



The establishment of an Okanagan Food and Innovation Hub has been a priority for Summerland Council as a way to support the agri-food industry and ensure the viability of local farms. We have been working alongside Community Futures Okanagan Similkameen (CFOS) to guide the project and have brought together a wide array of partners and funders, including all levels of government, academia, economic and community development agencies, farm industry associations, food entrepreneurs, and chambers of commerce from around the Okanagan.



More than a decade in the making, the Okanagan Food and Innovation Hub (OFIH) is now under construction on the corner of Highway 97 and Jones Flat Road. The 22,660 sq ft state-of-the-art facility is being built by LocalMotive Farmers Network Co-operative and is scheduled to open in May 2026. It will provide processing space, specialized equipment, expertise, and commercial kitchens for research and development to help food producers create value-added products, scale up production and develop their businesses.

Since 1914 with the establishment of the federal Dominion Experimental Farm (now Summerland Research and Development Centre), Summerland has been synonymous with innovation in agriculture, with 80% of all cherry varieties and many apple and grape varieties having been developed here. With the Okanagan Food and Innovation Hub, our community will remain at the forefront of agri-food innovation for years to come, and dollars and jobs will stay in the region where the food is grown.

~ Mayor Doug Holmes

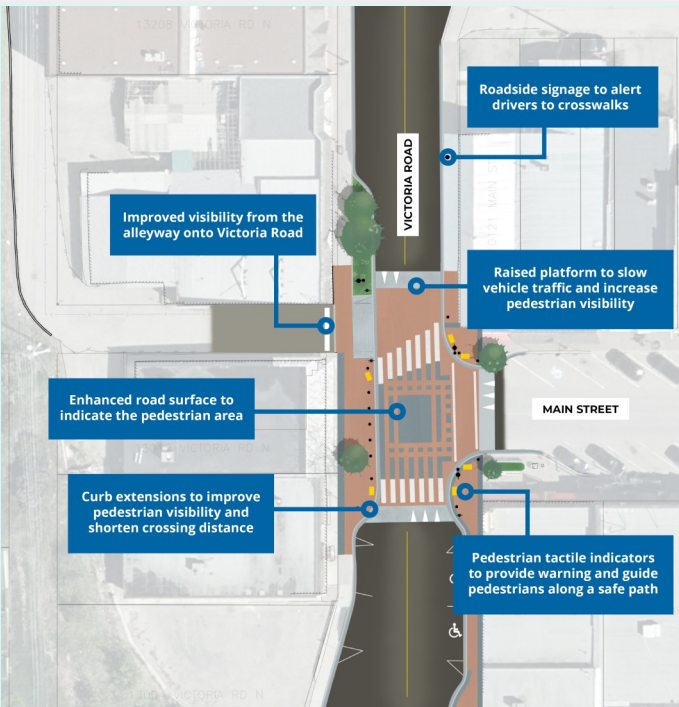
Ongoing projects

Victoria Road/Main Street intersection upgrades

In early October 2025, the upgraded intersection at Victoria Road and Main Street was officially opened to the public. These intersection improvements were designed to enhance pedestrian safety and create a more walkable, welcoming downtown.

Key features of the new design include:

- A raised platform to slow vehicle traffic and increase pedestrian visibility
- Increased roadside signage to alert drivers to crosswalk
- Enhanced road surface to clearly indicate the pedestrian area
- Shorter crosswalk length for quicker, safer crossings
- Curb extensions to improve pedestrian visibility and reduce crossing distance
- Improved visibility from alleyway onto Victoria Road
- Pedestrian tactile indicators to provide warning of street crossings and guide pedestrians along a safe path



This intersection upgrade is part of the Wharton Street Revitalization Project, which is bringing several exciting improvements to Summerland’s downtown core. For more information on the revitalization efforts, visit whartonstreet.ca.



