

# Highlands News

Highlands Council Newsletter  
Winter / Spring 2019



## Mayor's Message

Here we are in March and the snow is still covering the ground. I can't wait for warmer days and spring flowers. It's nearly time to put away the ice scraper and get ready for warmer weather.

Springtime is not only budget time, but a time in which your Highlands Council sets your strategic priorities for the next four years. As these ideas land at the council table, all of council wishes to hear your input. Please get involved and tell us your thoughts, ideas and the best way that Highlands can move forward.

Asset management and emergency preparedness are key components that help mitigate the effects of our changing environment. Highlands has put forward a motion at the Capital Regional District to join with our local government neighbours and First Nations to apply for the UBCM Community Resilience Program grant that will help with vegetative management and protection from the threat of wildfire.

Council wishes everyone a joyous spring and may your gardens far exceed your dreams.



## Highlands Broom Bash 2019

May is broom time. Join fellow Highlanders in cutting broom. Cut anytime before the May 15<sup>th</sup> deadline but with the following in mind:

- Cut only blooming broom – no old woody dead broom
- Stack the piles beside the road with all stems pointing out
- Call (250-478-7885) to organize pickup

All landowners are encouraged to cut the broom at their roadside and involve their neighbours, make it fun.

**PICK UP IS ONLY OFFERED  
UNTIL MAY 15, 2019**

## Climate Emergency Declaration

On February 13, 2019, the Capital Regional District (CRD) voted unanimously to declare a climate emergency. As part of this, they committed to carbon neutrality by 2030 (11 years). The CRD will be asking all 13 municipalities in our region to also consider making the same declaration including climate commitments in their own communities.

The impetus for this seemingly drastic move comes from the October 2018 report from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

which states that we have until 2030 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) by 45% and 100% reduction by 2050 to avoid catastrophic impacts which we are already seeing. We have a very short window of time to completely change how we live, work, and play to avoid the worst of the projected impacts.

Although this may sound dire, there are incredible opportunities to adapt and build community resilience while simultaneously creating a better world. The coming months and years will be intensely focused on building local resilience through mitigation, adaptation and learning together about what all this means here in Highlands, in the CRD, in BC, in Canada, and globally.

- Councillor Ann Baird



## Help Greater Victoria win 10 million for transportation in Canada's Smart Cities Challenge

Go to <http://www.southislandprosperity.ca/smart-mobility-2/> and sign the manifesto!



The [South Island Prosperity Project](http://www.southislandprosperity.ca/smart-mobility-2/) has put the finishing touches on this grant application after two years of citizen and stakeholder engagement. (#FreedomtoMove) Show your support and help improve the mobility of all while reducing our carbon footprint.

# Community and Council News



## The Highlands Community

**Garden** continues to welcome new volunteers and gardeners as we complete the garden. Last year ten families/individuals rented individual garden boxes and others joined as communal gardeners. A number of grants (from Fiskgars, Tree Canada and Vancouver Island Health Authority among others) provided the funding for a garden shed and tools, a garden bench, some 40 fruit and nut trees and berry bushes as well as funding for accessible garden boxes and a children's garden. This year we plan to build another 14 garden boxes, complete the children's garden and provide gardening seminars.

Workshops (to build the garden boxes) will be held on Sunday, March 17 from 10am to 3pm. The Community Garden is located behind the Community Hall, 729 Finlayson Arm Road. Everyone is welcome and no experience is necessary; you will be provided with a task. Wear heavy gloves and boots.

Visit us on Facebook or for further information contact us at: [highlandscommunitygarden@outlook.com](mailto:highlandscommunitygarden@outlook.com).

## Congratulations

to all those who participated in the Coldest Night of the Year Walk. Councillor Stanton is seen here joined by many other community members who participated in a 5km walk around downtown Victoria on February 23<sup>rd</sup> to raise funds for the homeless across Canada. Victoria's Open Door raised \$50,000.



photo [timescolonist.com](http://timescolonist.com)

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Highlands Select Committees

Does volunteering a couple of hours of your time each month seem appealing to you? The District of Highlands' three select committees still require additional members. The committees are: Heritage Select Committee, Social Sustainability Select Committee and the Sustainable Land Use Select Committee.

