



Mayor's Message

Spring will soon be here and I'm sure we're all looking forward to warmer days and the many activities outside. There are few things as glorious as a sunny spring day in Highlands.



Springtime is also budget time, so please review our budget schedule. Plan to attend meetings to offer input on how your hard-earned tax dollars are spent. This year council and staff are making an extra effort to manage District assets and keep them in top-notch shape now and into the future.

Highlands Council is also committed to boosting your access to Highlands' information and improving our ability to hear from you. Be the first to know by signing up for "Notify Me" on the Highlands District website to get the latest "News Alerts" and "Events".

Traffic Safety Commission Seeks Feedback on Malahat Point-to-Point Speed Enforcement

The Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General is seeking public comment on the possibility of a pilot project on the Malahat using a system known as "point-to-point speed enforcement."

The Capital Regional District's (CRD) Traffic Safety Commission has proposed that the Malahat Highway be used for such a trial project because speed is a factor in many of the crashes on the Malahat, and also because it's a "high-consequence" traffic corridor. If a crash requires that the Malahat be closed – and many do – it frequently affects Highlands along Finlayson Arm Road and Millstream Road.

The system differs from old-style "photo radar" in that it penalizes only those drivers who are speeding over a significant stretch of highway, not someone who may be speeding for only a moment. As well, drivers are warned repeatedly and well in advance by signage that their speed will be monitored, avoiding any suggestion they were entrapped by the system.

A study in Scotland showed that when the system was installed on a highway that had been plagued with multiple crashes, the number of fatalities and serious injuries dropped by 74%. Similar studies in Australia, Italy, Austria and the Netherlands found that fatalities dropped between 50% and 70%.

Comments should be sent to BC's Solicitor-General at PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca.

Asset Management

"Asset Management – Maintain assets in an appropriate state of repair; optimize capital investments to meet public and economic needs while achieving value for the investment."

As one of the Strategic Plan deliverables, the District embarked upon a process to develop an Asset Management Plan working with the Brentwood Advisory Group. This was done with the assistance of a grant from UBCM.

A draft plan was developed, and an Open House was subsequently held to obtain input from residents, which was incorporated into a revised draft considered by Committee of the Whole on February 13th. The Committee of the Whole recommended adoption of the plan to Council, and that recommendation was ratified at the February 19th Council meeting. The Plan and accompanying documentation is available on the District's website or through the District Office.

For 2018, the focus will be on developing better road asset information and implementing a Pavement Management Plan to assist in determining the appropriate level of funding needed to maintain the road system. Then in 2019 the District can focus on building a long term financial approach to asset management.

Adoption of the Asset Management Plan will start the District on the path of Sustainable Asset Management. This will allow the District to continue to effectively provide services to the community and protect future generations of Highlands' residents.



*Asset Management BC – Asset Management for Sustainable Service Delivery – A BC Framework

Community and Council News

Regional Growth Strategy

Capital Regional District

January 2018

At the February 5, 2018 Meeting, Council considered and accepted the revised version of the CRD's Regional Growth Strategy (RGS). The document was the subject of a non-binding mediation process in December 2017. The mediation resulted in agreement among the participating parties on all 32 disputed items. In mid January, the CRD referred the revised RGS to all member municipalities for acceptance. If a municipality does not reply by the deadline of March 16 either accepting or refusing the RGS, that municipality will be deemed to have accepted it. As of February 21, nine out of 13 municipalities have accepted the RGS, and none have refused it. If acceptance is not unanimous, the RGS process will proceed to binding arbitration. If there is unanimous acceptance, the CRD Board will have the option of adopting the RGS bylaw. Once adopted, member municipalities have two years to provide to the CRD "regional context statements" for acceptance. Currently, there is staff-level discussion to offer a standardized format for regional context statements across the CRD. This move would provide a simpler and standardized format for everyone.

Here Are the Latest West Shore RCMP Stats for the District of Highlands:

West Shore Detachment	3rd Quarter 2016	3rd Quarter 2017	YTD 2016	YTD 2017	% Change
Assaults	1	2	12	11	-8%
Sex Offences	1	1	1	1	0%
B&E - Business	0	0	1	0	-100%
B&E - Residence	0	2	1	4	300%
B&E - Other	0	0	0	1	100%
Theft from MV	0	2	11	3	-73%
Theft of Auto	1	0	3	0	-100%
Theft (Over/Under)	2	5	11	11	0%
Possession of Stolen Property	0	0	0	0	0%
Mischief	2	4	13	12	-8%
Drugs - Possession	2	0	3	3	0%
Drugs - Trafficking	0	0	1	2	100%

CRD Regional Transportation Service Bylaw No. 4093

At the January 22, 2018 Meeting, Council supported CRD's Bylaw No. 4093 which would create a Regional Transportation Service. The services included are those that can be most cost-effective delivered at a regional scale - namely data collection, programming and lobbying for funding of regional priorities.

