



# COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

## District of Summerland – November 5, 2024

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**Delegation – Okanagan and Similkameen Invasive Species Society (OASISS)** – A representative from OASISS presented an update on the results of the 2024 plant management project work in the District of Summerland. The presentation included information about statistics of invasive species in Summerland, inventory, treatment and monitoring. Oasiss has been working in partnership with District staff to educate them on invasive species and how to treat them. The focus was on findings of the invasive tree inventory and examples were shown of areas before and after treatment. More information on invasive species can be found on their website, [www.oasiss.ca](http://www.oasiss.ca).

**2025 Council Meeting Schedule** – In accordance with the District’s Council Procedure Bylaw, Regular Council meetings will be held every third week, starting the third Tuesday of January each year. To continue with efficiencies recognized through the roll out of the three-week rotational schedule, support Council and staff, empower good governance and to foster continuous improvement, Council endorsed the 2025 Council Meeting Schedule. The 2025 schedule includes 17 council meetings, the same as there were in 2024.

**Loan Authorization (Victoria Road S. Upgrades) Bylaw No. 2024-035** – Council gave the first three readings to the Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 2024-035. This will authorize the debt financing to provide the necessary funds to complete the Victoria Road S. Upgrades, including watermain installation, road reconstruction, drainage infrastructure and a multi-use pathway between Dunham Crescent and Prairie Valley Road. Long-term borrowing by local governments cannot be undertaken without the loan authorization bylaw being approved by the Inspector of Municipalities after the bylaw is given its first three readings by the local government. In addition, approval of the electors is then required before Council may consider adopting the long-term loan authorization bylaw.

**Loan Authorization (Wharton Street Upgrades) Bylaw No. 2024-036** – Council gave the first three readings to the Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 2024-036. Council endorsed the resolution that Staff initiate the process of debt financing for the upgrades with the general fund payments to be collected through a property tax increase and annual water fund debt payments to be collected through a water rate increase. The Alternative Approval Process will allow eligible electors to voice whether they are against the bylaw. If 10% of eligible electors complete and submit the form, Council must either abandon the bylaw or put it to an Assent Vote (referendum) to obtain approval.

**2024 Housing Needs Report** – Under recent amendments made to the *Local Government Act*, BC Municipalities are required to receive a new housing needs report every five years, and the first update is due December 31, 2024. Understanding Housing Needs is the first step to understanding the issue of

housing affordability and also housing supply needs for the future growth of Summerland. Council adopted the report and confirmed in the resolution as the most recent housing needs report received in accordance with Section 585.31 of the *Local Government Act*.

**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



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