

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR STAPLES

Thank you, each one of you for the incredible support you continue to show each other. Whether it's shopping local, helping to keep neighbourhoods and parks clean and safe, checking in on your neighbour or simply saying hello to people you pass in the park while walking your dog, every act of consideration, respect, and kindness we have to offer each other, makes us better, stronger, and more connected.

Since the last newsletter, we lost a member of our community who not only founded and served on the boards of some of the strongest community organizations we have in our region, he also served as President of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, was on the Board of Trustees of the Municipal Finance Authority, was the longest serving Mayor in Duncan, operated a legal practice, and had a family, Mayor Mike Coleman, or as many of us knew him over the years, 'Mayor Mike'.

I knew Mike more through family and community connections rather than in his role as Mayor, so I decided to spend some time in the archives to learn more about what was going on then, how he served as Mayor, and what he was passionate about. I found some interesting, albeit unusual, news clippings, such as learning why the City had a bylaw about prohibiting greased pig contests within the City or a no swearing bylaw. What really struck me however was that the top five references to challenges of his time are the same top five of this time: Homelessness, Affordable Housing, Parking, Crime, and Cutting Down Trees.

As I read on, I learned not only what he did, but about his passion for youth voices, how he started a Duncan Youth Ambassador program and Duncan Youth Council providing youth opportunities to participate in decision making. During his time, there were funds available from the Federal Government to encourage sister cities and learning exchanges between nations. Meru, Kenya is one of those cities and the work he did helped establish much needed equipment for staff in Meru to make their jobs safer and more effective.

He worked locally with Cowichan Tribes through the significant changes to the City boundaries when the Federal Government returned land to Cowichan Tribes in the areas we know as the mound and the Duncan Mall. He developed lifelong friendships with the Chiefs he worked with, and honoured Cowichan culture and tradition.

Reflecting as I read over reams of notes, it is clear that the decisions made by Mayor Coleman and his many councils over the years live amongst all of us. Not just as archives but as the very ground we walk on, the trees that give us shade, the organizations that provide us service, the relationships we cherish, City Hall, and the clocktower itself. He lived his life as described by a Kiswahili word shared by the former Mayor of Meru, to describe the relationship between our two cities, 'harambee' (pronounced harr-umm-bay) meaning the "Spirit of sharing and giving" and locally, as shared by Cowichan Elder Tousilum at Mike's memorial, "Mike lived, Na'tsa' maht Shqwaluwun, meaning "One Heart, One Mind". Thank you, Mayor Mike, for your service and for the love you gave and left for all of us.

Take care of each other, reach out, and as always, I am available by phone 250-466-9412, or email mayor@duncan.ca. I can also be reached on Facebook or Instagram: @MayorMichelleStaples

ENHANCED SECURITY INITIATIVE, GRAFFITI REMOVAL, AND CITY-WIDE FAÇADE PROGRAMS

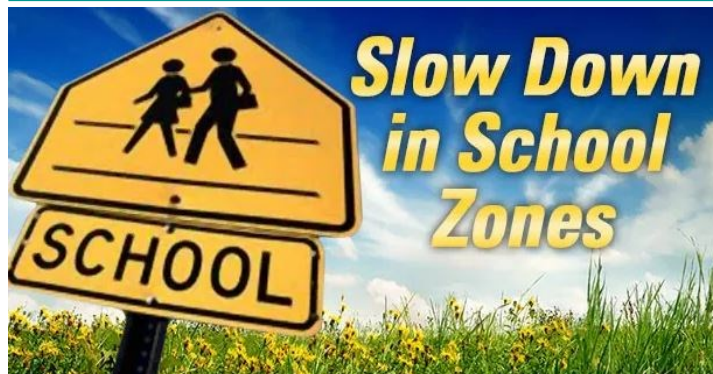
In May, the City launched three grant programs; Enhanced Security Initiative, Graffiti Removal, and City-Wide Façade Improvement. These programs assist businesses, residents, and property owners to maintain and improve their properties.

The Enhanced Security Initiative Program is a City initiative to encourage commercial property owners to implement measures that would improve public safety, enhance protection, and security of their buildings and surrounding properties.

The Graffiti Removal Program assists Duncan property owners, both residential and commercial, whose property has been tagged with graffiti.

The City-Wide Façade Improvement Program is a City initiative to promote business revitalization by encouraging building owners to invest in storefront upgrades.

Funding is still available for these grant programs. Please visit the City's website to learn more, call 250-746-6126, or email duncan@duncan.ca



CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

- Canada Avenue Sewer Project—the new sewer line going in, starting on Duncan Street, will be on Canada Avenue the week of September 6th. Traffic will be single lane alternating. The week of September 13th, Canada Avenue will be a full closure of likely two weeks. Dates are subject to change.
- 300 Government Street frontage improvements for new apartment building—ongoing installation of services.
- 488 Garden Street—site preparation and frontage improvements for apartment building.
- 545 Jubilee Street—site preparation and frontage improvements for townhouse building.

