

COMMUNITY NEWS

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all, hoping all is well at the start of the fall season,

September is well underway, and I imagine it has been a busy month for many with activities and school starting up again. With school traffic in full effect and the Aberdeen Sewer project closing much of Aberdeen Road, a level of frustration may be experienced. The School District has been advised of the closure and has established alternate transportation routes, and I trust some communication has gone out on their part. Please have your children avoid the construction zone on Aberdeen Road for safety reasons. As annoying as road closures can be (trust me, I feel it as well), I suggest we look to take things in stride. Yes, I have said "oh fiddle" on more than one occasion. The good news is that the project has progressed slightly ahead of schedule!

Council has been active and busy with numerous items including a review of our Official Community Plan (OCP) in alignment with Provincial mandates. The OCP is a "big" picture document that provides Council with land use planning direction for the next several decades. We have been gathering input over the last year, and with the comment period now closed, the draft OCP will be considered at an upcoming Council Meeting - in time to meet the Provincially imposed deadlines. Once the OCP is adopted by Council, those guidelines will direct projects moving forward and be incorporated into existing District bylaws. For more information or to see the draft OCP, please visit coldstream2050.ca (*more on pg. 4*).

September also means it's time for budget discussions, one of the more difficult tasks of Council. So, far we are considering an approximate 6.7% potential tax rate increase. The only part of which is not as usual, is to set aside funds to pay for one additional RCMP Officer needed for the District. There are no vanity projects. As Council moves forward, we will look to trim costs where we can. Council will also look at longer term items, for example, improvements to the North Kalamalka Lake area. We will, of course, look for applicable grants. In the meantime, small improvements to begin with, then saving up for larger improvements may be the way to go. More information will be provided as we move forward and there will be opportunities for public input (*more on pg. 4*).

Council launched a pilot project at Pumphouse Beach in June to trial allowing dogs off leash for one year. I have been bombarded with comments, to the point where I decided to make my own observations and went to the beach regularly over July and August. Council is committed to listening to the public and will consider all the feedback received at the end of the project (June 2026) to help understand the opportunities and challenges that allowing off-leash dogs at the lake offers, and to evaluate the continued viability of the project. We appreciate everyone adhering to the posted rules and treating one another with respect.

I continue to meet with residents upon request and please do not hesitate to reach out. This is one of the more pleasurable aspects to my job. Coffee with the Mayor will be ongoing.

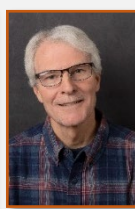
- Mayor Ruth Hoyte

YOUR COUNCIL

Find out how to contact or address Mayor and Council, visit www.coldstream.ca/mayor-council or email info@coldstream.ca



Mayor Hoyte



Councillor Dirk



Councillor Garlick



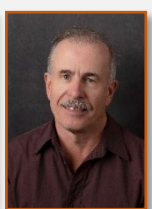
Councillor Hoffman



Councillor Levy



Councillor Runyan



Councillor Cochrane

PARKS & TRAILS

Middleton Park Soccer Nets

In July of 2024, Council received a letter from Grayson and Griffin Poulter requesting that soccer nets be installed at Middleton Mountain Park. Griffin and Grayson attended a Council Meeting to show their support for their request. Council was pleased to hear from the young residents, and after receiving further information on costs and options, the request was approved and two new soccer nets were installed this August.

It is always a pleasure to see our youth interacting with their elected officials and navigating the local government system! Way to go!



Brad Mills (Ops. Superintendent – P.W. & Parks), Mayor Hoyte, Griffin and Grayson Poulter, Councillor Levy

Coldstream Park Irrigation

Upgrades were completed this summer on the irrigation system at Coldstream Park, including: the replacement of all piping; new sprinkler heads arranged in zones for optimal coverage; and new, wires, valves, and control system.

INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Uplands Drive

Construction on Uplands Drive began on August 5th. Paving began at the end of August and the contractor, Nixon Earthworks, will start on the additional drainage upgrades from Rockland Drive to Scenic Drive once paving wraps up.

Kalamalka Road Safety Features

To improve both traffic and pedestrian safety, new features have been installed on Kalamalka Road:

- A signaled pedestrian light at the corner of Kalamalka Road and Westkal Road.
- 3-way stop signs on Kalamalka Road at the intersections of McClounie Drive and Kidston Road.
- A third raised crosswalk on Kalamalka Road at the eastern parking lot exit of Coldstream Elementary School.

Community Hall Solar Panels

This fall, solar panels are being installed on the Coldstream Community Hall to offset annual power consumption. From March-September annually, it is expected that the building will produce more energy than it consumes, and thus will be building "Net Metering Credits" with the electrical utility.

Lavington Wetland Project

The District was successful in obtaining a Water Conservation and Quality Improvement Grant through the Okanagan Basin Water Board. The funds are being used to develop a plan to mitigate risks to the Lavington Wetland by improving its resiliency to future flooding events.

Aberdeen Road Sewer Trunk Line

Construction continues on the Aberdeen sewer trunk line. The road will remain closed to through traffic until the end of October 2025. This is a full closure, 24-hour/7 days a week.

Many residents likely have experienced inconveniences due to traffic re-routing. Your patience and adherence to on-site signage and personnel is appreciated.

Active Transportation Network Plan

This spring, Council endorsed an Active Transportation Network Plan to guide development that supports safer, easier, and more enjoyable ways to walk, bicycle, and use other forms of active transportation.

Check it out: www.coldstream.ca/reports-publications

Stay up-to-date on these projects and more:
www.coldstream.ca/district-projects

ACCESSIBLE COLDSTREAM

Kalamalka Beach Accessibility

The Vernon and area Rotary Clubs have generously provided for the installation of accessibility mats at Kalamalka Beach. Now, visitors of all abilities can more easily and safely access the beach and water — making summer fun more inclusive for all.

