



Beneath the Clocktower

Your Insight into Issues and Events at Duncan City Hall

February 2020

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR STAPLES

When I was a child imagining living in the year 2020, it formed in my mind like the scenes from a science fiction story. I pictured flying cars, teleportation and talking animals.

Time went by at what now feels like warp speed - I grew up, had a child of my own, and eventually became Mayor of this wonderfully small and beautiful city – and suddenly the year 2020 has arrived. Low and behold, cars still need roads, I have yet to find a machine to “beam me up Scotty” nor do animals speak.

What I could never have imagined as a child was living in the Cowichan Valley, surrounded by rivers, mountains, and trees, rich with culture, centered around recreation, sports and arts, filled with people who love where they live and give generously in so many ways to their community.

I could have not predicted that Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities would be walking with each other, standing together to face and change the outdated roots of racism; a slow and all too painful process for many as we continue to learn from our past on our way to a stronger future.

I could not have guessed the complex big city issues that are facing our small city streets, the decline of salmon in our rivers, the dying cedars in our forests, or the disappearance of snow on our mountains. Not in my lifetime, because as a child I dreamed of building a future filled with flying cars.

In 2020, the City will begin the process of imagining our future creating a new Official Community Plan that will guide us through the next 20 years. This will be done together, with all of you - our business owners, seniors, families, youth, neighbours, and community organizations - everyone will have a chance to contribute to the vision. So, as an adult contemplating this process of imagining what our city will become, I know that all of us will work to create a future worthy of our children’s imaginations.

As always, I am available at 250-466-9412 or email mayor@duncan.ca. Thank all of you for continuing to help make this the best little city it can be.

NEW METERED WATER RATES & BILLING PERIODS FOR CUSTOMERS INSIDE CITY BOUNDARIES

Effective January 1, 2020, customers **inside** the City boundaries have new metered water rates. Please visit the City’s website for the new rates.

Also for customers **inside** the City boundaries, the City has implemented new tri-annual billing periods. Each metered property will receive one bill, except for duplexes with two separate titles and small stratas with four or less units that do not collect strata fees, where the bill will be divided equally among the owners unless the City is advised otherwise.

2020 Tri-Annual Billing Periods		
Billing Period	Billing Date	Due Date
January to April	Mid-May	June 30, 2020
May to August	Mid-September	Oct. 30, 2020
Sept. to Dec.	Mid-January 2021	Feb. 26, 2021

For more information, or to determine if you are located **inside** the City boundaries, please visit www.duncan.ca or email utilities@duncan.ca

The remaining water metered properties **outside** the City boundaries will be converted to new water rates and billing periods in 2021.

2020 CAPITAL PROJECTS

The City of Duncan will be undertaking a number of capital projects in 2020. Prior to starting these projects, affected residents and business owners will be provided scheduling information.

Traffic control personnel and signage will be present to safely guide pedestrians and drivers around the construction. We thank everyone for their cooperation and understanding.

Duncan Street:

Location: Between Coronation Ave. and Trunk Rd.

Start: March 2

Est. Completion: June 1

Project Summary:

- Replacing approx. 180 metres of water main pipe;
- Repaving portions of the roadway;
- Replacing portions of the sidewalks and adding new concrete curb, bump-outs, rain gardens, landscaping, street lighting;
- Installing a pedestrian railway crossing in Charles Hoey Park; and
- Installing four new electric vehicle charging stations along the west side of Duncan St.

Kenneth Street:

Location: Between Government St. and Jubilee St.

Start: July/early August

Est. Completion: October

Project Summary:

- Replacing approx. 100 metres of water main pipe;
- Repaving roadway;
- Re-configuring access points at Government Street, and the existing totem boulevard area;
- Relocating the crosswalk to a safer location;
- Installing new concrete curb and sidewalk; and
- Installing benches, rain gardens, and landscaping within the totem boulevard area.

Cairnsmore Roundabout:

Location: Cairnsmore St./Government St./College St.

Start: June

The City has recently issued a Request for Proposals for the detailed design and tendering of the roundabout. This project will provide a new access to Queen Margaret’s School and improve traffic operations in the area.

Trans-Canada Highway Trail:

Location: Silver Bridge to Ramada Inn

Start: Late 2020

Design options are being finalized for a multi-use trail to be constructed on the east side of the Trans-Canada Highway. It will consist of a 3.0-metre-wide paved surface, and will provide a safer route for all users. The existing sidewalk adjacent to the highway will be removed.