Please obey traffic signage, and traffic control personnel will be present to safely guide pedestrians and drivers around the construction sites where needed. We thank everyone for their cooperation and understanding.

Questions? Please contact Public Works at: 250-746-5321 or email: publicworks@duncan.ca

Comments, questions, or concerns?

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

COMPOST PICK-UP

Please put your compost out by 7:00 a.m. the morning of your pickup to ensure it does not freeze in the bin overnight. If it freezes, City crew members may be unable to lift the bins, dump it all out, and ensure that they are empty.

YARD WASTE & GLASS PICK-UP REMINDER

Yard waste and glass are collected by a contractor on the first collection day of each month (**March to December; No collection in January or February**). The following can be placed at the curb:

- YARD WASTE**
- Up to ten (10) compostable bags or reusable bins of yard waste no larger than 77L and weighing no more than 50lbs/22kg each.
- STICKS**
- Up to 2 bundles permitted. Individual sticks in the bundle can be up to 2 inches in diameter, and each bundle no more than 2.5 ft in diameter. Bundles of sticks must be tied with cotton string and not exceed 50lbs/22kg in weight.
- GLASS**
- Unlimited glass. Glass must be unbroken, clean and contained in a bin.

Residents can also dispose of yard waste, soft plastics, and glass for free at the Bings Creek Transfer Station, year round. For more information, please contact Bings Creek Transfer Station at 250-746-2540.

OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN & TRANSPORTATION MOBILITY STRATEGY

The Official Community Plan review and Transportation and Mobility Strategy development have undergone the first phase of public engagement. Please connect on

- placespeak.com/duncanocp and
- placespeak.com/duncantransportation

to receive updates and notifications for upcoming participation opportunities this fall.

For further information please email: developmentsservices@duncan.ca

CITY OF DUNCAN 2021 AWARDS

Do you know someone who deserves to be recognized for their contribution to the community? If you would like to nominate someone for the **Perpetual Arts Trophy**, the **Perpetual Trophy for Excellence & Sportsmanship**, or the **Scroll of Honour**, the nomination application forms are available on the City's website (www.duncan.ca) or can be picked up from City Hall, 200 Craig Street. Deadline for submissions is October 1. If a recipient is selected this year for any of these awards, an invite-only presentation ceremony may take place at City Hall, and a news release will be issued thereafter.

Questions? Please email: duncan@duncan.ca

COUNCIL/COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Please note, in-person attendance in Council Chamber is restricted to 50% capacity due to COVID-19. Though held electronically using a video conference platform, Council and Committee meetings are open to the public and all representations to Council will form part of the public record. The open portion of the meeting will be live streamed on YouTube and will be available for viewing anytime through the www.duncan.civicweb.net/portal/ or go to [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and search "City of Duncan".

Questions regarding agenda items may be sent to monika@duncan.ca and will be answered in the order they are received during question period. Please include both your name and address for identification purposes.

2022 BUDGET

Have your say on the proposed City of Duncan 2022 budget by attending one of the Committee of the Whole meetings coming up:

- **October 15, Noon - 4:00 p.m.**
- **October 29, Noon - 4:00 p.m.**

Or watch for future information on [Placespeak.ca/Cowichan](https://placespeak.ca/Cowichan)

If you have any questions regarding the draft 2022 budget, please contact our Director of Finance.

Phone: 250-746-6126 | Email: bernice@duncan.ca

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OCTOBER 3-9

"Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety!"

Learning the sounds of your smoke or carbon monoxide (CO) detector may help save your life. Ensure smoke and CO alarms meet the needs of all your family members including those that are deaf and hard of hearing. The National Fire Prevention Association (www.nfpa.org) has suggestions on how to equip your home to let everyone know when the alarms are going off.



DUNCAN FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

The City was saddened to learn of the retirement of Chief Mike McKinlay on August 14, 2021.

Chief McKinlay has been a tremendous leader, and always up to the challenge of the ever increasing changing complexities of the fire service, including the most recent COVID-19 pandemic.

Chief McKinlay has been with the department 34 years, and Chief for over 13 of those years.

Please join us in congratulating Chief McKinlay on this momentous occasion, and wish him health and happiness in his retirement.

With this announcement, at the August 16th Council meeting, Deputy Chief Wray Watson was appointed to the position of Fire Chief, and Assistant Fire Chief Leanne Closson was appointed Deputy Fire Chief.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS

A good time to check your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, as well as change the batteries, is when you change your clocks twice a year. Daylight savings time ends on November 7, 2021.

