

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Along with Councillors Thornburgh, Stock, Weisenberger and Orr, and our CAO Rob Buchan, I attended the annual Union of British Columbia Municipalities Conference in Vancouver from September 25 – 29. Municipal officials and Regional representatives took advantage of the opportunity for meetings with the new Ministers of the current government.



There is now a dedicated Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing which is an initiative I have long supported. The new Minister, the Honourable Selina Robinson, spoke to the delegates as a whole as well as to a number of the sessions and to the Mayors' Caucus. North Saanich will be arranging a meeting with this Minister to address matters of particular interest to the municipality.

Some topics of major interest across the province included the serious issues of housing affordability, wildfire prevention and mitigation with stories from local governments on managing through the worst wildfire season in our history, as well as the opioid crisis and the increasing focus on responsible and respectful conduct by elected officials.

I also attended the BC Mayors' Caucus where the main topic was the need for a framework to address concerns regarding the issue of uncivil behaviour among council members which has increasingly been a subject of media attention. The presenters were two municipal lawyers specializing in governance assistance as well as a long term former mayor. Examples of "Integrity Commissioners" from other provinces and compulsory codes of conduct were discussed by the participating mayors.

A Responsible Conduct Policy Paper that outlines an approach to strengthening the framework for responsible conduct by local government elected officials in BC was endorsed by the UBCM delegates. It will be pursued by the UBCM Executive with Minister Robinson to address the provincial response to this approach.

The opportunity for municipal councils to attend this conference and engage with representatives from across the province is invaluable in considering common concerns but most importantly to have the opportunity to speak with one voice to the province on major issues.

Happy Thanksgiving



## MUNICIPAL HALL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

The Municipal Hall construction project has reached substantial completion. Council has now been using its new

Council Chambers since August while a few remaining details are wrapped up. The project has remained on budget.

The Municipal Hall Construction project began in 2014 with the concept of replacing a portion of the hall instead of repairing the existing hall. The construction project was divided into two phases. Phase I of the construction was completed in July, 2016. This phase included a front counter as well as workspace for staff. Phase II included the Council Chambers, lunchroom, file storage, and public washrooms.

### Major Milestones:

- September 2015 Contract for Construction awarded
- November 2015 Construction started
- July 2016 Phase One (New Wing) completed
- August 2016 Phase Two Construction started
- August 2017, Substantial Completion

As a part of the project, Council decided to include a solar panel array with a battery bank back-up instead of a diesel generator to provide back-up energy. A record of the performance of the new system will be posted to the District's website when the information becomes available.

## APPOINTMENTS TO ADVISORY COMMISSIONS

The District will soon be accepting applications from individuals interested in serving on Advisory Commissions and Committees. There will be vacancies on the following:

- Community Planning Commission
- Community Stewardship Commission
- Peninsula Recreation Commission
- Saanich Peninsula Water/Wastewater Committee
- Victoria Airport Authority Noise Management Committee

For more information on these volunteer opportunities, or to obtain an application form, please visit the District's website at [www.northsaanich.ca](http://www.northsaanich.ca) or visit the Municipal Hall at 1620 Mills Road from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays excluding statutory holidays.

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING STRATEGY AND POLICY

The next phase of the District's policy work on a review of housing policy in Area 1 (McTavish) and Area 2 (Tsehum) is underway. Council has directed the development of an affordable housing strategy and policy. Development of the strategy and policy is grounded in the unique considerations set out in the *Saanich Peninsula Affordable Housing Needs Assessment* (the "Holman Report") and the *Housing Affordability in the District of North Saanich: A Discussion Paper to Inform Official Community Plan Deliberations*. There will be a particular focus on affordable housing for small families and seniors

in the low-moderate income ranges.

The draft *Affordable Housing Strategy and Policy* will be considered by Council later this fall.

## NORTH SAANICH WEBSITE

The District launched a temporary website at [www.northsaanich.ca](http://www.northsaanich.ca) after the previous website was corrupted. The temporary site is intended to serve residents while the District is in the process of developing a new fully functioning website. More information and services will continue to be restored. The District thanks the public for its patience during this process.

