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A Newsletter from the District of Summerland

September 2016

# A FEW PROJECTS THE DISTRICT IS WORKING ON IN SEPTEMBER:

# JONES FLAT AND GARNET VALLEY WATER SYSTEM SEPARATION PROJECT UPDATE

With the final design completed, the project is now being tendered. The construction contract will be awarded by the end of September and construction will start in October. A Preconstruction Open House will be scheduled for early October. Details of this event will be advertised later this month.

### POWERLINE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

Davey Tree Experts have been contracted by the District of Summerland to trim trees along Summerland's powerlines during the months of September - November. Work is being performed to mitigate damage to the electrical system and to reduce outages caused by falling trees and branches. Please be aware of arborist crews working in your area. Work location updates will be provided on the District's website.

#### **SEWER MAIN FLUSHING**

The Works Division is performing annual sewer main flushing throughout Summerland from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday to Friday for the next month. This annual maintenance ensures that sewer mains are working properly. Please use caution when driving by Crews working on the road. We apologize for any inconvenience and thank you for your cooperation.

#### HYDRANT FLUSHING

The Works Division continues with annual hydrant flushing from 7:30 am to 3:00 pm, Monday to Friday until mid-October. This annual maintenance ensures that hydrants are in good working condition in case of emergencies. Residents may experience lower than normal water flow for a short period of time when flushing is being performed in your area. This may also cause water to be discoloured, if this occurs, please run a cold water tap or an outside hose until water runs clear. Avoid using your washing machine from 7:30 am to 3:00 pm as discoloured water can stain clothes. Check water for clarity after 3:00 pm.

# WATER AVAILABILITY

As we head towards the end of the growing season, District reservoirs continue to be near full. Thirsk Dam stopped spilling on August 6<sup>th</sup> this year, later than in typical years. Staff will continue to monitor our water availability and keep residents informed. The District remains in Stage One watering restrictions. Please manage your water use wisely.

NOTE CHANGE

COUNCIL MEETINGS WILL BE **BROADCAST ON THURSDAYS AND** FRIDAYS AT 11:00AM ON SHAW TV.



**Trainer** 

# WELCOME TO OUR NEW SUSTAINABILITY/ALTERNATIVE ENERGY COORDINATOR

The District of Summerland is pleased to announce the hiring of Tami Rothery. Tami will be responsible for coordinating sustainability initiatives in

the District, including investigating the feasibility of a large -scale solar project GHG reduction initiatives within the District's operations and community-wide. She will also be supporting the re-establishment of a Climate Action Committee to engage citizens and staff in local sustainability projects - information will be forthcoming.

For more information about Summerland's Climate Action Plan, please email trothery@summerland.ca or call 250-404-4068.

#### FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED FOR SUMMERLAND SKATEBOARD PARK

The Summerland Fundraising Campaign has launched!



"Like" the Summerland-Skate-Park-Committee Facebook page for all updates, events, fundraisers and information.

Kickoff to the Skatepark T-shirt Design Contest starts **NOW!** Submit your t-shirt design (using up to 3 colours) to promote the new Summerland Skatepark. Contest closes September 30, 2016.

Top design prize: Skateboard from Freeride Boardshop. Special thank you to Ink Works for their sponsorship, t-shirt donation and to Freeride for their donation. Send submissions to recreation@summerland.ca or in person to the Recreation Office at the Aquatic Centre.

Please contact Municipal Hall at 250-494-6451 if you are interested in making a donation or an in-kind donation for the Summerland Skatepark. Tax receipts will be issued for all donations.

Application has been submitted for a Canada 150 grant, which if successful, will be announced in October. Thank you to Penny Lane Society for the \$135,000.00 donation!

# WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER TO BE ON THE WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE?

The District of Summerland is looking for volunteers to be part of our Water Advisory Committee. The Water Advisory Committee works with staff to make recommendations to Council regarding the quality, quantity and most effective uses of water supplied by the District. If you have an interest in water in our community and the stewardship of this valuable resource, please complete an application form and drop it off at Municipal Hall or forward it by email to kjones@summerland.ca by September 26th, 2016. Forms can be found on the District website www.summerland.ca.