Questions? Please visit www.duncan.ca or call Public Works: 250-746-5321

Comments, questions, or concerns?

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

DUNCAN, NORTH COWICHAN, & COWICHAN TRIBES OPEN HIGHWAY CORRIDOR SAFETY OFFICE

Duncan, North Cowichan, and Cowichan Tribes are working together, in collaboration with community stakeholders, to implement the Safer Community Plan to address crime and public disorder along the Trans-Canada Highway corridor between Beverly Street and Boys Road.

The Safer Community Plan coordinates enforcement resources from both municipalities, Cowichan Tribes, and the RCMP. The plan was developed in consultation with local business owners, Cowichan Valley School District, health and social service providers, RCMP, and many others.

The Corridor Safety Office at 490 Trans-Canada Highway opened in December to provide a central location from which to operate. A "Who to Call" brochure will soon be distributed to businesses and residents clarifying who to contact to eliminate confusion and reduce call volume to the RCMP.

Questions? Call City Hall at 250-746-6126



2020 COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

City of Duncan Regular Council Meetings will take place at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall in Council Chambers, 200 Craig Street, Duncan, BC, on the following dates:

February 18 (Tues)	May 19 (Tues)	October 5
March 2	June 1	October 19
March 16*	June 15	November 2
April 6*	July 20	November 16
April 20*	August 17	December 7**
May 4*	September 8 (Tues)	December 21

*2020 Budget Sessions ** Annual Meeting

March 24, 2020 Budget Open House 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Committee of the Whole (COW) Meetings will be scheduled as needed in the Committee Room, 200 Craig Street, Duncan, BC. Notice of COW meetings will be posted at City Hall and on the City's website.

2021 Budget Committee of the Whole meetings will be scheduled for noon on October 16 and October 30, 2020.

NOTE: Meeting dates are subject to change and special meetings are scheduled as needed. To view agendas and minutes please visit www.duncan.ca

WOOD BURNING FIREPLACE REMINDER

There's nothing like enjoying a toasty fire on a winter night with friends and family. To keep your home safe:

- Clean your chimney properly at least once a year to prevent chimney fires;
- Inspect the chimney for cracks to prevent dangerous carbon monoxide build up in your home;
- Burn seasoned wood as it burns hotter and cleaner; and
- Use a fireplace screen, to prevent sparks from flying out.

STREET ADDRESS VISIBILITY

If you were to call 9-1-1 in an emergency can the responders see your address number? Ensure you have your address number visible and reflective from the road to ensure a timely response.

CAIRNSMORE & PARKS PLAN UPDATE

Stay tuned for the release of the **draft Cairnsmore Neighbourhood Plan**, as well as the **draft McAdam & Rotary Parks Master Plan**.

Staff are continuing to refine the draft plans and will be presenting them to the public and Council soon.

For a summary of the work and updates, please visit:

- www.placespeak.com/cairnsmore
- www.placespeak.com/mcadam

Once the draft plans are released, there will be an opportunity for the community to provide feedback prior to adoption.

To stay informed and be put on a circulation list please email: developmentsservices@duncan.ca

GO PAPERLESS!

Sign up for e-billing to get your next utility bill delivered to your inbox. Send us a note at utilities@duncan.ca indicating your account number and address.

CITY OF DUNCAN 2019 AWARDS

The City of Duncan presents awards each year to citizens who demonstrate excellence in the fields of art, sport, and long-term service to the community. On December 2, 2019, at the Annual Meeting held at City Hall, the following awards were handed out:

DUNCAN FIRE HALL LONG SERVICE AWARDS

Recipient	Years of Service	Current Role
Art Sanderson	20 Years	Chaplain
Corky Adams	20 Years	Captain
Ron Olaussen	25 Years	Deputy Chief
Wray Watson	30 Years	Assistant Chief
Mike McKinlay	30 Years	Chief
Rick Starke	35 years	Retired Captain

The St. John Ambulance Cowichan Valley Brigade presented a Life Saving Award to Paul McCoy.

The Perpetual Arts Trophy was presented to Judy Brayden.

The Perpetual Trophy for Excellence & Sportsmanship was presented to Gerry Rees.

The City's Scroll of Honour Award was presented to Reta & Otto Lachman.

FREEDOM OF THE CITY

The rare Freedom of the City was awarded to former Mayor, Phil Kent, who made a significant long-term commitment to serve the City of Duncan and its citizens.



Congratulations to all the award recipients, and thank you for your contribution to the betterment of the City. To learn more about the awards and the recipients please visit www.duncan.ca.