



## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

### District of Summerland – August 29, 2023

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**Committee of the Whole** – Council received a detailed presentation from staff on the current progress being made on the 2023 capital plan valued at ~\$30M. Up to August 8 spending on projects was ~\$9M or roughly 30% which doubles the rate of progress compared to last year at this time. Council heard that projects are on track and that spending in the second part of the year will be higher given the time it takes to ramp up projects through competitive bids and mobilizing staff and contractor services.

**Delegation – Summerland Fall Fair Society** – Representatives thanked Council for the grant-in-aid support for this event, which has been progressing well in its reimagined format since 2018. Council heard that the event supports local businesses while also profiling our local producers. The main event will take place on September 9, in a proud tradition that spans all the way back to 1909.

**Delegation – Unisus School** – The executive director for the school provided a presentation to Council, the first update since 2020 when the school was in its early stages. Council heard 90% of the students come from area families, with the remainder being from the international community. Two key initiatives were described as 1) creating an intergenerational learning community and 2) standing up a hockey and snow sports academy.

**Council Chambers Decorum** – At the July 18, 2023, Regular (afternoon) Council Meeting, Council directed staff to draft rules for decorum in Council chambers. The amended Council Procedure Bylaw, necessary to effect the changes, received first three readings. Changes include clear statements against disorderly or boisterous conduct, conspicuous display of signs and symbolic objects, and making threatening or abusive comments.

**Landfill Tipping Fees** – Although now partially re-opened, the Glenmore Landfill (Kelowna) has been closed due to the Regional District of Central Okanagan (RDCO) wildfires. To ensure waste services are able to avoid disruption, Council directed that material normally directed to the Glenmore Landfill be accepted at the Summerland

Landfill. The current bylaw requires that waste accepted from outside the District be charged at double the regular rate. To assist our neighbouring municipalities during this emergency, Council directed staff to not enforce that section of the bylaw for the duration of the Glenmore closure, so that only regular rates would apply. The temporary approach will apply to invoices prepared for waste already received and any further waste forthcoming until the landfill fully reopens.

**Q2 2023 Council Strategic Priorities Update** – Staff provided second quarter updates on Council’s strategic priorities including a new section describing the number of Freedom of Information and Privacy requests received by the District. Council heard that 47 requests have been received so far this year, compared to 30 for all of last year. It is estimated that 46,000 pages of material will have been reviewed, redacted and put into chronological order to respond to the requests, at an estimated cost of \$200,000 in staff time and contractors. Council expressed concern that the process is not sustainable from a financial or staff resourcing perspective and, with about 40% of all this year’s requests stemming from one applicant, the process is open to abuse.

**Note:** These highlights are intended to provide a brief summary of recent Council proceedings. The summary is not inclusive of all agenda items. For a detailed account of the full agenda, including staff reports, other supporting documents and official meeting minutes, please consult the District of Summerland website at <https://www.summerland.ca> or contact Corporate Services at 250-404-4037.



13211 Henry Ave, Box 159  
Summerland BC V0H 1Z0  
Tel: 250-494-6451 Fax: 250-494-1415  
[www.summerland.ca](http://www.summerland.ca)