

13211 Henry Ave, Box 159 Summerland, BC V0H 1Z0 Phone 250-494-6451 www.summerland.ca

## **Media Release**

For Immediate Release DATE: January 17, 2023

## **Minister of Municipal Affairs Visits Summerland**

**SUMMERLAND** – On behalf of Council, Mayor Doug Holmes and Deputy Mayor Erin Trainer hosted Municipal Affairs Minister Anne Kang on a visit to the community on January 16, 2023. Following a lunch meeting, the Minister was taken on tour of downtown Summerland that included a first-hand look at the condition of the aging Aquatics Centre.

Key issues discussed included plans to hold a referendum for a new recreation centre and efforts to see a long-term solution for the delivery of primary care within the community. The Minister was thanked for making time to visit the community so early in her tenure; a welcome gesture considering how the busy schedules of Ministers have historically kept them close to Victoria to meet their legislative obligations.

The Minister highlighted the need for partnership and highlighted the Province's commitment to four key areas: attainable and affordable housing, safer communities, improved health care, and a sustainable, clean, secure, and fair economy.

"I want to thank Summerland Council, Mayor Doug Holmes and Deputy Mayor Erin Trainer for welcoming me to their community," said Anne Kang, Minister of Municipal Affairs. "I'm excited to continue building on our relationship and working together to make life even better for people who call Summerland home."

Other topics of discussion focused on Council's recently adopted strategic priorities, including aging water and road infrastructure, the need to maintain services within the community in an era of centralization, and affordable housing.

"We appreciate the partnership approach the Province is demonstrating, and we are committed to working together to ensure a sustainable, vibrant, and healthy Summerland," said Mayor Doug Holmes. "Our citizens expect their governments to collaborate, and today was a great example of that."

-30-

For further information/Media Contact/Contact Graham Statt Chief Administrative Officer 250-404-4043 gstatt@summerland.ca

Please see photos on attached pdf.

