

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR STAPLES



It's hard to believe summer has passed! It seems like just a few days ago that the City streets were filled with people watching the parade, and celebrating Downtown Duncan Day. Music could be heard from the 39 Days of July, calling out to thousands of citizens to make their way downtown to enjoy the many local and guest musicians who shared their talents with us.

It was a hot and dry summer causing some of the worst droughts that have been seen in decades, which lead to (for the first time in our history) water being pumped over the weir from Lake Cowichan to keep river flows at the bare minimum of 4.5 cubic meters per second.

The City, along with over 400 municipalities in Canada so far, declared a climate emergency. This fall the City will start to look at what opportunities for local action, policy changes, and direction we can produce to help curb the impacts of our changing climate.

It's not just climate change that is affecting our community. The City is not alone in struggling to address the growing impacts of the lack of services for people living with addictions and mental health issues. We, like others, need a large scale investment by other levels of government for both short- and long-term treatment facilities and supportive housing. There is just simply nowhere for people to go that provides the services needed for people to begin to stabilize their lives. These are the main issues we are working on every day at the City, along with the priority of addressing what we can do in the meantime to help to reduce the impacts of these issues in the surrounding community.

We hear you—every one of your calls, emails, conversations with us on the street, —and we hear your frustrations and fears. We are working every day with neighbourhoods, community partners, other local governments and levels of government to find solutions. We need each other more than ever when we are in crisis; we all need to take care of each other. Remember that everyone is doing the best they can and that kindness goes a long way. If you would like to meet with me or speak to me, please email mayor@duncan.ca

Respectfully,
Mayor Staples

OCTOBER 6 - 12, 2019 FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

In a typical home fire, you may have as little as 1 - 2 minutes to escape safely from the time the smoke alarm sounds. **Escape planning and practice can help you make the most of the time you have**, giving everyone enough time to get out.

That's why this year's Fire Prevention campaign theme: "Not Every Hero Wears a Cape. Plan and Practice Your Escape!" works to educate everyone about the small but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe.

"**PLAN**" to make your escape route, "**PRACTICE**" to ensure that everyone knows what to do in a fire and is prepared to "**ESCAPE**" quickly and safely.

If you, or someone you know, has any questions about fire prevention, please contact the Duncan Volunteer Fire Department at 250-746-5211.



WATER METER PROGRAM UPDATE



In Order to Better Encourage Conservation We Are Improving Our Metered Water Rates

Proposed rates will be available on our website & posted in the Cowichan Valley Citizen in early October

Your Feedback Is Important To Us!

Participate in our Public Consultation in October

- Visit us at the Farmers' Market on Oct. 5th & 12th
- Stop by City Hall & fill out a comment form
- Send your comments to utilities@duncan.ca
- Visit our website at www.duncan.ca
- Go to www.placespeak.com/Cowichan

Have Questions?

Come by City Hall or email us at utilities@duncan.ca

METERED BILLING START DATES

Inside the City Boundaries – January 1, 2020
Outside the City Boundaries - 2021

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. City crew members are 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 starting in March:

- 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 two (2) bundles of sticks no longer than 3 feet and no larger than 2 inches 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.

CITY OF DUNCAN 2019 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 September 30th. If a recipient is selected this year for any of these awards, the presentation ceremony will take place at the Annual Meeting, 6:00 p.m., December 2, 2019 at City Hall.

PERPETUAL ARTS TROPHY

The Perpetual Arts Trophy recognizes individuals who have demonstrated excellence in the performing, literary or visual arts. A special 'thank you' to the Cowichan Valley Arts Council who will be reviewing the nominations.

PERPETUAL TROPHY FOR EXCELLENCE & SPORTSMANSHIP

The Perpetual Trophy for Excellence & Sportsmanship recognizes one individual or organization who has contributed significantly to sports or distinguished themselves in sportsmanship.

SCROLL OF HONOUR

We value the volunteers in our community! The City's Scroll of Honour Award recognizes individuals who have demonstrated at least 15 years of volunteer service in the Cowichan Valley.

2020 BUDGET

Have your say on the proposed City of Duncan 2020 budget by attending one of the Committee of the Whole meetings coming up:

- **October 18, Noon - 4:00 p.m.**
- **November 1, Noon - 4:00 p.m.**

Or watch for future information on Placespeak.ca/Cowichan

If you have any questions regarding the draft 2020 budget, please contact our Director of Finance.

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

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

How prepared are you for the next storm? Disasters are happening all over the world and we can all be a little more prepared for the next one. Power outages, windstorms, forest fires, and earthquakes; pay attention to the weather, it changes daily.

Free Emergency Preparedness Workbooks are available at:

- Duncan City Hall (200 Craig St.)
- CVRD (175 Ingram St.)
- Cowichan Community Centre Library (2687 James St.)

Or online at: www.cvr.bc.ca – document centre.

This workbook provides tips in each section and takes you through a series of questions to help you become prepared.

It starts with your personal preparedness, and then helping your neighbours. Do a home assessment inside and out, and take time to check on your neighbours.

1. Get prepared and develop your household plan
2. Meet your neighbours; elderly or disabled may need help
3. Identify a safe meeting place
4. Assign neighbourhood responsibilities; who has a snow blower, generator, chainsaw, or first aid training
5. Map your street
6. Keep in touch; collect names and numbers of neighbours
7. Review and update your neighbourhood plan annually (have a fun get together)
8. Create a Block Watch program

SMOKE DETECTORS & DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

A good time to check your smoke alarms 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 3, 2019.

