

#Summerland Strong



District of Summerland Newsletter

September 2026

In the aftermath of the Bald Range Wildfire, our hearts are with those who lost a loved one, who lost homes, businesses, pets, livestock and crops, and any who are still waiting for news. We also carry with us deep admiration and gratitude for the firefighters and first responders, volunteers, municipal and regional district teams, everyone who helped protect and support our community, and everyone who provided food and shelter to evacuees. You are heroes and we can't thank you enough.

Every resident of Summerland and surrounding area has experienced loss. Healing will take time and each of our recoveries will be unique. Be kind to yourself and to others as we face social and economic recovery together, the same way we faced the evacuation together.

The District of Summerland is developing a recovery plan for impacted residents and public infrastructure, with guidance from the provincial Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR). While everyone will have their own ideas of what recovery should look like, and there may be challenges in addressing needs versus wants, the goal is to return life to normal as quickly as possible.

This is new territory for us all. But we will find strength from within our community and draw on support from people near and far, as we travel the road to recovery together.

~ Mayor Doug Holmes

Recovery & Rebuilding: Staying Informed

As our community begins the recovery process following the Bald Range Wildfire, the District of Summerland is working to support residents and businesses as they navigate the road ahead.

Residents who require assistance can continue to contact ESS by phone at 250-486-1890, available daily from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Recovery will take time, and information will continue to evolve as initiatives, programs and resources become available. We encourage residents to stay informed through the District's official communication channels:

- **District's website:** Visit www.summerland.ca regularly for the latest community and recovery updates, resources and information.
- **Social Media Platforms:** For timely updates, announcements and reminders, follow us on:
 - Facebook: facebook.com/SummerlandBC
 - Instagram: instagram.com/districtofsummerland/

To support the recovery and rebuilding process, the District's Development Services will be **prioritizing applications for properties directly impacted by the wildfire.**

Recovery Centre: New Location at Giant's Head School

The Bald Range Wildfire Recovery Centre will open on Tuesday, September 1, at **Giant's Head School (East Entrance), located 10503 Prairie Valley Road.** Hours of operation: Tuesday-Saturday from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Summerland Landfill & Recycling Depot

Please visit the District's website for up-to-date information on the status of the Landfill & Recycling Depot www.summerland.ca/city-services/garbage-recycling/summerland-sanitary-landfill.

Temporary Curbside Collection Changes

- All food scraps must be placed in your garbage cart (black cart) until further notice. Do not place food scraps in your green cart.
- Garbage collection is now weekly for all residential properties.
- Green carts are for yard waste only (leaves, grass, branches, and prunings) and are collected every second week, alternating with recycling collection.
- Recycling collection remains unchanged.
- The temporary curbside collection calendar is available at: https://www.summerland.ca/docs/default-source/city-services/solid-waste/202608_updated_calendar.pdf.

One-Day Recycling Depot

A One-Day Recycling Depot will be held from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM on **Saturday, September 19** at the Arena Recycling Compound, 8820 Jubilee Road.



Community Thank You to Our Firefighters

On Monday, August 31, residents gathered at Memorial Park to recognize and celebrate the dedicated members of the Summerland Fire Department. The community came together to say thank you to the firefighters who worked tirelessly to keep Summerland safe throughout the year.



Mayor Doug Holmes offered remarks honouring the service and commitment of the department, and presented each firefighter with a certificate of recognition. The District was pleased to be joined by Amelia Boulton, MLA, and the Honourable Kelly Greene, Minister of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness, who also shared words of appreciation for the firefighters' contributions.



Attendees enjoyed a free community barbeque, with hot dogs and burgers generously sponsored by the Kinsmen Club of Summerland, Summerland Legion and Summerland Men's Shed. The District extends its sincere thanks to everyone for their support in making the evening a success.

Most of all, the District thanks the members of the Summerland Fire Department for their ongoing service, dedication, and commitment to protecting our community. Events like this remind us how fortunate we are to have such devoted individuals looking out for Summerland.

To everyone who came out to show their support — thank you for helping us celebrate and recognize these remarkable individuals.

Campfire Ban In Effect Until Further Notice

Due to extreme temperatures, dry conditions and the high-extreme fire danger rating, this campfire ban is in effect to protect public safety and to limit the risk of person-caused fires. This ban does not restrict fires in stoves, barbeques or portable campfire rings utilizing gas, propane, or briquettes.

Anyone found in contravention of an open burning prohibition may be issued a ticket up to \$2,000. In addition, if the contravention causes or contributes to a wildfire, the person responsible may be responsible for all firefighting and associated costs. The Fire Department thanks the public for their co-operation in complying with the ban.

Call For Election Officials— 2026 General Local Election

Are you passionate about our community and enjoy connecting with people? The District of Summerland is seeking to hire election officials for the upcoming 2026 General Local Election on **October 17, 2026** and advanced voting opportunities on **October 7 and 14, 2026**. Should you wish to apply, please visit www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/employment to view a full list of the job description and job requirements.

Application forms are available on our website or can be picked up at Municipal Hall (second floor) located at 13211 Henry Ave, Summerland, BC.

Working as an election official provides an opportunity to be involved in the community while gaining valuable insight in the election process – apply today! All applications can be submitted via email to elections@summerland.ca or can be dropped off to the Chief Election Officer at Municipal Hall (second floor). Deadline for submissions is **4:00 PM on Friday, September 18, 2026**.