The proposed bylaw provides for municipal requisitioning to cover the costs of expanded services. Any increases beyond current spending (\$1.5 million) would have to be approved by a majority of the Board. Any increases beyond the requisition cap of \$2.5 million would have to be approved by a majority of the Board and 2/3 of municipal Councils or whatever approval process was used to adopt the bylaw. Information on what this service means can be found on the CRD's website: <https://www.crd.bc.ca/project/regional-transportation>



Volunteer Opportunity

Does volunteering a couple of hours of your time each month seem appealing to you? If so, the District of Highlands requires volunteers for each of the following Committees:

- Highlands Heritage Select Committee
- Highlands Social Sustainability Select Committee
- Highlands Sustainable Land Use Committee

For Information on how to apply:

<http://www.highlands.ca/DocumentCenter/View/6714>

West Shore Detachment	3rd Quarter 2016	3rd Quarter 2017	YTD 2016	YTD 2017	% Change
Fraud	3	3	5	9	80%
Cause Disturbance	1	1	1	5	400%
Breach of the Peace	0	0	11	5	-55%
Traffic Collision - Fatal	0	0	0	1	100%
Traffic Collision - Injury	4	2	8	5	-38%
Impaired Op MV	2	2	8	4	-50%
Liquor Related Offences	0	0	0	1	100%
Municipal Bylaws	6	3	18	14	-22%
Missing Persons	0	1	2	2	0%
Abandoned 911	2	4	11	10	-9%
Suspicious Occurrence	3	2	17	11	-35%
Domestic Violence	0	1	11	11	0%
Mental Health Act	1	7	5	16	220%
Total	33	42	160	143	-11%



2018 Budget Schedule

Highlands Council will review the Draft 2018 Budget and 2018-2022 Financial Plan during March, April and May.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend these meetings at the Old School House, 1589 Millstream Rd. at 7 pm:

- March 12 - CoTW – Presentation on Draft budget and overview
- March 26 - Special CoTW – Discussion
- April 9 - CoTW – Discussion
- May 7 - Regular Council - Bylaw – Three Readings
- May 14 - Special Council - Bylaw Adoption

Highlands Information at Your Fingertips

Don't miss a meeting or Highlands event. By simply signing up with the "Notify Me" function on the District's website at highlands.ca, you can choose to receive email or cell phone notifications for items such as: agendas, minutes, news alerts and events posted to the community calendar.

Highlands Community Clean-up

May 5th, 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Spring into action and join our annual clean up of litter, tossed metal, tires & miscellaneous items from main roadsides & municipal parks.

To reserve a section of a main road or for more information, contact Marcie @ 250-474-4725.

Organized by the Highlands District Community Association

Highlands Community Garden Project Finlayson Arm Road - Behind the Community Hall



The HDCA'S Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 1st @ 11:00 am

Caleb Pike Heritage Grounds, 1589 Millstream Rd.

Please bring nut-free treats to hide or finger food to share.
Beverages provided.

Everyone welcome! Rain or shine.

For information contact Marcie: 250-474-4725

Garden Boxes Work Party: Learn how to build garden boxes

When: Sunday March 18, 10 am to 2 pm - Everyone welcome. Bring your lunch - Coffee, Water and Treats provided.

The garden soil is in, the fences are up, the irrigation system is almost finished.

The garden boxes are pre-cut, you need no experience in order to help as we will provide instruction.

For information or to be on the contact list email us at: Highlandscommunitygarden@outlook.com or find us on Facebook.



Highlands Community Hall and Caleb Pike Heritage Grounds

Rental Information

Community Hall

Rates:	2 DAY	FULL DAY	HALF DAY	HOURLY RATE
Community Hall	750	400	250	75
Security Deposit	375	200	125	50

Caleb Pike Heritage Grounds

Rates:	2 DAY	FULL DAY	HALF DAY
Complete Facility	600	300	150
Caleb Pike House	120	70	20
School House	100	100	30

With floor to ceiling windows overlooking a natural wetland ecosystem, the **Community Hall** offers a 1200 square foot assembly area which can seat up to 100 people at tables, 112 theatre type seating, and 72 conference type seating. The warming kitchen comes equipped with coffee and tea service, and full dinnerware for up to 50 people. The stage area is visually beautiful and acoustically designed.