Wastewater treatment plant primary clarifier upgrade

Concrete work continues with the majority of the primary clarifier and splitter box walls completed. Forming and pouring of the blending box walls and suspended slab for the pump gallery are slated for the next couple weeks. Portions of the skimmer mechanism have been installed within the new primary clarifier and the structure is currently being leak tested in preparation for further works within.

Wharton Street revitalization project

Work is wrapping up on the Wharton Street revitalization project. The cenotaph was relocated, and new flag poles were installed for the Remembrance Day Ceremony. Work is continuing at Veterans Memorial Square with the addition of a new all-season washroom expected in early December. Completion of this area is weather dependent, and crews are working diligently to complete the remaining items this season. Work is also continuing in the substation on Prairie Valley Road to allow for future underground electrical through the Wharton corridor.



General fund budget discussions

General fund budget discussions will be December 9 - 11, 2025 followed by an open house on January 14, 2026 from 5:00—7:00 PM at the Arena Banquet Room located at 8820 Jubilee Rd E.

Snow removal

District crews work seven days a week to clear six main routes, starting as early as 5:00 AM. They also maintain public sidewalks, walkways not bordering private property, and municipally owned parking lots with contractor support. Each route takes about eight hours to plough after snowfall ends, and cleanup often continues the next day. Priority areas like school bus routes may need revisiting during ongoing snow, so side streets can take longer. Heavy snowfall or equipment issues may also cause delays.



To help, please keep vehicles off roads and place driveway snow on the right side (facing the road), not on roadways. This prevents ploughed snow from blocking your driveway. Your cooperation and patience are greatly appreciated.

Important utility information

Due to the office being closed for the holidays, the due date for this month’s utility bills will be **Tuesday, December 23, 2025.**

If you are moving, please email utilities@summerland.ca or visit www.summerland.ca/city-services/utility-billing/new-accounts-moving.

Sidewalk clearing

Municipal bylaws require that you remove the snow and ice from public footpaths and sidewalks bordering your property (business or residential). Any snow or ice that accumulates before noon must be removed by noon that day. If it snows in the afternoon, you have until noon of the next day to remove it. Failure to do so could result in the District having the sidewalk cleaned at your expense. We ask that you use a de-icing agent with “CMA” for sidewalks, please do not use salt as it causes damage to concrete. Please help to keep Summerland’s sidewalks safe for all pedestrians.



38th Annual Toys & Toonies for Tots & Teens drive

The Summerland Fire Department & CIBC along with its many helpers, are once again sponsoring the annual drive for Toys & Toonies for Tots & Teens. The community initiative aims to ensure that every Summerland child and teen experience the joy of a special gift this holiday season. We are now accepting **new** unwrapped gifts and toonies to purchase new gifts for tots and teens in Summerland.



Where to donate: **Summerland Fire Department**
Closing date: **December 12, 2025** (gladly accepting donations after the deadline for the following year).
All gifts are distributed under the guidance of the Summerland Food Bank.
Join the spirit of giving and help brighten the holidays for local youth.

Christmas tree pick-up

With a donation to the 2026 Dry Grad Class, you can have your Christmas tree picked up from your house by the Summerland Fire Department. Trees will be chipped and composted by the Summerland Fire Department and the District of Summerland.



Pick-up dates will be:
Sunday, January 4 and Sunday, January 11, 2026 starting at 9:00 AM
Starting December 15, you may contact the Fire Department to schedule a pick-up: **250-404-4087** or sfd@summerland.ca.

Holiday Closures

Municipal Hall/Works Office
Closed Dec 24 at 2:00 PM
Closed Dec 25 - Jan 1 (inclusive)

Aquatic & Fitness Centre
Closed Dec 24 & 31 at 2:00 PM
Closed Dec 25, 26 & Jan 1

Summerland Arena
Closed Dec 24 & 31 at 3:00 PM
Closed Dec 25, 26 & Jan 1

Fire Hall Office
Closed Dec 24 & 31 at 3:00 PM
Closed Dec 25, 26 & Jan 1

Landfill
Closed Dec 25, 26 & Jan 1

Dog and business licence renewals

Dog and business licence renewals will be mailed out mid-December and are due January 30, 2026. If you do not receive your renewal in the mail or if you no longer require it, please call Municipal Hall **250-494-6451** or email info@summerland.ca.