For Information on how to apply:

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



### CRD Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC)

The Capital Regional District is seeking a member from the District of Highlands to serve on the SWAC. This committee provides input on solid waste management matters, advises on the development of a major revision of our region's Solid Waste Management Plan and will monitor implementation of the new plan, once it is approved. Please follow this link for Terms of Reference and information on how to apply: <https://www.highlands.ca/DocumentCenter/View/7091/Membership-Announcement>

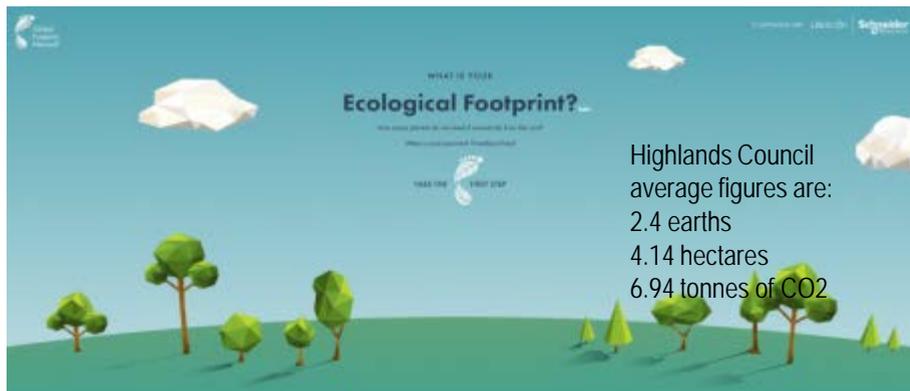
### Municipal Survivor Climate Challenge



Highlands council has just launched the Municipal Survivor Climate Challenge (MSCC), and have committed to reducing its average ecological footprint, a measurement of how many earths would be required if everyone on the planet lived like members of council do. Council members also measured their ecological impact (in hectares) and carbon emissions (in tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>). These numbers are determined with the simple calculator found here:

<https://www.footprintcalculator.org/>

Though our individual impact is small on a global scale, by taking individual action we can build resilience and show what is possible. We are choosing to walk our talk. To have some fun with this, we have challenged all other mayors and councils (and elected officials) on Vancouver Island and coastal BC to accept our invitation for a friendly competition to see which council has the lowest footprint and which can improve the most over a one year period beginning on Earth Day (April 22, 2019). What's your footprint? Stay tuned for updates.



# Community and Council News



## 2019 Budget & Financial Plan Schedule

Highlands Council will review the Draft 2019 Budget and 2019-2023 Financial Plan during March, April and May.

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

- March 25 – Special CoTW – Financial Plan Presentation
- April 8 - CoTW – Discussion
- April 29 – Special CoTW - Discussion
- May 6 - Regular Council - Bylaw – Three Readings
- May 13 - Special Council - Bylaw Adoption



**Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> @ 11:00 am**

**Caleb Pike Heritage Grounds, 1589 Millstream Road**

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

Sponsored by the Highlands District Community Association



## Priorities

The CRD 2019 - 2022 mandate (with an annual review), agreed to focus on the following regional priorities:

- Community well-being - Transportation & Housing
- Climate Change Adaptation & Mitigation
- First Nations Reconciliation
- Advocacy, Governance & Accountability



Our communities strive to achieve exemplary environmental stewardship, a dynamic vibrant economy and an inclusive, caring society. Regional cooperation, mutually beneficial decision making and advancing shared interests shape the essence of the CRD.

**Highlands Newsletter** Don't forget that the Highlands Newsletter will not be available through regular mail any longer. To receive the Highlands Newsletter sign up under the "Notify Me" button on Highlands Website. All of Highlands Information is available 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](http://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

**April 27 - 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 prior to that Saturday or for more information, please contact Marcie @ 250-474-4725.

If you have not confirmed before the Saturday of the clean-up, please come to the Pike House, 1589 Millstream Road between 9:00-9:30 am.

There you may select a section of a main road, and get some garbage bags and rubber gloves. Beverages will be provided. If you cannot bring your collected garbage back to the Pike House, please leave it on the shoulder of a main road where it can safely be retrieved by 1:00 pm.

Highlands' main roads are: Millstream Rd., Finlayson Arm Rd., Munn Rd. and Ross-Durrance Rd.



## Special Highlands Children Event

### The Mad Hatters Tea Party

Highlands Heritage Park - 1589 Millstream Road  
Sunday, June 2, 2019 from 1:00-3:00 PM

Featuring: Alice in Wonderland theme and characters with an outdoor **Unbirthday Tea Party** with food & drink, games, music & fun!!

Free event but all participants must wear a "fun hat". Fun Hats will be available in the Pike House for a \$5.00 cash donation or deposit. Event is postponed if rain or showers and new date will be announced.