## DUNSMUIR LODGE REZONING AND OCP AMENDMENT

On August 21, 2017 Council adopted Bylaw 1415, 2016 (OCP and Zoning Bylaw amendments) for the Dunsmuir Lodge site. Bylaw 1415 enables the re-opening of Dunsmuir Lodge as a treatment center by Homewood Health, and it allows for the future subdivision and transfer of the remaining portion of the site to the Pauquachin First Nation. The original structure on the

## COMING UP

### Fire Prevention Week

Oct. 8-14, 2017

### Canada 150 Events

#### **Free Public Swim**

Oct. 18 - 1:30-3:30 p.m.  
Panorama Recreation Centre

#### **Free Public Skate - Dec. 9**

9 a.m. - 1:20 p.m.  
Panorama Recreation Centre

### Community Meeting

Wednesday, Oct. 18 - 7 p.m.  
St. John's United Church  
10990 West Saanich Rd

### The Great BC Shake Out

Drop! Cover! Hold On!  
October 19, 10:19 a.m.  
Details at [www.northsaanichfire.ca](http://www.northsaanichfire.ca)

### Marine Policy Planning Public Consultation

October 19, 2017  
Mary Winspear Centre  
2243 Beacon Ave, Sidney

### Halloween Bonfire & Fire Works

October 31, 2017 - 6:30 p.m.  
Wain Road Fire Hall

### Council and Committee of the Whole Meetings - 7 p.m.

October 16- Council  
October 23- COW  
November 6 - Council  
November 20 - Council  
November 27 - COW  
December 4 - Council  
December 11 - COW  
December 18 - Council

**\*\*Municipal Hall is closed Nov 13\*\***

site was built in 1974 as a treatment centre for people with alcohol and drug addictions. The Dunsmuir property was later donated to the University of Victoria in 1985 by the late George Poole and operated as an educational conference centre until its closure in 2009.

**LANDS END WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT**

The Lands End Water Main Replacement project is nearing completion. The project to replace 700m of undersized 100mm (4”) diameter asbestos cement water main on Lands End Road from Woodcreek Drive to Kitwanga Place with a new 200mm (8”) main was initiated by the District in 2017. The project was identified as a priority in the District’s Water Master Plan completed in 2016. As of September 15, the bulk of the construction works have been completed, including pressure testing of the water main. Tie-in of the new water main to the existing network and reconnection of individual service connections is anticipated to be complete by the middle of October.

**NEW CRD REGULATIONS FOR COOLING SYSTEMS**

Did you know? As of January 1, 2019 the use of Once-Through-Cooling (OTC) equipment will be banned in the Capital Regional District. OTC equipment wastes drinking water by only using it once before sending to drain; it is often used for commercial refrigeration and air conditioning. For more information visit [www.crd.bc.ca/otc](http://www.crd.bc.ca/otc)

**NEW PICKLE BALL COURTS**

The official opening ceremony for the District’s four new pickle ball courts at Wain Road Park took place August 11 and was the culmination of a project approved by Council in early 2017. The project was designed, managed, and constructed in part by District staff. In particular, the design, layout, and project management of the court facility was led by Engineering Technologist Baohua Duan and by the District’s Public Works Superintendent Ron Maylen. Civil works including drainage, grading, site preparation, and landscaping were completed by the District’s Public Works crews. The project has been very well received by the local pickle ball community and there is frequent activity at the courts.

**FLAVOUR TRAIL**

Another successful Flavour Trail event! The 10th Annual Flavour Trails North Saanich Food and Farm Festival, August 18-20, 2017 saw new venues, more food, and an increased number of visitors. Highlights included a sold out Farm-to-Table Launch Event at the Fickle Fig, a lamb-roast, free demos and sampling of foods, as well as a Canada 150 Pancake/ Crepe breakfast that served over 400 people. Along with the old-time festival-favourite farm and community venues, this year saw new stops that included blacksmithing, sheep/lamb

specialties and wool textiles, how-to-grow activities for kids, and an expanded indigenous foods walk/talk at Tseycum First Nation. Visitors at the festival reported spending on average \$54 over the weekend, bringing an estimated \$150,000 to local businesses.

