

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR STAPLES

The close of 2024 marks the halfway point in this Council term. I am proud of the work we have achieved so far to enhance life in our City for everyone. This work has and will continue to build our community in ways that are so essential to our collective and individual well-being.

Importantly, we have extended the Temporary Use Permit for the Village on Trunk Road so that it can continue to offer shelter and wrap-around services for 34 individuals experiencing homelessness, offering home, healing, and opportunity for some of our region’s most vulnerable citizens. With this we will continue to lead advocacy to the Province of BC and Federal government to secure ongoing, sustainable funding for a province-wide expansion of the Village model to address the ongoing homelessness crisis and growing impacts of the lack of affordable and supportive housing affecting our community, province, and country.

Five years ago, business owners, residents, youth, Council, and staff worked through the revitalization and redesign of Station Street Common. In addition to this there was a public process to name the park in both English and Hul'q'umi'num' which will be announced in the new year. Construction currently underway will realize the beautiful new design featuring additional seating, and new accessible public washrooms built in behind the park will fill an identified gap in service for residents and visitors alike. While this is all coming to life, the totems in the park are undergoing restoration and a new mural on the washroom building will beautify the area even more.

Kids will be as excited as we are for the opening of a new playground at McAdam Park by the end of this year with small and large play areas and accessible rubber surfacing. This will be an incredible community gathering space for playing and visiting with family and friends.

I am grateful to continue this work with the incredible people on staff and Council as we make our way into the second half of this term. We look forward to continuing to build relationships with you so that together we can further our efforts to build a welcoming, beautiful, safe, and sustainable community for everyone. I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.



2024/2025 CITY OF DUNCAN HOLIDAY CLOSURES

City Hall – 200 Craig Street

2pm December 24 to January 1

Public Works – 1091 Marchmont Road

December 25—26 and January 1

For after-hours Public Works emergencies, please call 250-746-7192.

2025 COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

Duncan City Council will meet in the Council Chamber, City Hall, on the following dates in 2025:

| Council (6:00 pm) | | Budget Sessions (10:00 am) | |
|-------------------|-------------|--|--|
| January 13 | January 27 | February 3 — 2025 Budget — COW | |
| February 10 | February 24 | March 3 — 2025 Tax Rates — COW | |
| March 10 | April 14 | October 20 — 2026 Grants in Aid — COW | |
| April 28 | May 12 | November 3 — 2026 Operating Budget — COW | |
| May 26 | June 9 | November 17 — 2026 Capital Budget — COW | |
| June 23 | July 28 | | |
| August 25 | September 8 | | |
| October 14 (Tues) | October 27 | | |
| November 10 | November 24 | | |
| December 1 | December 8 | | |
| | | Key Dates (6:00 pm) | |
| | | December 1: Community Appreciation Night | |
| | | Duncan — North Cowichan Joint Meetings (4:00 pm) | |
| | | Tuesday, February 25 and Thursday, October 9 | |

Visit duncan.civicweb.net/portal/ to view agendas, minutes, the live-stream of current meetings or recordings of previously held meetings. Please note that meeting dates are subject to change and special meetings are scheduled as needed.

Comments, questions, or concerns?

Visit duncan.ca | Phone 250-746-6126 | Email duncan@duncan.ca

2024 COMMUNITY APPRECIATION NIGHT

The City of Duncan is fortunate to have dedicated volunteers who contribute their knowledge, skills, and experience on City Committees, providing valuable recommendations to Council.

Council recognized their contributions at the 2024 Community Appreciation Night on December 2, and announced this year's recipients of City awards:

- Alison Irwin, 2024 Arts Award
- Cowichan Intercultural Society's Nanum'lyus'tth'ele' Committee, Special Recognition Award

Thank-you to all of our dedicated Committee members, and congratulations to the 2024 City of Duncan award recipients!



CITY OF DUNCAN ANNUAL FOOD AND TOY DRIVE

The Public Works crew will be picking up donations of non-perishable food items and/or new unwrapped toys for the local food bank again this year. Watch your mailbox for the 2025 garbage calendar and food/toy drive flyer and place your donations, clearly marked **FOOD/TOY DRIVE**, curbside on your scheduled curbside collection day between December 10-12, 2024. Alternately, call Public Works at 250-746-5321 to arrange to have your donation picked up during regular hours or drop off your donation in-person at City Hall.

CONNECT WITH US!



Visit us at bigconversations.duncan.ca.

BUSINESS AND DOG LICENCE REMINDER

Business and Dog Licence invoices are now available for pick up at City Hall. If your business information has changed, you are no longer in business, you no longer have your dog, have a new dog, or have moved, please let us know. Licence fees can be paid online through the City's website at duncan.ca. If you have questions, please contact 250-746-6126 or licence@duncan.ca.



PAYING YOUR UTILITY BILL AND CHECKING FOR LEAKS



This is a friendly reminder that utility bill payments are due. Any outstanding balance on a utility account on December 31, 2024, will be transferred to the property tax account and will incur daily interest starting January 1, 2025.

Make paying your utility bill easy! The City has an optional Automatic Payment Plan that automatically withdraws the balance of your bill from your bank account on the bill due date. You will continue to receive a copy of your bill before the due date so you can review it before the payment is withdrawn. To sign up, download the Automatic Payment form from duncan.ca and email it to utilities@duncan.ca.

This is also a great time to check your consumption pattern. Does your water use look unusually high? Visit the Water and Sewer Utilities section of our website for tips on how to check for leaks to save on future utility bills.

WINTER SAFETY - LET'S ALL DO OUR PART!

During snow and ice conditions, the City works extra hard to maintain a safe City for all. Municipal roads are cleared on a priority basis, with arterial roadways cleared first followed by residential streets.

Residents and businesses also have a role to play in keeping our sidewalks safe throughout the year in accordance with the [Good Neighbour Bylaw](#) and the City's [Sidewalk Snow and Ice Clearing Enforcement Policy](#). Safe sidewalks are important for children walking to school, elderly community members, and anyone out for a walk.

Please be a good neighbour and clear the sidewalk in front of your property of garbage, leaves, and snow, and be mindful that pushing these items into the roadway is not permitted. Visit duncan.ca/winter-safety/ to learn more about how you can help us work towards a safe winter season for everyone.

