



Mayor's Message

Congratulations to Council members on their re-election. We will be hitting the ground running with upcoming strategic planning sessions this December and January.

On behalf of Highlands Council and staff, I extend our warmest regards and best wishes to everyone in our community. May the spirit of the season be with you and your loved ones throughout the holidays and we wish you a happy, healthy, prosperous new year.



Winter Road Maintenance?

Duty Phone: 250-893-1773

The District's duty phone will become active when hazards such as ice and snow conditions are apparent on Highlands' roads. The Duty phone is monitored 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Residents can report winter road conditions to this number and actions will be taken into consideration as appropriate to the circumstances. Please do not report road conditions or submit requests for winter maintenance to the Fire Chief or Fire Department, as they are not the authority to direct the roads contractor to respond.

District Office Winter Closure

Please be advised that the District Office will be closed as of noon December 23, 2022 and will re-open on Tuesday, January 3, 2022.

Highlands Fire Department Santa Run 2022

Santa Claus will once again be visiting the District of Highlands on **Saturday, December 10th, 2022**

The volunteers from the Highlands Fire Department will be driving Santa around on a fire truck so that he can meet all of you. Please come out and meet Santa. Treats will be available to all. The Fire Department will also be collecting non-perishable food items for the Goldstream Food Bank to ensure a great holiday for all citizens of the West Shore.

Please note that as Santa does not have time to go up and down every street, please refer to the list below for scheduled locations we will be appearing:

East Highlands Route

- 9:30 Start at East Fire Hall
- 9:35 Woodridge / Robb
- 9:45 Woodridge / Munn
- 10:00 Munn / Bukin East
- 10:10 Munn / Rolla
- 10:30 Munn / Compton
- 10:40 Munn / Fork Lake
- 10:50 Davies Rd
- 11:00 Millstream Lake / Millstream



West Highlands Route

- 12:00 Start at West Fire Hall
- 12:15 White Pine / Red Cedar
- 12:25 Millstream / Martlet
- 12:30 Caleb Pike North / Millstream
- 12:45 Caleb Pike Homestead
- 13:00 Highland Park Terrace / Skyview
- 13:15 Lorimer / Lorimer Place
- 13:30 Blacktail / Quail
- 13:45 Up Stewart Mountain
- 14:00 Up Finlayson Arm to Past Rowntree
- 14:30 Taylor Way/Millstream
- 14:45 Hawkins/ Hanbury
- 14:50 Hannington/ Danby
- 15:00 Millstream/ River Road
- 15:15 Bear Mountain Parkway – Rivers Crossing



Note: All times are approximate. Listen for the sirens to hear when Santa and the Fire Fighters are getting close to your stop.



Community and Council News



The BC Energy Step Code is a provincial standard that aims to create healthier, more energy-efficient and comfortable new buildings. It does so by establishing measurable performance-based energy-efficiency requirements for new construction.

As of January 2, 2023, building permit applications for new construction will be required to show compliance with the BC Energy Step Code. The following table outlines the District of Highlands' BC Energy Step Code requirements.

BC Building Code / Building Type	Step Code Requirement	IF Low Carbon Energy System** Incorporated
Part 9 Residential – NEW Single Family Dwelling 420m ² (4,521 sq. ft.) or less*	Step 5	Step 3
Part 9 Residential – NEW Single Family Dwelling 420.1m ² (4,522 sq. ft.) or greater*	Step 5	Step 4
Part 9 NEW Commercial	Step 2	N/A
Part 3 NEW Wood Frame Multi-Family Residential	Step 4	Step 3
Part 3 NEW Complex Concrete Multi-Family Residential and Commercial	Step 4	Step 3
Renovations & Additions	No requirement	

*Compliance with the Step Code will require the input of an Energy Advisor at various stages of the project, including design, construction and building completion. Building Permit applications must include a performance modelling report along with construction details that show how the proposed house will comply with the BC Energy Step Code and the low carbon energy system pathway, if applicable.

**Low Carbon Energy System (LCES) means a mechanical system that provides thermal conditioning and domestic hot water for a building primarily from low carbon energy sources such that:

- (a) the total modelled Greenhouse Gas Intensity is no more than 3 kg CO₂e/m²/yr; and
- (b) seasonal average coefficient of performance greater than 2.

