



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

District of Summerland – September 8, 2026

Committee of the Whole – Bald Range Wildfire Utility Credit Options – Staff presented options to Council regarding proposed utility billing credits because of the community-wide evacuation order caused by the Bald Range Wildfire. The options presented to Council deal directly with the short-term recovery stage and are specific to the August 2026 monthly utility billing cycle. To support residents of Summerland in the short-term recovery, Council authorized that all active utility accounts with an electricity charge be provided with a \$23.22 credit, the suspension of utility invoices to properties that were lost due to the wildfire until those properties require utilities, the removal of water allotment overage charges so that consumption is charged at the regular cubic meter charge and that the Director of Finance be authorized make any billing adjustments utility accounts on 20 identified properties who were significantly over their water allotment due to the wildfire.

Delegation – Summerland Food Bank and Resource Centre – Summerland Food Bank & Resource Centre representatives updated Council on the construction of their new facility and the progress of their capital fundraising campaign. The delegation advised that the project was nearing completion and that approximately \$600,000 remained to be raised to meet the \$1.8 million project goal. Council heard about the organization's continued impact in the community, including support provided to nearly 600 residents over the past year. The delegation encouraged Council members to help share information about the campaign with community members who may be interested in supporting the project.

Non-Profit Organizations Permissive Tax Exemptions – Council endorsed a resolution to approve 2027 Permissive Tax Exemptions for eligible non-profit organizations and directed staff to prepare an amendment to the Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw for consideration at a future meeting. Council approved a 75% tax exemption for the A.B.D.C. Foundation, a 100% exemption for the Summerland Health Care Auxiliary Thrift Shop and a 100% exemption for OneSky Community Resources Society's youth services program, recognizing each organizations community benefit and alignment with Council priorities. The approved exemptions will provide financial support to qualifying organizations while continuing to recognize their contributions to the well-being of the Summerland community.

Places of Worship Permissive Tax Exemptions - Council endorsed a resolution to approve Permissive Tax Exemptions for eligible places of worship for the 2027-2036 taxation years and directed staff to prepare a bylaw for consideration at a future meeting. The exemptions will provide property tax relief to eight places of worship in the community, recognizing their ongoing contributions to residents and community well-being. Council also considered exemptions for portions of several properties identified as lands in excess of those required for worship services, consistent with previous Council decisions. The approved exemptions are estimated to provide approximately \$78,500 in tax relief in 2027.

2026 Late Grant in Aid Request (SOS Health Care Society) – Council endorsed a late Grant in Aid request from the SOS Health Care Society to support the development of a new Primary Care Clinic at 13201 Victoria Road North. The approved support includes waiving permit fees up to a maximum of \$18,700 and providing staff assistance to help facilitate the timely processing of required applications. Council recognized the project’s potential to expand access to primary care services, support physician recruitment, and improve healthcare opportunities for Summerland residents. Staff were directed to prepare the necessary financial plan amendment bylaw, with funding to be allocated from accumulated surplus.

Summerland Community Centre 50th Anniversary Road Closure Permit - Council approved a temporary road closure on Brown Street for the Summerland Community Centre Association's 50th Anniversary Celebration on September 26, 2026. The closure will take place between the east and west entrances of Campbell Crescent to accommodate event activities, including outdoor food service and community gathering space. Council heard that access to local businesses and residences will be maintained through a detour route, and nearby residents will be notified in advance of the event. Event organizers will also be required to implement an approved traffic management plan to ensure public safety throughout the celebration.

Bald Range Wildfire Recovery – Fee Reductions - Council endorsed measures to support recovery efforts for property owners whose homes or structures were damaged or destroyed in the Bald Range Wildfire. The approved fee relief includes a 50% reduction on eligible development, building, demolition, and plumbing permit fees, as well as waiving property information request fees and demolition permit security deposits for qualifying rebuild projects. Council also directed that permit applications related to wildfire recovery be prioritized to help affected residents rebuild as quickly as possible. The fee reductions will apply to eligible rebuilding projects submitted by December 31, 2028, subject to established conditions and limitations.

Summerland Fall Fair – Representatives from the Summerland Fall Fair Society appeared before Council to invite Mayor and Council members to participate in the opening of the 2026 Summerland Fall Fair on September 12. The delegation highlighted the fair’s diverse attractions, including agricultural exhibits, local musicians, educational demonstrations, community displays, and a silent auction fundraiser. Council heard about the longstanding community support behind the event and its role in celebrating Summerland’s agricultural heritage and community spirit. The Society thanked the District, volunteers, businesses, and community organizations for their continued contributions to the success of the annual event.

Delegation - Summerland Minor Hockey Association – Representatives from the Summerland Minor Hockey Association (SMHA) requested Council consideration on providing funding of \$70,000.00 to help them purchase scoreboard and clock for use at the Summerland Arena. SMHA noted the benefits of a new scoreboard go beyond SMHA, but that all arena users and the broader community could benefit from upgraded infrastructure for a variety of reasons related to that user group. SMHA stated that they are applying the to the provincial Community Gaming Grand (Capital Purchase – Acquisitions) Fund for 50% of the project and is seeking sponsorships or will fundraise for the remainder. Successful candidates of



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the grant will be notified on December 31, 2026. Council resolved to commit \$70,000.00 towards the purchase of a new scoreboard and to provide a letter of support for SMHA's grant application to the Community Gaming Grant Fund with the understanding that if the grant does not materialize the funds would be returned to the District.

July 2026 Monthly Development Services Report – Council received the July 2026 Monthly Development Services Report, which provided an update on development activity, planning applications, and building permit trends in the community. The report noted continued growth in rezoning applications throughout 2026, ongoing progress on several major development projects, and the issuance of 16 building permits in July with a total construction value of approximately \$548,000. Council also heard updates on key initiatives, including the adoption of the District's Development Cost Charges Bylaw, work on a Climate Adaptation Plan, and a preliminary review of the Zoning Bylaw. The report highlighted a number of active development and subdivision applications currently under review or progressing through the approval process.

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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