The **Caleb Pike Heritage Park** can be rented for almost any event. Both the Caleb Pike House and the Schoolhouse are available for rent either separately or together. The use of the park grounds is included with the rental. A new renovation in the Dairy provides a VIHA certified serving kitchen. Rental prices include set up of table and chairs, and lighting of the wood-stove in the Caleb Pike House. Renters need to bring any items such as flip charts or slide-projectors. A high speed ADSL wireless internet connection is available in the Schoolhouse.



Caleb Pike Heritage Grounds

Community Calendar

March 2018

- March 5 & 19 **Council Meeting**
7pm School House – Heritage Park
- March 14 **Heritage Select Committee**
7:30 pm School House - Heritage Park
- March 10 **Coffee House “OzMoses”**
7:30 pm Pike House - Heritage Park
- March 12 **Committee of the Whole Meeting**
7 pm School House - Heritage Park
- March 20 **Sustainable Land Use Committee**
7 pm School House - Heritage Park
- March 26 **Special Committee of the Whole**
7 pm School House - Heritage Park
- March 30 – **Good Friday** – Office Closed

April 2018

- April 1 **Easter Egg Hunt**
11 am Heritage Park
- April 2 **Easter Monday** – Office Closed
- April 3 & 16 **Council Meeting**
7 pm School House- Heritage Park
- April 9 **Committee of the Whole Meeting**
7 pm School House - Heritage Park
- April 11 **Heritage Select Committee**
7:30 pm School House - Heritage Park
- April 14 **Coffee House – Allen Dobb**
7:30 pm Pike House - Heritage Park
- April 17 **Sustainable Land Use Committee**
7 pm School House - Heritage Park



Thank you to Pat Lintaman who has donated hundreds of hours of his time to the community garden project over the past two years. Most recently he designed the community garden gate, donated the wood and constructed it – and all in the cold weather.



Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour on Sunday, March 11. Test your smoke alarms and install new batteries.

May 2018

- May 5 – **Highlands Community Cleanup**
9am - 1pm
- May 7 & 22 **Council Meeting**
7 pm School House - Heritage Park
- May 9 **Heritage Select Committee**
7:30 pm School House - Heritage Park
- May 14 **Special Council Meeting (Budget)**
followed by **Committee of the Whole Meeting**
7 pm School House - Heritage Park
- May 12 **Coffee House “Horizon West”**
7:30 pm Pike House - Heritage Park
- May 15 **Sustainable Land Use Committee**
7 pm School House - Heritage Park
- May 21 **Victoria Day** - District Offices Closed

March 10th Highlands Music Coffee House presents OzMoses



OzMoses is all about diversity. The music is eclectic folk and the repertoire includes folk, pop, country, blues and funky gospel.

Time: 7:30pm | **Place:** Caleb Pike House, 1589 Millstream Road
Charge: \$5.00 /person - coffee, tea and goodies provided.

Upcoming Events - April 14 - Allen Dobb | May – Horizons West

Volunteer of the Month

Council and Staff Contacts:

Mayor Ken Williams
kwilliams@highlands.ca
250-882-5481

Councillor Leslie Anderson
leslie.corvidconsulting@gmail.com
778-350-8180

Councillor Ann Baird
ann@eco-sense.ca
250-478-2680

Councillor Gord Baird
gord.baird@gmail.com
250-478-2680

Councillor Karen Burns
burnska@shaw.ca
250-391-6227

Councillor Marcie McLean
marciemclean@shaw.ca
250-474-4725

Councillor Karel Roessingh
karel@roessong.com
250-727-9808

Fire Chief Ford
firechief@highlands.ca
250-920-6970

Municipal Office
250-474-1773

CRD Animal Control
250-478-0624

CRD Bylaw Enforcement
250-474-3351

CRD Parks
250-478-3344

Wildlife Information
1-800-663-9453



Reminder: Spring is a great time to clean up combustible leaves, twigs and branches that have fallen from winter storms.

Stay connected! Check out our website at www.highlands.ca and subscribe to *Notify Me* which allows you to sign up to an unlimited number of email lists. Receive email or text message updates regarding the information you have requested that is important to you!