Helpful Links:

Energy Step Code: <https://energystepcode.ca/>

Compliance Reports for Part 9 Buildings: <https://energystepcode.ca/compliance-tools-part9/>

Compliance Reports for Part 3 Buildings – Link: <https://energystepcode.ca/compliance-tools-part3/>

Energy Advisors: <https://energystepcode.ca/energy-advisors/>

2023 Grant-In-Aid Funding

The Highlands office is accepting applications for grant-in-aid funding for 2023. Organizations wishing to apply must submit a completed application prior to the deadline, February 28th, 2023. Application forms and the District's policy are available at

<https://www.highlands.ca/163/Grant-in-Aid>.

Mary Lake Nature Sanctuary

The Mary Lake Nature Sanctuary, at 1772 Millstream Road, gives you the opportunity on the first Sunday of each month to walk in the woods along easy paths beside sparkling creeks to enjoy views of the tranquil lake.

The gates are open from 1:00 – 4:00 pm for you to wander through the Sanctuary by yourself, with a friend or with your own group. Free with yearly membership or \$5 donation at the gate.

Suggested donation is \$10 for guided tours that introduce you to fascinating interactions in the natural world which are often unnoticed. Strolling in the Sanctuary gives you a chance to slow down and enjoy the peace and rejuvenation of a “walk in the woods”. For more information email info@marylakegvs.com

"Down the Garden Path"

After the heat of summer, box-holders have put up their tomatoes and peppers, planted their garlic, and continue to enjoy hardy greens through these shortened days, avoiding sticker shock at the grocery store. Those who grow winter vegetables have mulched beds to protect from the frosts we are now experiencing, and the snows soon to follow. After many fruitful work parties throughout the year, we will be holding our festive potluck brunch for members in early December.

We are so grateful to have such a beautiful garden to grow and learn in, and are eagerly scouring the seed catalogues in anticipation of a great growing season ahead.

If you are interested in becoming a garden member or have any questions, please contact us at Highlandscommunitygarden@outlook.com



Photo by Hiromi Goto

Storm Preparedness – Are You Ready?

With recent weather conditions you can't help but ask yourself “Am I ready for a serious storm?” You can find helpful tips and a checklist on the Highlands website here: <http://www.highlands.bc.ca/183/Emergency-Preparedness>

Community and Council News



CRD Origin Destination Travel Survey

It is travel survey time! From October to November, some CRD Residents will receive a letter from the CRD inviting participation in the survey. Highlanders' input is needed! If you receive a letter asking you to participate, log in with your invitation letter's unique secure code and help shape the future of transportation!

If you recycled your letter, or have not received a letter and want to participate, please email info@crdtravelsurvey.ca or call the toll-free survey hotline 1-888-430-2115 to ask to complete the survey.

* The letter you receive asking you to complete the survey is legitimate and is from the CRD.

- * R.A. Malatest and Associates are conducting the survey on behalf of the CRD and will compile the data and report the results.
- * Only those contacted by letter or by phone are to fill out the survey.
- * The daily travel information gathered in this survey provides the CRD, local governments and agencies across the region with data critical for making informed decisions on transportation investments.
- * Your personal information is kept secure, and data is anonymized and aggregated to support planning and monitoring.
- * The 2022 survey will mirror the 2017 survey with only very minor changes, including new questions on e-bikes, electric vehicles, work from home, and income.
- * Substantive changes to the survey cannot be accommodated as it needs to be comparable to previous years for accurate monitoring and reporting of trends over time.
- * One member from each household responds on behalf of all household residents.
- * Information collected includes demographics, origin and destination of travel, transportation mode choice and contact details (phone or email).
- * Participants may choose to opt out of the survey at any stage. [Travel Survey Brochure](#)

Traffic Advisory

Ross Durrance Road (Between Addresses 176 and 228 Ross Durrance Road)

Please be advised that it is expected that there will be tree work done by BC Hydro starting Friday, December 9th through to December 21, 2022, or possibly sooner. Ross Durrance Road, between addresses 176 and 228, will be closed fully or intermittently between the hours of 8:30am to 4:00pm - Monday - Friday. Thank you for your patience.

RECYCLE YOUR HOLIDAYS

If you are looking at ways to recycle this season please visit:
<https://www.crd.bc.ca/education/campaigns/list-of-current-campaigns/holiday-recycling/holiday-recycling-tips>

Outdoor Burning – Do you have a permit?

There is no longer an open season for burning so permits are now required for all outdoor burning. Permits are free and can be obtained online at: <https://hvfd.burnpermits.com/>. Burning in woodstoves does not require a permit. If you need help completing the permit process, please contact District staff for assistance at 250-474-1773 or by email at info@highlands.ca.

