



In response to the tragic loss by suicide of several young people over the past two years, many individuals and organizations in Summerland have been stepping up to ensure our youth and their families have access to timely and integrated support services. OneSky Community Resources has received provincial funding to open a Foundry Centre in Summerland to provide supports like counselling and peer support while School District 67 provides trauma-informed responses in schools. A recent Youth and Family Wellness Fair at Summerland Secondary School saw participation from a range of service providers and community partners.

Suicide is a complex issue and no one agency can address it on its own. That's why, as mayor, I invited representatives from various community-based organizations to come together to evaluate and implement strategies to address local factors associated with suicide. Chaired by Deputy Mayor Erin Trainer, the monthly meetings include representation from the Canadian Mental Health Association, Ministry of Children and Family Development (Child and Youth Mental Health), Interior Health, RCMP, School District 67, Summerland Secondary School PAC, Summerland Child & Youth Committee, OneSky Community Resources, and the District of Summerland.

Ultimately, the purpose of the meetings is to create a youth suicide prevention and response plan for Summerland to ensure appropriate crisis measures are in place, raise awareness about available community services and supports, reinforce collaboration between organizations and systems of care, and improve safety in and around the community. These are difficult conversations but by working together we can build a community that offers safety, belonging and hope for all our youth.

~ Mayor Doug Holmes

### Ongoing Projects

#### Wastewater Treatment Plant Primary Clarifier

Construction is nearly complete, with most yard piping installed, concrete work finished, and electrical lines pulled through the conduit. Crews are now completing the remaining electrical connections and installing instrumentation and control systems. By the time you receive this newsletter, the new clarifier will have been connected to the existing system and commissioning will be underway to ensure everything operates safely and efficiently.



#### Victoria Road Watermain Upgrade and Multi-use Pathway – Dunham Crescent to Prairie Valley Road

Construction is underway on the next phase of the Victoria Road upgrades. This project includes watermain upgrades, continuation of the multi-use pathway, pedestrian safety improvements and road re-construction along Victoria Road South. Crews are also working on Dale Meadows Road, from Victoria Road South to the Dale Meadows Park entrance, to upgrade aging watermains and improve access to the sports fields. Single lane alternating traffic and detours will be ongoing throughout the duration of the project and Dale Meadows Road will be closed to through traffic while crews complete that portion of work. The District would like to thank residents for their patience as we



upgrade key infrastructure in the community. Completion of the project will be Summer 2026.

### Snowpack, Irrigators, and Water Usage

**SNOWPACK:** Snowpack readings are taken monthly from January until the snow is melted. Average water equivalent (amount of water contained in the snow) is recorded and compared to the historical average, measured over 63 years. Snowpack readings from April 1 measured 48% for the Summerland Reservoir (Headwaters) and 29% for Isintok Lake.

For further details, please visit [www.summerland.ca/city-services/utilities/water/snow-course-survey](http://www.summerland.ca/city-services/utilities/water/snow-course-survey).

**IRRIGATORS:** As per a Council resolution on April 1, Summerland is currently in **Drought Level 3 – Very Dry Conditions**, which results in adjustments to agricultural and large-user water allocations under the Summerland Drought Response Plan. At this level - agricultural, cemetery, park, playfield, and golf course allocations are adjusted from 800mm to 640mm, and greenhouse allocations from 1,727mm to 1,382mm. Water users are encouraged to review their anticipated needs and plan for the upcoming season as the District works to protect long-term water supply and environmental flows.

Further information will also be available to irrigators within their annual Agricultural Water Utility Meter Rates Update (mailed at the start of irrigation season) and on the District website on the Agricultural Water Consumption Report page.

**WATER USAGE:** Residential water restrictions are also in effect limiting to three (3) times per week based on residential addresses. More information can be found on the District website [summerland.ca/city-services/utilities/water/water-restrictions](http://summerland.ca/city-services/utilities/water/water-restrictions).



### 2026 Earth Week

#### Celebration Planting Event

**When:** April 26, 2026 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

**Where:** Memorial Park (9999 Wharton Street)

Find event details at [www.summerland.ca/earthweek](http://www.summerland.ca/earthweek).



### Open Burning Ends April 15

Open burning within the District of Summerland is only permitted during the burning season on properties greater than two acres. A valid open burning permit obtained from the Summerland Fire Department is required. **All backyard burning is strictly prohibited.** The season will end **April 15, 2026** and will re-open on **October 15, 2026**. For information call the Fire Department at **250-494-7211**.



### Reminders: Upcoming 2026 Election

The next general local election is on October 17, 2026. If you are interested in running, check the District's website for key dates and details [summerland.ca/your-city-hall/elections/2026-general-local-elections](http://summerland.ca/your-city-hall/elections/2026-general-local-elections). Register to vote on the Provincial voters list [here](http://here).

### Trout Creek RV Sani-Station

A new donation box was installed in mid-March to allow for the secure deposit of a suggested minimum donation of \$10. The deposits will be retrieved daily by staff, and proceeds will go to support charitable and non-profit organizations in our community!



## Canyon View Cemetery Spring Maintenance

We wish to advise the public that spring maintenance will commence at Canyon View Cemetery on **May 1, 2026**. Part of the maintenance work will be the removal of offerings that do not meet the requirements of the District of [Summerland Cemetery Bylaw 2012-016](#) as outlined below.



The public is asked to assist in this cleanup by removing any offerings that do not meet the following guidelines by **April 30, 2026**.

Offerings that we are asking you to remove include:

- any offering that is not entirely on the concrete base and at least 50 mm (2 in.) away from the edge of the concrete base;
- offerings that are unsightly, create a safety hazard, or interfere with the maintenance of the cemetery;
- small offerings, such as necklaces, small stones, or marbles, that may become entangled in the maintenance equipment;
- anything that extends or grows into the landscaped area surrounding an interment site or anything that encroaches into a neighbouring interment site;
- any offering that is made of, or contains, glass or any other easily breakable substance; and
- pointed or sharp offerings that may present a safety hazard if someone falls.