#### 2017 PERMISSIVE TAX EXEMPTION

2017 Permissive Tax Exemption (PTE) applications are now available.

Not-for-profit organizations that provide a service to the community may be eligible for a reduction in property taxes if the facility they operate from is owned or leased by the organization. This reduction in property taxes payable is considered a "Permissive Tax Exemption". First time applicants can find eligibility criteria, along with the required comprehensive application, on the District of Summerland website at summerland.ca/pte.

If your organization received a PTE in 2016, a shortened version of the 2017 application is now available. This form must be completed to ensure the information the District has on file is current.

As part of the 2017 PTE application process, all applicants with the exception of Places of Worship, will have an opportunity to meet with the District of Summerland's Community Development Coordinator to discuss their application details prior to Council's consideration.

The Permissive Tax Exemption submission deadline is September 20, 2016. Please access the District website or contact Renée Belyk, Manager of Finance, at (250) 404-4041 if you have any questions or require further information.



# **BACK TO SCHOOL TIME**

Maximum speed limit on school days in a School Zone is 30 km/h from 8am-5pm. Please be mindful of our children on the crosswalks, roads and roundabouts as they return to school.

#### WATER SUSTAINABILITY ACT

BC's new Water Sustainability Act requires individuals and businesses, who have groundwater wells for non-domestic purposes, to obtain and pay for a water licence. This will clarify how much they can legally use, increase security of their access, define their water rights, and give them greater clarity regarding priority of use. The owners of these wells have three years from February 29, 2016 in which to apply for a water licence. While their licence application is under review they will be able to continue to divert, use, and store groundwater. Application fees will be waived for owners of existing wells who apply by February 29, 2017. Please visit http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/water-licensing-rights/water-licences-approvals for further information.

# ANNUAL PROPERTY TAX SALE

10am Monday, September 26, 2016 Council Chambers 13211 Henry Avenue



Each year, on the last Monday of September, municipalities are required to have a tax sale of all properties with three years of outstanding property taxes.

The addresses and upset prices (minimum amount required) will be listed on our website and in the local newspaper by the middle of September.

Please visit our website or call the Property Tax Department at 250-494-6451 for details if you are interested in bidding on a property.

# PLEASE DON'T FEED THE BEARS



Garbage is the #1 bear attractant to properties. Bears that become used to finding food in garbage or eating fruit from properties are often destroyed because of human safety issues. Please protect yourselves and the bears by putting garbage out the day of pickup and keeping it in the house or garage until pickup day. Bears have an amazing sense of smell and even pet food and bird feeders can attract them

Please take the necessary steps to reduce the risk of human-wildlife conflict in our community. To report wildlife that has become a threat to public safety, please call the BC Conservation Office at 1-877-952-7277.

Visit www.wildsafebc.com for more bear aware tips.



The Terry Fox Run will take place on Sunday, September 18th, 2016. Registration begins at 10:15am and the race will start at 11:00am at the Summerland Aquatic & Fitness Centre on Kelly Avenue. Run or walk a 5km, 3km or 1km route. Pledge forms are available at the Aquatic & Fitness Centre. For more information contact the organizers Heather or Mike 250-488-3415 or email: <a href="mailto:terryfoxrunsummerland@gmail.com">terryfoxrunsummerland@gmail.com</a>.

# SPIFFYING UP THE POOL & FITNESS CENTRE

The Fitness and Aquatic Centre is closed for maintenance for a two week period (Aug. 29 – Sept. 11). District staff are busy giving the pool a good scrub, along with facility painting, refurbishing and repairs. Look for the two new pieces of cardio equipment in the Fitness Centre. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this shutdown period. The Recreation Office remains open for business and fall program registrations. The entire facility reopens September 12, 2016.

# NOTICE TO SUMMERLAND IRRIGATORS – FALL IRRIGATION SHUT OFF

Irrigation shut off is scheduled to commence Tuesday, October 11, 2016. If you require an extension, please visit the Works and Utilities office at 9215 Cedar Avenue to complete an application form and submit a \$44.00 non-refundable fee (cash or cheque) no later than Friday, October 7, 2016. For further information please call 250-494-0431.