Two of the three parking spots between the concession and washrooms have been re-designated for accessible parking.



North Okanagan Accessibility Plan

The District is committed to reviewing the accessibility of its physical and digital spaces to identify barriers that may exist and make improvements. In support of this commitment and in alignment with the requirements of the *Accessible BC Act*, Council has endorsed the North Okanagan Accessibility Plan, which outlines a set of goals and actions that can be considered over the next three years to address barriers and foster a regional approach to accessibility.

Let us know how we can enhance accessibility in Coldstream by contacting: accessibility@rdno.ca.

Find out more: www.coldstream.ca/accessibility

PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Home Fire Safety Measures

Fire safety in the home is an important consideration for everyone. Here are some key safety tips:

- Be sure to check, test, and clean your smoke alarms according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Replace smoke alarms that are ten or more years old.
- Purchase smoke alarms with a Canadian certification mark.
- Install smoke alarms in each bedroom, in the hallway outside the bedrooms, and on each level of your home.
- Make a fire escape plan and practise it.

- Keep a fire extinguisher in your home.
- If there is a fire in your home, get out and stay out. Never go back inside for people, pets or things.

Learn more at: www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/home-safety.html

FireSmart – Become a Neighbourhood Champion

Neighbourhoods (stratas, subdivisions, streets etc.) can get FireSmart recognition status but we need Neighbourhood Champions who can help to organize their area and lead the charge! The District will support the Neighbourhood Champions by:

- Completing an assessment and helping to create a plan that identifies locally agreed-upon solutions that the neighbourhood can implement.
- Helping to develop a Neighbourhood FireSmart Committee, to get the plan into action!
- Helping to host a FireSmart event each year – it could be a clean-up or a project to remove combustible material from the neighbourhood, for example.
- Supporting a bit of reporting: an annual report to FireSmart Canada that documents continuing compliance with the program.

Interested in being a Champion in your neighbourhood? Contact the FireSmart Coordinator at (250) 540-2036 or fireSmart@coldstream.ca

To book your Wildfire Mitigation Assessment, go to www.firesmartbcplatform.ca/request-home-inspection or email fireSmart@coldstream.ca.

BYLAW COMPLIANCE

Back to School Safety Reminder

School is back in session! Drivers are reminded to slow down, exercise caution, and watch for children walking/riding to and from school or crossing streets.

- *School Zones:* Maximum speed 30 km/h, in effect 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on school days.
- *Playground Zones:* Maximum speed 30 km/h, in effect dawn to dusk every day.



Back to School Safety Reminder (continued)

When dropping off or picking up children, please use areas where parking is permitted and there is enough room to pull over safely. Do not block sightlines at intersections, driveways, or crosswalks.

Please note, *some 30 km/h zones remain in effect year-round and at all hours*, such as: the Kalavista Drive neighborhood, Westkal Rd, the narrow portion of Middleton Way near Sarsons Rd, and the stretch of Kalamalka Road that passes by Coldstream Elementary School and the District Municipal Office.

Boulevard and Yard Maintenance

Did you know that the area between your property line and the roadway, known as a '*boulevard*', is your responsibility to maintain? Residents are required to keep these areas, as well as their own properties, free from waste, discarded materials, noxious weeds, and excessive vegetation that may become unsightly or pose a hazard. This fall, please:

- Keep grass and plants trimmed
- Remove weeds (especially noxious ones)
- Trim shrubs and trees so sightlines stay clear
- Keep boulevards and yards free of litter, debris, and hazards

Learn more: www.coldstream.ca/boulevard-maintenance

Fall Garden Waste / Leaf Drop off Program

The transfer station at 10405 Middleton Drive will *not be in operation* for the 2025 fall season.

The Greater Vernon Diversion and Disposal Facility, located at 120 Birnie Road, offers free drop-off of yard waste to Coldstream residents.

Reducing Wildlife Attractants

Autumn brings increased encounters with wildlife as animals prepare for winter and natural food sources become less available. You can help reduce these interactions by keeping attractants like garbage or BBQ equipment stored properly, or by cleaning up fallen fruit.

Find out more about how you can reduce wildlife conflict: www.coldstream.ca/wildlife

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION**Budget**

The 2026 budget process is well underway. Council's second budget meeting (Finance Committee) was held September 15th. Consideration was given to operational items, which are typically the items that impact the annual level of taxation required. A third Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for October 20th to consider capital projects. Once the Finance Committee has a draft budget prepared, it will be forwarded to Council for consideration and then form the Financial Plan Bylaw.

A public open house will be held to review and receive comments about the Financial Plan before it is adopted. All Coldstream residents are invited to attend and review the plan, so watch for advertisements in the paper, on our website, and on social media in the new year.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**Building Permits**

Building in Coldstream is on track for a very strong year, with 42 units already underway – compared to 17 units at this time last year. Many of these additional dwellings come are duplexes and suites, which are now permitted under the District's new Zoning Bylaw.

Official Community Plan

Coldstream continues to update its Official Community Plan. An Open House was hosted on August 20th, which saw a great turnout of residents. A Public Hearing will be held this fall to consider the draft Official Community Plan and, which includes:

- new areas for housing; and
- new plans for the North Kalamalka Area.

New Fees for Building

Council updated its Development Services fees in the Miscellaneous Fees and Charges Bylaw. The updated fees reflect and encompass the current costs of providing development services and support the intention of the fees, which are based on cost recovery. The new fees come into effect on January 1, 2026. Access the updated Bylaw: www.coldstream.ca/bylaw-directory