube.com/c/DistrictofSummerland)

website: [summerland.ca](http://summerland.ca)

Facebook: [facebook.com/SummerlandBC](https://facebook.com/SummerlandBC)

Sign up for our monthly newsletter online:

[www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/newsletter-subscribe](http://www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/newsletter-subscribe)

## ParticipACTION Community Challenge

Summerland let's win \$100,000! Join the ParticipACTION Community Better Challenge from June 1-30, 2023. Track your physical activity minutes on the ParticipACTION app or website <https://www.participaction.com/programs/community-challenge/>.

Join us for our kick off event at Giant's Head Run on Saturday, June 3.



## Be bear smart

Garbage, bird feeders and tree fruits can attract bears to your yard and neighbourhood. Once a bear becomes used to human food sources it becomes habituated, usually resulting in the bear being destroyed. It is important to keep wildlife wild and communities safe.



### Tips to prevent attracting bears to your property:

**Garbage** - properly secure your garbage and keep it indoors until pick-up or until you can bring it to the landfill. **Place your carts at the curb no earlier than 5:00 AM on your scheduled collection day.**

**Compost** - use finished compost, leaves, grass or wood chips to cover up fruit or other food waste in your composter. Properly care for your compost by turning it and layering it appropriately to reduce odours.

**Fruit Trees and Grapes** - make sure to harvest fruit immediately and remove all windfall fruit. If you own an orchard, electric fencing is encouraged.

**Pet food, Birdfeeders and Gardens** are all attractants for bears. Keep your pet food securely stored indoors. Bring your birdfeeders in for the summer, supplementing them with natural flowers and birdbaths.

**Barbeques** - everyone loves the smell of a good barbeque, bears included! To keep your barbeques safe, make sure that they are properly cleaned, covered and don't leave utensils out overnight.

You can report all wildlife encounters to the BC Conservation Officer Service RAPP Line at 1-877-952-7277 or visit [www.wildsafebc.com](http://www.wildsafebc.com) to learn more about how to protect the species around you.

Online registration at [www.runningroom.com](http://www.runningroom.com) or register in person at the Aquatic Centre

Registration **NOW OPEN!**

Recreational, Fun, Competitive & Family Friendly!  
**Saturday, June 3**

Race Starts at the Aquatic Centre at 6:00pm

Prizes & Awards Ceremony at 7:30pm



### REGISTRATION INCLUDES:

- T-Shirt (first 400 competitors)
- Free Swim
- Eligibility for draw prizes
- Ribbons for all children 7 & under

Early Bird Registration  
March 3-May 28  
Youth (under 19):  
\$20.00  
Adult (19+):  
\$30.00  
Family Rate:  
\$75.00



For more information call 250-494-0447

District of Summerland: Box 159, 13211 Henry Avenue Summerland, BC V0H 1Z0 Phone: (250) 494-6451 Fax: (250) 494-1415

website: [www.summerland.ca](http://www.summerland.ca) email: [info@summerland.ca](mailto:info@summerland.ca) [facebook.com/SummerlandBC](https://facebook.com/SummerlandBC)

Mayor: Doug Holmes Deputy Mayor: Erin Trainer Councillors: Richard Barkwill, Adrienne Betts, Doug Patan, Janet Peake, and Martin (Marty) Van Alphen