



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

District of Summerland – March 25, 2026

Committee of the Whole (COTW) – Draft Development Cost Charges (DCC) – Consultants from Urban Systems, in conjunction with District Staff, provided Council an update on the draft DCC program including the proposed project list and rates, potentially incorporating CPI increases, and how to move forward with the DCC program in the future. Rates have not been adjusted since the current DCC Bylaw was adopted in 2006, resulting in the District collecting the lowest DCC rates in the Okanagan and one of the lowest rates in the province. Council directed Staff to initiate public engagement on a new DCC Bylaw, including options for phasing in the assist factor and including Amenity Cost Charges (ACC).

Delegation – Community Foundation South Okanagan Similkameen (CFSOS) – Council received a presentation from CFSOS highlighting recent grant activity in Summerland, including over \$96,000 granted to local charities and \$6,000 in bursaries awarded to students in 2025. The update noted that 45 Neighbourhood Small Grant projects had been funded in Summerland since 2016, supporting community-building initiatives such as reconciliation events, social gatherings, and arts activities. Council also learned that the 2026 Neighbourhood Small Grants intake is open until April 17, 2026, with both online and in-person information sessions offered to help residents apply for up to \$500 in project funding. These programs continued to strengthen community connection, reduce isolation, and support resident-led initiatives across Summerland.

Delegation – Garnet Valley Agri-Tourism Association (GVATA) – Council received a presentation from the Garnet Valley Agri-Tourism Association (GVATA), which successfully challenged the Ministry of Mines' approval of the Garnet Valley Road gravel pit, resulting in the permit being quashed by the Supreme Court of British Columbia. The Association reported that the legal victory protected public safety, District infrastructure, and local agricultural and tourism assets, avoiding significant future costs to the community. The Association requested additional funds to cover the budget shortfall associated with arguing the case and asked to be notified should the District receive a referral request for any new application for a gravel mine operation in that location.

Delegation – Regional District of the Okanagan Similkameen (RDOS) – Solid Waste Management Plan – Council received a presentation from the RDOS outlining its updated 10-year Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP), which aims to reduce regional waste generation, increase diversion of organics and recyclables, and enhance long-term financial sustainability of waste services. The plan emphasized new regional initiatives, including expanded organics processing capacity, improved construction and demolition waste diversion, and strengthened collaboration with member municipalities and First Nations. Council heard that Summerland's landfill had an estimated 70 years of remaining capacity and continued to play a key role in regional waste management infrastructure. The RDOS requested municipal

feedback and support for adopting the plan as part of its formal submission to the Ministry of Environment and Parks.

2026 UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund – Emergency Support Services Equipment and Training Grant – Council supported a joint regional application to the UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for a \$300,000 Emergency Support Services (ESS) equipment and training grant. By endorsing the resolution, Council authorized the RDOS to apply for, receive, and manage the grant on the District’s behalf, supporting collaboration with neighbouring municipalities and First Nations to enhance ESS modernization and volunteer training. The approved funding will support reception centre operations training, cultural safety and humility training, Food Safe and First Aid certification, volunteer recruitment and recognition, and upgrades to outdated ESS equipment and supplies. The initiative carried no financial impact to the District, as the RDOS will coordinate all grant administration and delivery.

Capital Projects Update – Council received an update on two major infrastructure projects: the Victoria Road and Watermain Upgrades and the Primary Clarifier project. The Victoria Road project began construction on March 2, 2026, with pulverizing, utility locates, and water service connections all underway. Targeted completion of the \$3.88M project is by June 30, 2026. The Primary Clarifier project has reached 68% completion, with major concrete work finished and next steps including mechanical, electrical, and backfilling activities, while staying within its multi-year budget and contingency allowances.

2026 Late Grant in Aid Requests – Council approved a \$500 grant-in-aid for the Summerland Secondary School Girls Curling Team to represent Summerland at the BC High School Curling Provincials in Chilliwack. Although submitted after the formal deadline, Council recognized that the team could not have known in advance whether they would qualify for the provincial championship and confirmed the request met the District’s Grant in Aid Policy for travel assistance. With this approval, Council noted that \$3,870 remained in the 2026 grant-in-aid budget for any future late submissions. Council expressed support for local youth representing the community at provincial-level competitions.

2027 Budget Timeline – Council approved the 2027–2031 Financial Plan Timeline, which outlined the full schedule for reviewing utility and general fund budgets, public consultation sessions, and bylaw adoption deadlines. The timeline included November 2026 meetings to review utility operating and capital budgets, followed by a December 2 virtual open house and the introduction and adoption of 2027 utility rate amendment bylaws before year-end. Council also endorsed the January–March 2027 general fund budget review process, including the February 11 public open house, and confirmed that the 2027–2031 Financial Plan Bylaw would be adopted on March 23, 2027, with the 2027 tax rates bylaw adopted on May 4, 2027. By approving the timeline, Council ensured that statutory requirements under the *Community Charter* would be met and that the budgeting process would remain transparent and accessible to residents.

Living Memorial Park Interpretive Sign – Council endorsed staff recommendation and proceeded with Option 1 for the new interpretive sign at Living Memorial Park, confirming the preferred design featuring a prominent historical photograph and curated archival images. The sign content, developed in consultation with historian David Gregory, the Summerland Museum & Archives, and the Summerland Legion, highlighted the park’s origins as a post-war community-built “living memorial” and its significance in Summerland’s cultural heritage. Council’s decision enabled staff to finalize the design for production by



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March 27, with installation scheduled for the week of April 13 ahead of Field 96 Opening Day celebrations. The project remained within the \$12,000 capital budget, with the Legion exploring additional funding support through Veterans Affairs.

License of Occupation – Rotary Club Sunday Market – Council approved a License of Occupation with the Rotary Club of Summerland, allowing the continued operation of the Summerland Sunday Market along Main Street for the 2026 season (excluding Veteran’s Memorial Square), with options to renew for 2027 and 2028. The market is scheduled to run Sundays from late June through mid-October, operating from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The Rotary Club has successfully managed the market in prior years and that the event meets all requirements for temporary road closures under existing District policies. As a non-profit, the Rotary Club would pay the standard \$1.00 annual fee, consistent with past practice, with no fee applied to the associated road closure permit.

Building Bylaw amendment (Appendix A) Bylaw No. 2026-009 - Adoption – Council adopted Building Bylaw Amendment (Appendix A) Bylaw No. 2026-009, updating the Building Bylaw to provide specific seismic data relevant to Summerland to reduce additional work and confusion for builders, who previously had to calculate the data manually. Council noted that the update supported its strategic priority of ensuring good governance through modernized and consistent regulatory documents. No financial implications were associated with the adoption of this bylaw amendment.

Election and Assent Voting Amendment Bylaw No. 2026-006 – Adoption - Council adopted the Election and Assent Voting Amendment Bylaw No. 2026-006, updating local election and assent voting provisions to align with requirements under the *Local Government Act*. The General Local Election will take place in Fall 2026. Advanced Voting Days will be held on Wednesday October 7 and Wednesday October 14, 2026. General Voting Day will be held on October 17, 2026. For more information about the upcoming General Local Election, please visit: <https://www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/elections>.

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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