If you’ve found or lost a dog, have a complaint about a dog barking, being aggressive, or see a dog at large, please call Dog Control at **250-494-6446**.

Keep up to date

The District posts community updates to our website and Facebook account. Council meetings can be viewed on the District’s YouTube channel www.youtube.com/c/DistrictofSummerland
Website: summerland.ca
Facebook: facebook.com/SummerlandBC
Instagram: www.instagram.com/districtofsummerland/
Sign up for the monthly newsletter online: www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/newsletter
Check out the Mayor’s column available on the District’s website: www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/mayor-council/mayor-s-minute
Municipal Hall hours of operation: Tuesday - Friday from 8:15 AM to 5:00 PM. Closed Mondays and Statutory Holidays.

Communicating with Council

Want to share your ideas or opinions with District of Summerland Council? There are several ways to connect:
Speak to Council – Delegation*
Residents, groups, or organizations can appear at a Regular Council Meeting (1:00 PM or 6:00 PM) to request action or share information. Submit a delegation application to the Corporate Officer eight days before the scheduled meeting. Applications are available here www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/council-meetings/presenting-to-council.



Public Comment Period*
Comment on any business item during a Regular Council Meeting (agenda items 9 & 18). Registration is encouraged but not required—contact the Corporate Officer to register.
**exception:* no delegations or public comments may be provided on any item with a statutory requirement or as noted in the District’s Council Procedure Bylaw.

Public Hearings
For matters like rezoning or OCP amendments, you can speak in person or submit written comments (email or hand-delivered) by 12:00 PM on the day of the Public Hearing. Registration is encouraged but not required.

Write to Council
Email: council@summerland.ca
Mail: Mayor and Council, PO Box 159, 13211 Henry Ave, Summerland, BC V0H 1Z0
Anonymous correspondence will not be circulated per the District’s Council Correspondence Policy.
Learn more or sign up for agenda notifications: www.summerland.ca
Questions? Contact corporateofficer@summerland.ca.

2026 Council meeting schedule

Mark your calendars—the 2026 council meeting schedule has been adopted and is now available for viewing! View the schedule online www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/council-meetings. All public is welcome and encouraged to attend these meetings to stay informed and engaged in municipal decision-making.

Summerland moved to Drought Level 4
Due to continued dry weather, low precipitation, and declining reservoir levels, Summerland has moved to Drought Level 4, matching the drought status of the broader region. For more information, visit summerland.ca/your-city-hall/news-articles/2025/11/13/media-release---water-drought-status-to-level-4.

Skate with Santa

Join Santa and Summerland Recreation at the Summerland Arena on December 14 from 1:00 – 2:30 PM, for hot chocolate, crafts, skating and photos with Santa. This event is FREE, however; donations to Summerland Food Bank are encouraged and will be collected on location.



Be a “Snow Angel” this winter

The Snow Angel program encourages neighbours to help by shoveling snow or keeping sidewalks clear. Nominate your Snow Angel online at www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/snow-angel for a chance to win a prize and receive a certificate of recognition.



Curbside collection delays

The District of Summerland curbside collection contractor will make every attempt to empty curbside carts during winter conditions. However, their top priority is resident and employee safety.
In the event of a collection delay:

- Contact Waste Connections of Canada at **250-490-3888** to see when any missed collection for your property will be collected
- To avoid animals getting into waste, bring in carts overnight
- When service is resumed, the contractor will collect any extra accumulated material, at no extra charge, equivalent to the amount that would have been collected if service had not been temporarily interrupted.