



Media Release

For Immediate Release

DATE: November 4, 2025

Council proposes 6.32% annualized utility rate increase

SUMMERLAND – Mayor and Council have proposed an overall 6.32% rate increase for the District's water, sewer and electrical utilities, effective January 1, 2026.

The rate increase would see a typical single-family home in Summerland pay \$17.90 per month more for utilities than they did in 2025.

The proposed increases are broken down as follows:

Electrical – \$9.66 per month, or a 6.22% increase to the electrical budget with two of the main contributors being a 4.78% Fortis wholesale rate increase as well as a \$150,000 increase to the dividend paid to the general fund.

Water – \$5.97 per month, or a 6.77% increase to the water budget with the two main contributors being a 5.0% increase to annual asset management water reserve contributions and initial debt payments to fund Victoria Road water main replacements which requires 0.33% of the overall rate increase.

Sewer – \$2.27 per month, or a 5.73% increase to the sanitary sewer budget with the main contributor being a 3.5% increase to annual asset management sewer reserve contributions.

The three utility budgets were considered by Council at a committee-of-the-whole meeting on October 29, 2025, and will be presented to the public at an in-person Open House on Thursday, November 13, 2025, starting at 5:00 pm at the George Ryga Arts Centre. The Open House will include a formal presentation starting at 6:00 pm followed by a question-and-answer period.

Council will consider public feedback to the proposed budgets and debate utility rate bylaws at the December 2, 2025, regular council meeting.

Quote:

"It's a Council priority to invest in core infrastructure and the reserve contributions included in the proposed 2026 utility budgets will allow the District to continue with infrastructure renewal and provide reliable water, sewer and electrical services well into the future."

~ Mayor Doug Holmes

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