



CAO REPORT – January 23, 2023

As the Mayor noted, residents are encouraged to attend the budget open house on Thursday February 2, from 5-8pm at the Arena Banquet Room. That room is in the upstairs portion of the Arena. I wanted to share a few more details on what is planned for that evening.

From 5pm to 630pm there will be displays and informal discussions with Council and staff, with staff showcasing their departments with interesting materials, answering questions about programs and services, and talking about how the money allocated in the budget supports the work being done.

From 630pm to 730pm there will be formal presentation by David Svetlichny, our Director of Finance that will detail the budget recommendations and the proposed 2023 property tax revenue increase of 3.76%. I would note that the proposed 3.76% increase includes the 2.12% portion for Giants Heads Road improvements, which has already received approval from residents through the alternative approval process. The proposed operational budget increase is 1.64%.

To wrap up the evening, from 730pm to 8pm there will be opportunity for follow up questions and further interaction with staff and Council. We really would like to hear what input and ideas residents have about the budget, and on any other topic as well. Municipal finances can be complicated and overwhelming, so we are doing our best to help folks understand the operations and finances of the District of Summerland. Come on out if you can make it!

Also just a reminder that pets are required to have a license within the District. The due date to get a license is January 31 and the cost is \$50 for spayed/neutered animals and \$60 for un-spayed and un-neutered animals. Note also that there is a \$10 late fee.

Respectfully submitted,

Graham Statt, Chief Administrative Officer