Offerings that the District removes will be photographed, tagged, and stored for sixty days at the Works and Infrastructure Department. Flowers or floral arrangements that have wilted or have become unsightly will be removed and discarded. **Although care will be taken while removing offerings, the District is unable to accept responsibility for lost, stolen, or damaged offerings.**

## Seasonal Hours Begin April 15 for Giant's Head Mountain Park Road and Public Washrooms

Starting **April 15**, the Giant's Head Mountain Park Road gate will be open for vehicles **12:00 PM (noon) – 9:00 PM** Monday to Saturday and closed on Sundays.

Seasonal washrooms open at Peach Orchard Beach, Rotary Beach, Powell Beach, Memorial Park and Dale Meadows on April 15 and will be open daily from **8:00 AM to 9:00 PM**.

## Spring Sweeping

The District of Summerland started spring sweeping in March and will accelerate the cleanup process in April as additional street sweeping equipment becomes available. It is anticipated that Summerland's 330 lane kilometres of roads will be swept by the end of April or early May, depending on how much road sand has been used over the winter. The District generally starts in low elevation areas, such as Trout Creek, and works up towards downtown and then into the higher elevation areas. We ask the public to be patient and please move vehicles off the road if crews are working in your area.



## Trees and Vegetation On Your Property

Please keep trees and vegetation trimmed back to allow a minimum 3 metre clearance from the electric meter, transformer box (if existing) and overhead electrical service lines on your property. Please note that removal of vegetation within 3m of an overhead electrical service line must be done by a Certified Utility Arborist.



## 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](http://www.youtube.com/c/DistrictofSummerland)

**Website:** [summerland.ca](http://summerland.ca)

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/SummerlandBC](https://www.facebook.com/SummerlandBC)

**Instagram:** [www.instagram.com/districtofsummerland/](https://www.instagram.com/districtofsummerland/)

**Sign up for the monthly newsletter online:**

[www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/newsletter](http://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](http://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.

## Utility Bill Equal Payment Plan

If you are currently on the Utility Bill Equal Payment Plan, April is the annual reconciliation month. Your April invoice will show the difference between the total utility charges to date and the monthly payments received.

If the account has been underpaid, the remaining balance will be automatically withdrawn from your bank account on the **May 27** due date to bring the utility account balance to zero. If the account has been overpaid, a credit will appear on your account and will carry over to the next month's invoice. The May utility invoice will reflect your newly calculated equal payment amount with a **June 26** due date. Residents who would like to enroll in the Utility Equal Payment Plan have until **May 15** to apply. For more information please call **250-404-4047**.

## Property Tax Notices

Property tax notices will be mailed out after **May 18**. You may sign up to receive your property tax notice via email, visit <https://online.summerland.ca/vadimopen/>. For more information visit [www.summerland.ca/city-services/property-taxes](http://www.summerland.ca/city-services/property-taxes). **Property Taxes are due by 5:00 PM, July 2, 2026.**

## Beach Vending

The District of Summerland is now accepting applications for beach vending at our local beaches (Peach Orchard, Rotary, and Powell).

For more information, visit

[www.summerland.ca/parks-recreation/parks-recreation-vending-opportunities](http://www.summerland.ca/parks-recreation/parks-recreation-vending-opportunities).



## Giant's Head Run – Mark Your Calendar!

Lace up your runners and join us for our annual Giant's Head Run on June 6 at 9:00 AM! Whether you're a seasoned runner, casual jogger, or just looking for a fun way to get active with family and friends, this event is for everyone. Enjoy the energy of the community, get outdoors, and start your day with a little movement and a lot of smiles.



Early bird pricing is in effect until May 19, so be sure to register soon to take advantage of the discounted rate! Register in person at the Aquatic and Fitness Centre or online at <https://raceroster.com/events/2026/116603/giants-head-run-2026>. Come run, walk, and celebrate community with us!

## New Peach Orchard Beach Playground Project begins

Construction has begun at the Peach Orchard Beach Playground! Over the next few weeks, the old playground will be removed and the installation of the new equipment will follow.

The new playground will feature a treehouse for kids ages 5–12, a sandcastle junior play structure for ages 2–12, a zipline, musical instruments, sensory panels, and a variety of climbers, slides, and balance equipment. A safe, accessible rubber apron will connect the playground to the transfer station and Raft Rider. Please note that the current playground is now closed for public use. While we build, families are invited to enjoy nearby parks like Memorial Park, Dale Meadows, Giant's Head Elementary School or Julia Street Park.

## Looking for committee members

The Advisory Planning Commission (APC) currently has one (1) position available for a three (3) year term, ending March 31, 2029.

If you have an interest in being involved in the community, an ability to work with others, and a willingness to contribute your viewpoint, then this opportunity is for you! Application forms can be found on our website [www.summerland.ca/committees](http://www.summerland.ca/committees). Send completed applications to [corporateofficer@summerland.ca](mailto:corporateofficer@summerland.ca) by **April 30, 2025**.

## Compost For Sale at Landfill

The Landfill sells food scrap compost and compost made from wastewater sludge. Topdressing made from a mix of bio-solid compost and sand is also for sale. All loads are weighed and charged according to the Summerland Fees and Charges bylaw.

Self-serve compost and top dressing is available any time the Landfill is open. Residents can bring their own shovel and fill up bags, containers or their vehicle by hand.

For customers with a truck or trailer, the District of Summerland is available to load either type of compost or top dressing from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM (noon), Monday to Friday. Customers must remain in their vehicle while being loaded.