



DISTRICT OF PORT EDWARD NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2025

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

I hope this message sees you all well.

As many of you have noticed, the Port of Prince Rupert has cleared a wide swath on Ridley Island with trees cleared to the high water mark and a large-scale road constructed. In response to our questions, they have identified this work to access Porpoise Harbour to eventually build a tidewater marsh in the cleared area to replace a similar marsh that was lost due to the construction of the logistic facility along the shore line of Porpoise Channel. They did not give us a timeline for the marsh construction and we were not notified in advance of the clearing and construction of the large clearing or road work.

The council recently attended a course on Effective Engagement and Transparent Governance. I gained insight into municipal governance issues that are evolving at both the local, provincial and that with First Nations. These seminars are important to keep the mayor and council informed of issues such as the Official Community plan, community engagement, engaging with the province, and visioning. It is crucial to manage the District effectively, particularly as we will be holding a council strategic planning meeting at the end of March.

UPCOMING DATES

- Council Meeting - 08/04/25, 7PM
Zoom ID: 792 144 4026
- High Ground Hike - 12/04/25 10:30AM
- Residents Round Table - 15/04/25
6PM
- Chamber of Commerce Round Table -
17/04/25 7h30AM
- Office Closed - 18/04/2025
- Office Closed - 21/04/2025
- Council Meeting - 22/04/25, 7PM
Zoom ID: 792 144 4026
- C2C Event - 24/04/25



Quote of the month: All our dreams can come true if we have the courage pursue them.

OPT IN TO UPDATE CONTACT DETAILS



Ensure you receive important updates on property taxes, utilities, and other municipal matters by keeping your profile up to date with the District of Port Edward.

📱 Scan the QR code with your phone and fill out your details to stay informed! For any questions, contact us at info@portedward.ca

COMMUNITY UPDATES

DIG IN: BECOME A PLANTWISE GARDENER!

Spring has arrived! If you're itching to get growing, consider planning a healthy, pollinator-friendly garden using the best plants for your region. By keeping your garden invasive-free, you can help support your local birds, bees, and butterflies all summer long!

Swap out Invasive Daphne for Native Oregon Grape

In southwest B.C., particularly on Vancouver Island, an evergreen shrub is dominating the forest understory. Also known as spurge-laurel, daphne (*Daphne laureola*) is a highly invasive garden escapee that grows in both sun and shaded conditions. It rapidly forms thickets that push out native plants. Removing daphne poses hazards - its toxic sap can cause rashes when touched, or nausea, swelling of the tongue and coma if the sap is inhaled or berries are consumed.

An excellent evergreen shrub alternative is the native Oregon grape. There are two species including tall Oregon grape (*Berberis aquifolium*) which is best suited for sunny areas, and dull Oregon grape (*Berberis nervosa*) which thrives in shady forest understories.

Want to learn more about preventing the spread of invasive plants in your community? Take ISCBC's [FREE PlantWise eLearning course!](#) In just 10 minutes you can:

- Find out why invasive plants are still sold in some garden centers
- Identify common invasive plants for sale
- Know what to plant instead

Explore the [Grow Me Instead](#) guide for native and non-invasive [PlantWise](#) choices. Happy gardening!



STAY FOCUSED: THE DANGERS OF DISTRACTED DRIVING IN B.C.



Distracted driving is one of the leading causes of fatal crashes in British Columbia. Taking your eyes off the road—even for a moment—slows your reaction time and increases the risk of missing critical details like a changing traffic light, a pedestrian crossing, or a cyclist nearby.

How to Avoid Distractions:

- ✓ Put your phone away before driving
- ✓ Set your GPS and music before you start
- ✓ Stay fully focused on the road ahead

To raise awareness, ICBC, police, and the B.C. government run two distracted driving campaigns every year in March and September. These efforts remind us that one quick glance at your phone could change everything.

Let's all do our part to make B.C. roads safer—keep your focus where it belongs!



