



## CAO Report – December 17, 2024

The temporary fencing has been taken down and the new permanent dog park is now installed at Peach Orchard Park! It is nice to have this permanent location sorted out after the many months of temporary fencing while planning and approvals with the province were being worked through. The new four-season washrooms at the base of Giants Head Park will also be open soon, which is another great addition to our park offerings in the District. These are in addition to the Giants Head trails improvements already underway, and the planning work associated with the Conkle Mountain and Cartwright Mountain trail networks. Other items of focus in Council's workplan include exciting changes to the entranceway of Memorial Park as part of the planned Wharton Street improvements, an updated playground at Peach Orchard Park, and capital improvements at the rodeo grounds. Taken together with things already completed like improvements to Julia Street Park, the joint effort with SD67 to rebuild the tennis courts, and the recently completed Summerland Pier rebuild, lots of good progress is being made towards recreational infrastructure and offerings in the District.

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2025 Summerland Free Fare Passes are NOW available to add to your UMO card or app. A 2025 pass is required for Summerland residents to continue accessing free fares on Route 30 for the year 2025. Stop by at Municipal Hall or the Aquatic Centre to get yours.

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Residents are encouraged to check out the "Community Updates" section of our website regarding various closures associated with our services and facilities during the Christmas holiday period. In particular, I would note that Municipal Hall will close on December 24 at 2pm, and the landfill will be closed December 25, 26 and January 1<sup>st</sup>. We also have some special holiday swim and skate schedules posted on pages 4 and 5 of the winter recreation guide if you are looking to do something with the family during the break. During the holiday break you can still report any afterhours service impacts or emergencies for water, sewer, electrical, roads or parks by calling 250-490-0005. Of course, if you are experiencing or need to report any police, fire or medical emergency, always call 911 for immediate assistance.

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Finally, as we turn our mind to the new year – just a reminder that we will be hosting a budget open house on January 15 from 5-7pm at the Summerland Arena and Banquet Room with a presentation

from our Director of Finance starting at 6pm. The Open House is an opportunity to learn about the priority projects planned for 2025 and how your tax dollars will be invested in the community in the areas of roads, parks and recreation, fire protection, policing. If you can make it, please come out and provide your feedback on the 2025 financial plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Graham Statt, Chief Administrative Officer