

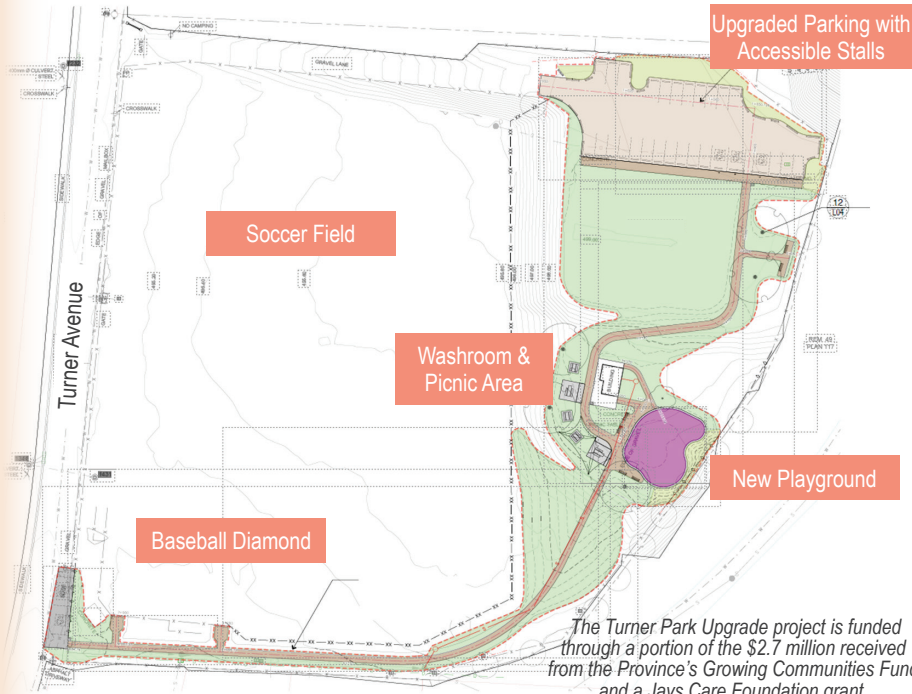
Peachland NEWS



October 2024 Municipal Newsletter

Turner Park Phase 2 Construction Begins!

In early October, Superior Excavating Services began work in the upper tier of Turner Park to install picnic areas, a children's playground and upgraded washrooms. This phase also includes new accessible pathways and tables, benches, and waste receptacles, and a shaded picnic area and landscaping improvements. The parking area will be improved, the old sports box area replaced with grass and the washroom connected to sanitary sewer. The full project is anticipated to be completed by June 2025. Turner Park remains closed during construction.



The playground that will be installed was chosen by Peachland Elementary students.

The Turner Park Upgrade project is funded through a portion of the \$2.7 million received from the Province's Growing Communities Fund and a Jays Care Foundation grant.

Citizens Recognized for Service to Peachland

At its meeting on September 24, Council presented a token of appreciation to **Judy Bedford** in honour of 40 years of volunteer service to the community establishing, maintaining and fundraising for the Peachland Community Food Bank. Judy's compassion and dedication to helping others in need has earned her many awards over the years including a Queen's Diamond Jubilee medal and two citizen-of-the-year awards with her husband Wes. "As she has been often described by those who volunteer alongside her or by those who are helped by her efforts, Judy is a guardian angel and a pillar of our community. She is most deserving of our appreciation and admiration," said Mayor Patrick Van Minsel.



Also on September 24, Council commended **Blake Pfannenschmidt**, a contract Bylaw Officer with the District of Peachland, for actions he took recently to protect the community. One evening last month, Mr. Pfannenschmidt witnessed a vehicle hit and run and followed the offending vehicle to where it stopped and asked for the driver's keys, which he received. He called the RCMP and assisted them with the aggressive passenger as the driver failed a roadside sobriety test. "Your actions on that August evening were outstanding and brave. You made a citizen's arrest that kept a dangerous driver off the road and assisted the RCMP in ensuring the safety of our community that evening," said Mayor Van Minsel.



