



District Update

Clean, Neat and Green

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Contacts

District of Port Edward
Public Works
250-628-3238

Conservation Officer
Services
1-877-952-7277

RCMP
250-624-2136
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911

District of Port
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PO Box 1100
Port Edward, BC
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Ph. 250-628-3667
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Mayor's Message

Hoping this message finds you all well. As we approach the start of the New Year there is much work to be done in preparation for 2022 so we can create the changes necessary for Port Edward to grow and remain an attractive and welcoming community.

In 2021 we completed a major infrastructure project, the rebuilding of Wildwood and Evergreen including upgrades to the sewer water and storm drainage. I know this inconvenienced residents along these streets, but it was necessary to improve our community. The District has been focusing on minor upgrades to our facilities this past year including repairs to public works, the Fire Hall and the municipal building.

One of the questions that keeps coming up is the Bus and the scheduling of the runs. The current schedule was developed from ridership counts, public input sought by BC Transit and the cost of each run. The current schedule was developed from this information. Adding bus runs is estimated to cost a minimum of \$20,000 per run a high cost, considering we are expected to spend \$130,000 for the service we currently have next year. BC Transit will be presenting to Council early in the New Year to discuss transit issues and I encourage you to participate via Zoom if transit is of interest to you.

We began council discussions on the 2022 budget in December, 2021. Council will have the budget firmed up in January. We will publish the information on our website, highlighting the areas we will be focussing on. There will be time set aside for the public to have input as we move through the budget process.

I wish you all the best in the coming year and for the holidays.

Quote of the month

Do good and good will come to you



Council News

The District of Port Edward Council meetings take place on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. Due to COVID-19 and Northern Health update, meetings will be held via zoom for the public. The meetings will begin at 7:00pm. If you wish to participate visit our Website page for the zoom link.

If you would like to bring a matter before Council please submit your information in writing to the Municipal office no later than 12:00pm the Thursday prior to the Council meeting or contact the District Office at (250) 628-3667.

Upcoming Meetings:

Regular Meeting via Zoom: **January 11, 2022** and **January 25, 2022**

Utility Billing



Utility bills will be sent out with in the next week for first quarter of 2022. Please note that utility rates have increased by **\$15.00** per quarter for 2022.

You will notice on your bill that it will now show **\$229.50** per quarter and if you pay your utilities for the year by **March 31, 2022** you are eligible for a **10% discount** and would pay **\$826.20**, saving **\$91.80**.

Preauthorized Payment Plan



The District of Port Edward offers a **preauthorized tax payment plan** to home owners. Payments are withdrawn from your bank account on the **15th** of every month. There is no set payment amount, you choose what you would like to contribute towards your yearly tax bill.

We also offer a **preauthorized utility payment plan**. Payments will be withdrawn from your account on the **20th** of each month in the **updated amount of \$76.50**. Please note that utilities paid monthly will not be eligible for the 10% discount offered at the beginning of the year.

If you are interested in signing up for either payment plan, please stop by the District Office to fill out the preauthorized form, don't forget to bring a void cheque with you, or you can email us at **info@portedward.ca**.

Public Works

The District of Port Edward would like to remind residents that all vehicles, recreational vehicles, boats and trailers must be moved from the District streets and boulevards in order to allow plowing to be done properly.

A reminder to all residents that all garbage needs to be placed inside a garbage bag and put into a sealed tight container, on the curb by **8:00 am Mondays**.

District staff would like to thank the community for your support in ensuring the garbage regulations are followed, we can only make this community better with everyone cooperates.

Thank you!

This Year's Dog Tags are available at our office

2022 Dog licences are available at the Municipal office. We encourage everyone to register their dogs. Fees are \$10.00 for every spayed or neutered dog; \$20.00 for unneutered males and \$50.00 for non spayed females.

Please remember to keep your dog on a leash at all times. Please be a responsible dog owner and clean up after them.

The new dog park is now open and we hope you and your dog enjoy it.



Drive BC

Drive BC would like to remind everyone that winter road conditions are upon us! Please drive with respect to the rapid-changing road conditions we can be subject to on the North Coast. During the winter season operators are on the road please use care when you see them.

Please use caution when approaching the winter maintenance equipment. Winter

Operators may be plowing snow and slush, which carries a fair distance from the truck with much force. Please slow down as you approach equipment.

Please visit the following website for more information:

www.drivebc.com

Toll Free **1-800-550-4997**

O'Brien Road & Bridge Maintenance Ltd.

24/7 Road Conditions & Road Emergency

Answering Service—Toll Free: **1-800-561-5822**



History of Port Edward by Gladys Blyth

Second Diversion Dam

A second diversion dam for water storage of 270 acre feet per annum was granted B.C. Packers June 10, 1943, under Final Water Licence No. 6332. This dam was located on Alwyn Lake at the headwaters of Wolf Creek. Here a rock filled, log-cribbed dam of nine feet six inches high and 46 feet long was erected. At that time B.C. Packers had a ten inch line running close to Wolf Creek to serve their plant and employees homes. From this same dam the American Army amplified the supply of water to the community by installing an 18 inch woodstave main with access feeder lines to their installations. The line was supported over gulleys and hills by a trestling of trees cut from the forest. A chlorine station was also installed. B.C Packers drew up an agreement with the American Army that the new installation would belong to the company once the army base was vacated.

The army built a road in to the first dam, keeping close to the main line all the way, about three-quarters of a mile from Port Edward. The road-bed was made from stringers cut out of the bush and thrown down on the muskeg. It was then decked over with heavy planking. This road can still be used by foot, with caution, after 28 years of no maintenance. The American Army installed their own sewage disposal lines and these still serve the community. However, many lengths of pipe were dug up and removed by unauthorized persons. In later years the Village Council, and in many cases residents constructing their own homes, had to replace the loss.

Until June 16, 1969, Port Edward had been in the unique position of having a sewage disposal system with no known ownership. After incorporation of the Village in 1966, the Council wrote to the Department of Municipal Affairs inquiring into the status of the system. The inquiry was referred to the Department of Lands, forests, and Water Resource. These two government departments learned that assets of the United States Government remaining in Canada after conclusion of hostilities were turned over to the Canadian Government who in turn transferred the same to Crown Assets Disposal Corporation.

Crown Asset Corporation reported their files had been destroyed, but that any interest held by it in the sewer system had reverted to the Province along with the land.

A letter from the Deputy Minister of Lands in Victoria June 16, 1969, states that: the Department hereby transfers any right, title or interest in the sewer system, which is held by the Province of British Columbia, to the Village of Port Edward. Also rights, privileges and conditions contained in the provisos quoted in the Crown Grants, heretofore issued for various parcels of land in the Port Edward area capable of assignment, these were also assigned to the Village of Port Edward.

The letter concludes by charging the Village of Port Edward with the responsibility of maintenance and repairs to the facilities. This the Village has already done since incorporation.