**BURNING SEASON OPENS NOVEMBER 2, 2017**

Effective Thursday November 2, 2017 the burning season will be open with all fires requiring a permit.



For incinerators and open fires, burning shall only take place on the first and third consecutive Thursday, Friday, and Saturday’s from November to May from sunrise to sunset, with a permit. Incinerators, open fires, and outdoor appliances are subject to a site inspection and fee.

Fires larger than 3’ x 3’ x 3’ require an annual inspection and permit.

There is a complete ban in effect in the Dean Park area west of East Saanich Road with the exception of approved manufactured outdoor fireplaces used for cooking and social activities. Burning of household and yard waste in these appliances is prohibited.

Please burn your fires hot to avoid producing noxious smoke that can be harmful and disturb your neighbours. Burning of leaves, wet or green material is strictly prohibited. Use of a tarp between burns is recommended.

Please consider alternatives to burning such as composting, recycling, chipping, or for a fee, you can drop off material at the Municipal Green Waste Drop-off on Littlewood Road.

For your inspection and permit, or if you have any questions, please call the Fire Department at 250-656-1931 or visit our website: [www.northsaanichfire.ca](http://www.northsaanichfire.ca)

**EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM**

To receive Emergency Notifications from the North Saanich Emergency Program, please register through our website [www.northsaanichfire.ca](http://www.northsaanichfire.ca)



**CANADA 150**

North Saanich continues to celebrate Canada’s 150th birthday with upcoming events at the Panorama Recreation Centre:

- Free Public Swim – October 14 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
- Free Public Skate December 9 from 9 a.m. to 1:20 p.m.

**NEW STAFF & RECRUITS**

The Fire Department welcomes our new Fire Prevention Officer,

Kurt Barner. As well, eight recruit firefighters joined our team and will start their training in September. Welcome!

**GRADE FIVE FIRE SAFETY EXPO**

North Saanich, Sidney, Central Saanich and Saanich Fire Departments will be holding the annual Fire Safety Expo for the Grade 4/5 students of SD63 at North Saanich Wain Road Hall from Oct 3 – 6.

**MARINE POLICY PLANNING NOTICE OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

The District is hosting a public consultation session with presenters John Readshaw, SNC-Lavalin Inc. on October 19, 2017 at the Mary Winspear Centre from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Please RSVP to Deanna Law at [dlaw@northsaanich.ca](mailto:dlaw@northsaanich.ca) or 250.655.5470

**HALLOWEEN BONFIRE AND FIREWORKS**

The North Saanich Fire Department will be hosting the annual Halloween bonfire and fireworks at the Wain Road Fire Hall beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 31, 2017. This year’s display will be larger as we celebrate Canada 150. Please come and enjoy the show and a free hot dog and drink. Fireworks begin at 7:45 p.m. Donations for Muscular Dystrophy will be gratefully accepted.



<b>Emergency Police, Fire, Ambulance</b>	<b>9 1 1</b>
Non-emergency POLICE (i.e. traffic issues)	250-656-3931
Non-emergency FIRE (after hours)	250-475-6111
<b>MAIN SWITCHBOARD</b>	<b>250-656-0781</b>
Building Inspections, Bylaw Enforcement, Licensing, Planning & Zoning	250-655-5470
Corporate Services	250-655-5458
Engineering Services	250-655-5460
Financial Services	250-656-0781
Fire Department	250-656-1931
Public Works	250-655-5480
AFTER HOURS Public Works	250-360-8285
<b>MAYOR AND COUNCIL</b>	
Mayor Alice Finall	250-656-6668
Councillor Heather Gartshore	250-656-0974
Councillor Jack McClintock	250-888-4890
Councillor Geoff Orr	250-656-4562
Councillor Celia Stock	250-655-3437
Councillor Jack Thornburgh	250-665-6314
Councillor Murray Weisenberger	778-351-2213