Port Edward is your community—let's make it the best it can be! Join us for a Round Table Discussion and share your ideas for improvements and growth.

Tuesday, April 15

6:00 PM

Community Hall

Snacks provided!

This is a great opportunity to connect, discuss, and have your voice heard. Don't miss it!

Keep an eye on our social media for the full Reef Construction Progress Update and latest project details! #StayInformed

COMMUNITY CLEANUP

PORT EDWARD COMMUNITY CLEAN UP DAY!

Join the Port Edward Event Planners to help us keep our community clean, neat, and green!

Sunday, April 27th 10:30-12:30



Volunteers meet at the Port Edward Community Centre at 10:30am to pick up supplies and be assigned your route. Hotdogs, drinks, & prizes!

For more information contact PEEPs at portedevents@gmail.com

DO YOU NEED A DP - LET'S CHAT

DEVELOPMENT PERMIT MADE EASY

Need a Development Permit? Let's Chat!

1 **Check If You Need a Permit**

- Are you building, adding to, or changing a building or land in a Development Permit Area?
- If yes, you need a Development Permit before starting work!

2 **Fill Out an Application**

- Get the Development Permit Application Form from the District website.
- Complete the form with:
 - Your name & contact info
 - The property address & legal description
 - A description of what you plan to do
 - Maps & drawings showing your project

3 **Pay the Fees**

- Fees depend on the type of project. Check with the District website for details.

Submit Your Application

- **Submit your completed form.**

4 **Application Review**

- The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) will review your application.
- If everything is correct, your permit may be approved.
- If changes are needed, you'll be asked for more details.

5 **Approval & Permit Issuance**

- **Approved, you'll receive your Development Permit—you're now ready to start!**

✗ Do NOT start construction until your permit is approved!

⏰ If work doesn't start within 2 years, the permit expires.



HATCHERY RELOCATION UPDATE

The District of Port Edward is actively supporting the relocation of the Oldfield Creek Hatchery, operated by the Prince Rupert Salmonid Enhancement Society. This move is crucial to ensure the long-term sustainability of salmon populations and to address environmental challenges at its current site. The hatchery will be relocated to a new site along the District's water treatment plant access road, providing a safer and more viable environment for operations. This project will help support ongoing fish enhancement efforts in our region. Stay tuned for updates as the relocation progresses!

Residents Round Table Discussion - Join us on Tuesday, April 15 at 6:00 PM at the Community Hall to share your ideas for improving Port Edward—snacks provided!

CANXPORT EXPORT LOGISTICS PROJECT

As part of the CANXPORT Export Logistics project, the Prince Rupert Port Authority (PRPA) is required to offset fish habitat disturbances as a condition of authorization from Fisheries and Oceans Canada. PRPA will be constructing a subtidal reef complex at the north end of Porpoise Harbour, as well as a salt marsh on the eastern shore of Ridley Island. In order to reach the salt marsh, some trees were cleared to construct an access road for equipment. There should not be any additional tree felling in this area, as focus will be on the foreshore and creating an environment suitable for salt marsh plant species.

Once this work is done, the road is expected to mostly re-vegetate with a smaller trail retained to carry out monitoring and maintenance of the newly enhanced salt marsh.

Please reach out to PRPA directly with questions via email: community@rupertport.com, or phone: 250-627-5621 to their feedback line.

COMPLIANCE CLERK

We're excited to welcome Alex to the District of Port Edward team! 🌸 You'll soon see her out and about in the community, ensuring everything runs smoothly and in compliance with local regulations.

Be sure to say hello when you see her around!



FAQ



CAN COUNCIL TAKE COMPLAINTS DIRECTLY FROM RESIDENTS? 😞



ANSWER



✔ Yes, residents can share concerns with Council, but Council cannot take action on complaints.



CONTACTS

DISTRICT OF PORT EDWARD: 250-628-3667

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:

@DISTRICT_PORT_EDWARD