2026 General Local Election Key Dates

- Nomination Period: September 1—11, 2026
- Campaign Period: September 19— October 17, 2026
- Advanced Voting Opportunities: October 7 & 14, 2026 from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM at the Summerland Arena Banquet Room, 8820 Jubilee Road E.
- General Voting Date: October 17, 2026 from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM at the Summerland Arena Banquet Room, 8820 Jubilee Road E.
- Inaugural Meeting: November 3, 2026

For more information, visit <https://elections.bc.ca/local-elections/2026-general-local-elections/>

Fall Irrigation Shut off

Irrigation services will be turned off for the season beginning **Tuesday, October 13**. Irrigators who wish to have their irrigation extended will be required to complete an Extension Irrigation application form and pay \$65.81 plus GST (\$69.10 total) per property. Extension Irrigation application forms are available on our website www.summerland.ca/city-services/works-and-utilities-department/wu-forms or from the cashier at Municipal Hall. Please submit completed application form and payment by cash, cheque, debit or credit card to the Cashier at Municipal Hall, 13211 Henry Avenue, 8:15 AM to 5:00 PM Tuesday to Friday, **no later than Wednesday, October 7**.

Aquatic and Fitness Centre: Maintenance in Progress

Our team has been busy behind the scenes at the Summerland Aquatic & Fitness Centre, completing important annual maintenance, cleaning and repairs to keep the facility safe, clean and welcoming for the community.

The Fitness Centre remains open Monday to Friday, from 6:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

The pool will reopen Tuesday, **September 8** at 6:30 AM.



“Small Dog” Area Trial at Peach Orchard Dog Park

The District is evaluating the use of a designated “small dog” area within the Peach Orchard Dog Park. As part of this evaluation, a fenced “small dog” area will be in place **for a three month trial**, with the fencing scheduled to be removed on December 1, 2026. Feedback collected during the trial will then be compiled and shared with Council to help inform future decisions regarding the space. Dog park users are encouraged to share their experience and **feedback** throughout the trial **by emailing** recreation@summerland.ca.

Fall into Fun With Summerland Recreation

Discover a season full of opportunities to move, learn, and connect—from swim lessons to yoga to tots dance and so much more, there's something for every age and stage! Whether you're trying something new or returning to a favourite activity, our online fall recreation guide is your destination for an active and healthy fall. Browse the guide and register early as popular programs fill quickly. Registration is available online at summerland.perfectmind.com, in person at the Recreation Office or via phone **250-494-0447** (from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM).



2026 Local General Election

General Voting Day is Saturday October 17, 2026 between 8:00 AM and 8:00 PM at the Summerland Arena Banquet Room, 8820 Jubilee Road E.

Advanced Voting

Advanced voting for the 2026 Local Government Election will take place between the hours of 8:00 AM and 8:00 PM on the following dates at the Summerland Arena Banquet Room, 8820 Jubilee Road E.:

- Wednesday, October 7, 2026
- Wednesday, October 14, 2026

Resident electors

To vote in the District of Summerland election as a resident elector, you must:

- be a Canadian Citizen;
- be 18 years of age or older on the day of registration;
- be a resident of the District of Summerland on the day of registration;
- have been a resident of B.C. for at least 6 months before the day of registration; and
- not disqualified under the Local Government Act or any other enactment from voting and not otherwise disqualified by law.

Non-Resident property electors

Non-resident property electors are individuals who own residential property in the District of Summerland and live elsewhere in B.C. To vote as a non-resident property elector, you must:

- be a Canadian Citizen;
- be 18 years of age or older on the day of registration;
- have been a resident of B.C. for at least 6 months before the day of registration;
- not be disqualified from voting in an election;
- be a registered owner of real property in the District for at least 30 days before the day of registration;
- not be registered as a resident property elector; and
- if there is more than one registered owner of a property, only one of those individuals may, with written consent of the majority of the owners, register as a non-resident property elector.

2027 Grant in Aid requests

Each year Mayor and Council consider Grant in Aid requests from non-profit organizations that contribute to fulfilling basic needs and improving the quality of life of Summerland residents. If your organization is interested in applying for a 2027 Grant in Aid, visit www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/departments/finance. For the current application form and related policy. Completed submissions, with all requested supporting documentation are due **September 30, 2026**. Please send all related information to finance@summerland.ca.

Development Cost Charges Bylaw Modernization

Council has adopted an updated Development Cost Charges (DCC) Bylaw, effective January 1, 2027, replacing the previous bylaw from 2006. DCCs are one-time fees paid by developers to help fund infrastructure needed to support growth.

Key changes include a five-year phased implementation of new rates, protection for eligible in-stream applications, an exemption for building permits under \$100,000, installment payment options, and updated infrastructure projects and costs. Learn more at www.summerland.ca/your-city-hall/bylaws-policies/bylaws.

Voyent Alert!

Receive notifications for critical and emergency events.

Sign up now at <https://www.summerland.ca/city-services/notifications>.



Keep up to Date

The District shares community updates through its website and social media channels, including Facebook and Instagram. Council meetings can be viewed on the District's YouTube channel www.youtube.com/c/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.