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After Hours Emergency
888-804-0666

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PFRS Celebrates National Fire Prevention Week



October 6 to 12 was National Fire Prevention Week and Peachland Fire & Rescue personnel visited Peachland Elementary students to discuss fire safety and take them through the Fire Safety House. Students from the school's Strong Start Program visited the Peachland Firehall to meet Sparky, try out some fire extinguishers and check out the fire trucks!

Peachland Fire Rescue reminds all residents **SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES!**

* **INSTALL** * smoke alarms on every level and in every bedroom * **TEST** * smoke alarms at least once a month * **REPLACE** * smoke alarms every 10 years.



Outdoor Burning Permits Available

Open burning permits are available for eligible property owners from Peachland Fire and Rescue.

Permits holders can burn outdoors on days when both air quality and venting indices are good. Outdoor burning was delayed slightly this year due to an extreme fire danger rating.

Before lighting any fire, permit holders must call the toll-free Outdoor Burning Hotline: 1-855-262-2876 (BURN) and confirm that burning is permitted on that day.

Alternatives to open burning include chipping, grinding or if applicable, yard waste disposal at the RDCO Westside Residential Waste and Recycling Centre off Asquith Road in West Kelowna (fees apply).

Residents may report anyone violating local bylaws and burning on a non-burning day to the Regional Fire Dispatch Center at 250-469-8577.



Call Peachland Fire Rescue Service at 250-767-2841 (weekdays only 8 am to 4 pm excluding holidays) for permit information.



We know, it's awesome, but PLEASE SLOW DOWN!

The repaving on Princeton and Somerset Avenues is complete and we know how marvelous it is to have smooth roads again, BUT... Motorists are reminded that the speed limit on local roads is 50 km/hr (unless otherwise posted).

PLEASE SLOW DOWN AND DRIVE THE SPEED LIMIT

PEACHLAND EVENTS

Halloween Event

Saturday, October 26

5 pm to 7 pm

Peachland Community Centre,
4450 6th Street.

Everyone is welcome at this FREE fun-for-everyone family event. Enjoy a spooky haunted house, dance and treats! More information at

www.peachland.ca/halloween



Remembrance Day Ceremony

Monday, November 11

10:30 am

Peachland Cenotaph Park, Beach Avenue and 2nd Street. Please join community members for the Peachland Remembrance Day Ceremony to remember those from our community who died in military service and honour those who served in wartime. A reception follows immediately afterwards at the Legion Branch #69. All funds from poppy sales stay in the community in which it is earned. Consider buying your 2024 poppy in Peachland.



Peachland Christmas Craft Fair

Saturday, November 30

9 am to 3 pm at the Peachland Community Centre. Purchase this year's gifts from local artisans. Find exciting handmade treasures and works of art for that someone special person on your list.



Admission is by donation with proceeds going to the Peachland Wellness Centre. For more information or to register as a vendor, please contact the Centre at 250-767-0141.

Bears have been spotted in Peachland, attracted to ripened fruit and garbage.

Please do your part to help Keep Wildlife Wild!



www.wildsafebc.com

Report conflicts to the Conservation Office
1-877-952-7277

2025 Permissive Tax Exemptions

Council gave first three readings to the 2025 Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw, identifying the following properties as eligible for exemption due to community benefit:

- Peachland United Church
- St. Margaret's Anglican Church
- Peachland Baptist Church
- Peachland Wellness Centre & The Peachland Food Bank
- Peachland Riding Club
- Peachland Historic School
- Peachland District Retirement Society
- Maple Springs Bible Camp
- The Nature Trust of BC
- Peachland Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion
- Okanagan Regional Library
- Peachland Chamber of Commerce

The estimated financial impact of the 2025 tax exemptions, based on a 5% tax increase, is \$59,211 or .61% of the budgeted general tax revenue.

PEACHLAND'S RECYCLING SUCCESS

Good news, Peachlanders! You succeeded in lowering our "contamination rate" in our most recent recycling audit. Our target was a rate of 5.9% and we hit 3.8%!

Remember, no durable plastic products, (think laundry basket) or wood is allowed in the blue bins and plastic wrap and glass is only accepted at depots.



