

YOUR THOUGHTS:

Current project:

- 128-room Three-story
- Described as "Extended stay"
- 8.5 acres at Beacon Avenue West and the Patricia Bay Highway

Ideas:

Concerns:

Likes:

Hours of Operation

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Closed weekends
and statutory
holidays



2024 Year In Review

District of North Saanich | British Columbia, Canada



Staff Appreciation Day

On January 30, we celebrated Employee Appreciation Day, recognizing 28 staff members for their long service to the District of North Saanich. This event marked the first under the Staff Appreciation Policy, approved in 2024, highlighting our commitment to valuing employee contributions.



Pedestrian Bridge Completed at Reay Creek Park

Construction was completed this fall and marks an important step in our ongoing partnership with the Town of Sidney.

The link enhances connectivity and offers a beautiful new way for residents to enjoy the natural spaces in both communities.

2024 Social Statistics



744 posts across three social media platforms



222,284 post impressions (total number of times a post was visible in user timelines or feeds)



253 post shares on Facebook



70 public notices and news releases on the website

Development of the Parks Master Plan Continued

In June we hosted our second public open house to garner feedback from the community regarding the Draft Parks Master Plan. The project kicked off in the Spring of 2023, with the first public open house taking place last winter after an extensive review. A revised draft was published in December this year, to be presented to Council in 2025.

Other important Public Engagement initiatives included:

- Citizen Engagement Strategy
- Deep Cove Traffic Calming
- Loneliness and Isolation Survey



- April 11: Ag & Food Security 1
 - April 24: Sustainability, Climate & Ecology 1
 - May 8: Housing & Sense of Place 1
 - May 14: Marine & Waterways 1
 - May 22: Ag & Food Security 2
 - June 6: Housing & Sense of Place 2
 - June 10: Marine & Waterways 2
 - June 18: Sustainability, Climate & Ecology 2
 - July & Aug: Nine Pop Up Events
- Plus an additional seven surveys throughout the year!



Public Engagement on the OCP Re-started with many Engagement Events & Pop-ups

File Room Improvements

2024 has been a productive year for records management at the District. Key achievements include scanning permanent records like agreements, building permits, and bylaws to improve access and disaster preparedness. Operational costs were reduced by integrating records management software into DocuWare. Off-site records were reviewed, categorized, and managed according to the District's retention schedule. Updates to the main storage room at Municipal Hall included environmental controls and expanded shelving, increasing capacity from 849 to 1236 boxes, with reused shelving improving adjacent storage. Future projects focus on scanning all permit files, reviewing records for destruction, and reorganizing storage to separate permanent records from those scheduled for disposal.

Director of Infrastructure Takes on New Responsibilities

In 2024, the District took a significant step toward deepening relationships with Indigenous communities. On October 7, Council announced the creation of an expanded Director of Infrastructure Services, Asset Management, and First Nations Relations role, appointing Ben Martin to the position. This strategic move, approved at a Special In Camera Meeting on September 23, reinforces the District's commitment to meaningful collaboration with the WSÁNEĆ people and other Indigenous communities. This evolution in leadership reflects North Saanich's dedication to responsible stewardship and inclusive governance.



New Artificial Turf Fields at Blue Heron Park

We contributed \$647,000 to the project, in addition to \$250,000 contributed by Town of Sidney and Central Saanich. The Peninsula Soccer Association raised an additional \$600,000+. The new turf fields officially opened on March 9.

Completed Construction of the Beacon Ave West Roundabout

Construction of the new roundabout, which began in June 2023 in collaboration with Town of Sidney and Victoria Airport Authority, was completed this May.



At the September 9 Council meeting,
Council approved three new career
firefighter positions: two firefighters and
one FireSmart Coordinator/Firefighter

5859

Greenwaste
Drop Offs

461

After Hours
Emergency
Call Outs

1016

Calls Attended by the
North Saanich Fire Dept.

19

Park Use
Permits

Established Three New Advisory Bodies

The newly formed advisory bodies met for the first time in June, and will continue to meet monthly.

1. Community Planning Advisory Committee: provide valuable insights on community planning and land use, ensuring alignment with the Local Government Act and Community Charter
2. Agriculture and Food Security Advisory Committee: shaping agricultural policies, offering input on land use, by-laws, and permits as guided by the Local Government Act, Community Charter, Agricultural Land Commission Act, and Soil Conservation Act.
3. Healthy Community Living Advisory Committee: promoting healthy community initiatives through informed decision-making on land use and planning matters, also under the guidance of the Local Government Act and Community Charter



Accessibility Highlights

As part of the multi-year accessibility plan Council adopted last year, the District conducted accessibility audits of our website and connectnorthsaanich.ca and received a number of recommendations on how to make them more accessible.

One outcome was the addition of an accessibility button added to the District website in November. When the button is clicked, users can access a screen reader, adjust text, contrast, and more!



\$35,700+ Grants in Aid
\$97,550 Annual Funding

Support for community organizations in North Saanich (and throughout the region) increased this year from \$75,000 to \$97,550 in annual funding. This increase means we can support even more organizations in the district.



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PLEASE NOTE: If a member of the public wishes their correspondence to Council to be considered for inclusion on an agenda, the correspondence must be addressed to Mayor and Council and sent to corporateservices@northsaanich.ca

16 | Special Event Permits

125 | Building Permits Issued

7 | Memorial Bench Dedications

1 | Park Table Dedication

66 | New Business Licenses

The Martin Mars Water Bomber during its final flight over Patricia Bay on Aug. 11



Resources

[2023-2026 Accessibility Plan](#)

[Draft Parks Master Plan](#)

[2023-2027 Financial Plan](#)

[2025 Council Meeting Schedule](#)

[2023-2026 Strategic Plan](#)

[Citizen Engagement Strategy](#)