A Highlands District Community Association Event  
Contact person: Marcie 250-474-4725



Where: 729 Finlayson Arm Road, Community Hall

When: Saturday, March 30, 2019

Dinner Start: 6 PM | Dance Start: 7.30 PM

Please bring your own plates, cutlery, a drinking vessel, beverage and a delicious dish to share for the potluck.

Tea and coffee will be provided.

Mary Ross will provide live music and Bob Anderson will lead us through the Celtic dance steps. Couples and individuals of all ages are welcome; no partner is required. Dress casually and wear soft-soled shoes.

Everyone welcome!

To help plan for the event RSVP to:

[calebpikinfo@telus.net](mailto:calebpikinfo@telus.net)



# 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	500	300	150
	# hour	# hour	hourly
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 VISA 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.



## Contact Info:

Mayor Ken Williams

[kwilliams@highlands.ca](mailto:kwilliams@highlands.ca)

250-882-5481

Councillor Leslie Anderson

[leslie.corvidconsulting@gmail.com](mailto:leslie.corvidconsulting@gmail.com)

778-350-8180

Councillor Ann Baird

[ann@eco-sense.ca](mailto:ann@eco-sense.ca)

250-478-2680

Councillor Gord Baird

[gord.baird@gmail.com](mailto:gord.baird@gmail.com)

250-478-2680

Councillor Marcie McLean

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250-474-4725

Councillor Karel Roessingh

[karel@roessong.com](mailto:karel@roessong.com)

250-727-9808

Councillor Rose Stanton

[rose26@telus.net](mailto:rose26@telus.net)

250-474-3403

Fire Chief Ford

[firechief@highlands.ca](mailto: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 Conflicts

1-800-663-9453

Conservation Office (RAPP)

1-877-952-7277

## Community Calendar

### March 2019

March 4 & 18 **Council Meeting**  
7pm School House – Heritage Park

March 9 **Coffee House**  
7:30 pm Pike House - Heritage Park

March 12 **Social Sustainability Select Committee**  
7:30 pm School House - Heritage Park

March 13 **Heritage Select Committee**  
7:30 pm School House - Heritage Park

March 18 **Committee of the Whole Meeting**  
7 pm School House - Heritage Park

March 20 **Sustainable Land Use Committee**  
7 pm School House - Heritage Park

March 25 **Special Committee of the Whole**  
7 pm School House - Heritage Park

### April 2019

April 1 & 15 **Council Meeting**  
7 pm School House- Heritage Park

April 8 **Committee of the Whole Meeting**  
7 pm School House - Heritage Park

April 9 **Social Sustainability Select Committee**  
7:30 pm School House - Heritage Park

April 10 **Heritage Select Committee**  
7:30 pm School House - Heritage Park

April 13 **Coffee House**  
7:30 pm Pike House - Heritage Park

April 17 **Sustainable Land Use Committee**  
7 pm School House - Heritage Park

April 19 **Good Friday** – Office Closed

April 21 **Easter Egg Hunt**  
11am Caleb Pike Heritage Park

April 19 **Easter Monday** – Office Closed

April 27 **Highlands Community Cleanup**  
9am - 1pm – check dates

April 29 **Special Committee of the Whole**  
7 pm School House - Heritage Park

### May 2019

May 6 & 21 **Council Meeting**  
7 pm School House - Heritage Park

May 8 **Heritage Select Committee**  
7:30 pm School House - Heritage Park

May 11 **Coffee House**  
7:30 pm Pike House - Heritage Park

May 13 **Special Council Meeting (Budget)**  
followed by **Committee of the Whole Meeting**  
7 pm School House - Heritage Park

May 14 **Social Sustainability Select Committee**  
7:30 pm School House - Heritage Park

May 15 **Sustainable Land Use Committee**  
7 pm School House - Heritage Park

May 20 **Victoria Day** - District Offices Closed

## Daylight Savings

Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour on Sunday, March 10.

This is also the ideal time to test your smoke alarms and install new batteries.



## March 9<sup>th</sup> Highlands Music Coffee House presents Resonance



Resonance will be presenting an evening of music celebrating Schubert and his contemporaries.

Time: 7:30pm | Place: Caleb Pike House, 1589 Millstream Road  
Charge: \$10.00 /person - coffee, tea and goodies provided.

Upcoming Events – April – Celtic Reflections | May – Knackers Yard

**Thank You!** Congratulations on your retirement Cheryl Otting! Cheryl has been the District's Financial Consultant since incorporation. Council and staff would like to send out their sincere appreciation and thanks to Cheryl for her excellent work and commitment to the Highlands over the past 25 years!



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



Stay connected! Check out our website at [www.highlands.ca](http://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!