Seasons Greetings from the Highlands District Community Association (HDCA)!

We hope you enjoy the peace and beauty of our precious Highlands this holiday season.

Your HDCA directors are planning a host of great activities for the coming year and there will be lots of opportunities to volunteer. For example, are you interested in helping out with events such as a community roadside cleanup and the annual broom bash in the spring? Or family friendly events such as the Easter Egg Hunt and the Highlands Fling fall fair?

Or do you have other community building ideas for the HDCA directors to consider? Are there topics and speakers you'd like to suggest for our Speakers' Series?

Please consider supporting and strengthening your local community association by buying or renewing an HDCA membership as a New Year's resolution.

There's no better way to feel part of your community than by volunteering, and volunteering has always been the heart of our community. Help keep that tradition alive! Send an email to HDCAcontact@gmail.com, telling us how you'd like to get involved. We'd love to hear from you!



2023 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING DATES
Community Hall - 729 Finlayson Arm Road – 7:00 pm

Month	Weekday	Date
January	2 nd Monday 4 th Monday	January 9 January 23
February	1 st Monday 3 rd Tuesday	February 6 February 21
March	1 st Monday 3 rd Monday	March 6 March 20
April	1 st Monday 3 rd Tuesday	April 3 April 17
May	1 st Monday 3 rd Monday	May 1 May 15
June	1 st Monday 3 rd Monday	June 5 June 19
July	3 rd Monday	July 17
August	2 nd Monday	August 14
September	2 nd Monday	September 11
October	1 st Tuesday 3 rd Monday	October 3 October 16
November	1 st Monday 3 rd Monday	November 6 November 20
December	1 st Monday	December 4



Marnie Essery receives award from Mayor Williams

2022 Service Award Winners

Highlands Council recognized the outstanding community contributions of Marnie Essery, Libby McMinn, Scott Richardson and Marlene Tyshynski at the October 3rd Council Meeting

Contact Info:

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
250-812-5481

Councillor Gord Baird
gord.baird@gmail.com
250-818-7986

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

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

Councillor Rose Stanton
rose26@telus.net
250-474-3403

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

Municipal Office
info@highlands.ca
250-474-1773

Winter Road
Maintenance
Duty Phone:
250-893-1773

CRD Animal Control
250-478-0624

CRD Bylaw Enforcement
250-474-3351

CRD Parks
250-478-3344

Wildlife Information
1-800-663-9453

Highlands Music Coffee House

The December Highlands Music Coffee House takes place on Saturday Dec. 10. The featured presentation is the band “Gravitation” (Bill Hamilton, Burke Rosen, Brad Hawkes) bringing to us some originals, some folk songs and some Christmas songs to help us celebrate the coming holidays, and the evening will be opened by the music of Thomas Radcliffe.

We won't have any music nights in January or February, so people don't have to drive at night in snowy conditions to get to the events (We may instead hold some music online over Zoom) and we will come back in person in March 2023. Here are the upcoming dates and featured bands for the New Year:

March 11, 2023 Claire Coupland	April 8, 2023 Thomas Radcliffe
May 13, 2023 Los Gringos Locos	June 10, 2023 Hank Cramer
July 8, 2023 Southbound and Friends	August 12, 2023 Mufaro Marimba

Meeting Dates

December

Council - Monday, December 5 – 7:00 pm
Council - Monday, September 19 – 7:00 pm
Winter Office Closure – Noon December 23, 2022
Reopening – Tuesday, January 3, 2023

January

Council - Monday, January 9 – 7:00 pm
Committee of the Whole – Monday, January 16 - 7:00 pm
Council – Monday, January 23 – 7:00 pm

February

Council - Monday, February 6 – 7:00 pm
Committee of the Whole – Monday, February 13 – 7:00 pm
Family Day Holiday – Monday, February 20
Council – Tuesday, February 21 – 7:00 pm



West Shore Christmas Hamper Fund Society

The West Shore Christmas Hamper Fund Society, located at 761 Station Ave (basement) provides Christmas hampers, toys, gift certificates and clothing to those individuals requiring assistance. Up to 650 hampers of various sizes are issued. The goods are either purchased by the Society or provided as gifts-in-kind by individuals, groups and businesses. Names are provided to the Society by the Christmas Bureau of Victoria, or by sponsors. Individuals, groups, service clubs, schools and businesses donate money each year to purchase the goods.

Please contact 250-391-9627 for more information.