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WWW.PEACHLAND.CA/SUBSCRIBE

Mayor's Message

UBCM 2024

What an informative and productive week it was! From ministerial meetings and town halls to plenary sessions, workshops, and seeking out new funding opportunities, the experience has been invaluable. I couldn't have done it without the collaboration of my fellow councillors, Dave Collins, Rick Ingram, Alena Glasman, Randey Brophy, and Keith Thom. Here's a overview of who we met and what we discussed.

Patrick Van Minsel



requested information on Brenda Renewables, about whose responsibility it is to retire forest roads and whether Crown land would ever be made available for development.

Kelly Greene, Parliamentary Secretary for Fisheries and Aquaculture to the Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship

We were clear that we want a say in our watershed and requested they enact legislation to protect watersheds and grant communities more authority over their own. We discussed funding for studies with an Okanagan Basin coalition in mind, and again raised the concern about invasive mussels and requested support for protections and prevention.

Anne Kang, Minister Municipal Affairs

We spoke about the need for a fixed annual funding stream for municipalities in particular for infrastructure projects for communities with populations under 10,000. We also discussed our issue with developers who seek rezoning and then sell the land after achieving it.

Sidebars

Peachland representatives stole moments with other ministers and senior staff and were able to raise concerns about Highway 97 through Peachland and seek support for a trail connection to West Kelowna.

Josie Osborne, Minister of Energy, Mines & Low Carbon Innovation

We discussed the need for a secondary energy line to Peachland. The current option is 5.5 years away and involves an under-lake connection to Fortis in Kelowna. I raised the possibility of a connection between Summerland and Peachland, emphasizing the numerous power outages that are impacting local businesses. I requested a duplication of our feeder lines

George Heyman, Minister Environment & Climate Change Strategy

We discussed a solar energy grant available for municipalities as well as fire mitigation in collaboration with Westbank First Nation representatives. We discussed Peachland's need to provide sewer to properties on aging septic systems and spent time reviewing the available grant funding for disaster resilience, emergency preparedness and climate action planning. *Note, Peachland is pursuing all of these opportunities already.*

Brenda Bailey, Minister of Jobs, Economic Development & Innovation

Discussed our Downtown Revitalization and Implementation Task Force and the efforts we are taking to encourage development, but emphasized we need help. As a growing community, we cannot rely on property taxes alone. The Growing Community Fund provides just that and we need that to continue.

Bruce Ralston, Minister of Forests

We sought support for residents to conduct meaningful wildfire mitigation on their properties and advised that Peachland, with heavily forested mountains at its back, needs increased funding for wildfire protection and prevention. We also

Upcoming Regular Council Meetings



- September 10
- September 24
- October 8
- October 22
- November 12

Regular Council meetings begin at 6 pm in Council Chambers, Peachland Community Centre, 4450 6th Street. The public is welcome to attend or can watch live and archived meetings via webcast.

www.peachland.ca/council

Email council@peachland.ca Phone: 250-767-2647

Council Highlights

PEACHLAND CLIMATE ACTION

Council agreed to a request from the Peachland Climate Sustainability and Resiliency Task Force to simplify the name to the Peachland Climate Action Task Force, which is assisting Council by preparing a *Climate Sustainability and Resiliency Action Plan*.

EXTENSION FOR 4607 PRINCETON AVENUE

Council granted a three-month extension to a rezoning request for 4607 Princeton Avenue which has been instream since June 2020. The applicant cited high interest rates and the current state of the residential real estate market as reasons for not meeting the conditions for adoption of

the Zoning Amendment Bylaw. The proposed rezoning is from Rural Residential to Multi-Unit Residential – Medium Density. The application was the subject of a public hearing in August 2023. If the applicant fails to satisfy the zoning conditions within three months, the application will lapse, and the file will be closed.

LIPSETT AVENUE REZONING

Council adopted a Zoning Amendment Bylaw to rezone 6137 and 6147 Lipsett Avenue from Rural Residential to Multi-Unit Residential – Medium Density allowing the development of 34 multi-family residential units, 10 per cent of which are to include flex units.



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