



NORTH SAANICH NEWS

Municipal Office: 1620 Mills Road, North Saanich, BC V8L 5S9
Email: admin@northsaanich.ca Phone: (250) 656-0781 Fax: (250) 656-3155

www.northsaanich.ca

September 2007

CITIZENS SATISFIED WITH NORTH SAANICH SERVICES

During the summer the District of North Saanich contracted Ipsos Reid to conduct a citizens' satisfaction survey to better understand citizens' satisfaction levels, attitudes, needs, and priorities. Three hundred North Saanich households were randomly selected to participate in the survey. We are pleased to report that 99% of respondents feel that the quality of life in North Saanich is very good. Most survey respondents provided comments reflecting a positive and satisfied community. It is significant to note that 89% of those surveyed indicate that Staff is doing a good job and that 45% of those respondents rated staff's performance as "very good" (the norm for the "very good" rating is 19%). North Saanich residents are generally satisfied with the services provided by staff and Council, and feel that they receive good value for their taxes. North Saanich is also perceived to be a very safe place to live with very few crime-related issues. Citizens would like to see local leaders focus greater attention on managing growth, the environment, municipal government services, transportation, and, taxation/municipal government spending.

Results also indicate that citizens want to receive more information from the District and note that the best ways of getting this information to residents are by mail, newsletter, email and the website. North Saanich residents would rather see the District increase taxes than cut services.

You can view the entire Ipsos Reid Citizens' Satisfaction Survey results on the District's website at www.northsaanich.ca.

NORTH SAANICH THIRD ANNUAL BIKE & HIKE EVENT

Attention recreational cyclists and hikers! The third annual District Bike & Hike event will take place on **Sunday, October 14, 2007**. This event is organized by the North Saanich Parks Commission with the help of the Community Spirit Committee. Our goals for this event are to have fun together and to show off some of the agricultural, heritage and scenic features of our municipality. Participants will gather at 2:00 pm at St. Johns United Church - 10990 West Saanich Road opposite Deep Cove School. From 2:00 pm to 2:30 pm you will have the opportunity to chat with Parks Commission members and Councillors to share both your enthusiasms and concerns for the District's parks, trails and beaches. By filling in a brief questionnaire you will be providing some useful input to the Parks Commission as well as becoming eligible for door prizes.



At 2:30 pm, those who bring their bicycles or walking shoes will be introduced to the biking and hiking guides. Two cycling tours and two walking tours are offered, one short (slow and easy) and one long (about an hour at a moderate pace) of each. The routes will feature some of North Saanich's agricultural, scenic and heritage sites.

The tours will bring you back to the starting point at St. Johns Church around 3:30 pm. Enjoy a glass of lemonade and a cookie while waiting for everyone to return (and fill in the questionnaire if you have not done so already). The draw for door prizes will take place when the last tour group arrives. We look forward to seeing you there.

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NORTH SAANICH HERITAGE OPEN HOUSE

Are you interested in heritage preservation in North Saanich? Do you own a historic house? Please join members of the Heritage Advisory Commission and heritage architect/historian Don Luxton for an information session about the North Saanich Heritage Register on **Saturday, October 27th from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm** at the Municipal Hall. Refreshments will be served. Bring your questions and suggestions about historic sites and heritage preservation. This session is offered as part of the North Saanich Heritage Register Update Project in conjunction with the BC Heritage Branch. Please RSVP to Susan at 655-5470.

BURNABLES DROP-OFF PROGRAM

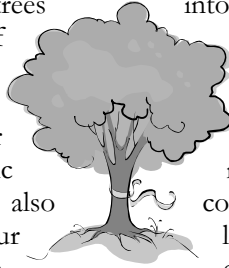
In an effort to reduce open burning in North Saanich we are continuing the Burnables Drop-off Program at the municipal pit off Littlewood Road. The drop off area is now open the first and third Saturday of every month from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for North Saanich residents to dispose of burnable materials. Cost is \$5.00 per car load or \$10.00 per truck load. Please direct your inquiries regarding the program to Brian Robinson, Works Superintendent at 655-5481.

TREE PROTECTION BYLAW AMENDMENTS

The District has amended its Tree Protection Bylaw No. 935 to clarify that property owners planning to cut down or remove trees are required to complete and submit an application to the District **before** cutting. There is no cost to apply. After the application is reviewed by District staff, you will be advised whether or not a permit is required and if one is required, how much the permit will cost. For further information, please consult the District's website or call the Development and Community Services Office at 655-5470.

ENVIRONMENTALLY-FRIENDLY USES FOR DEAD TREES

The Tree and Hedgerow Committee would like to remind residents that a deceased tree has many important uses. We encourage residents to consider adapting dead trees into habitat trees or nurse logs. Habitat trees are partially cut trees which are left standing forming part of the surrounding habitat. Nurse logs are fallen trees which are left on the ground to decompose. These practices assist nature in all sorts of ways including providing habitat and food for wildlife, as well as contributing decomposed organic matter back into the forest floor. Rather than burning forest debris and blow down, please consider composting or chipping these organic materials, or arranging for complete removal so as to reduce the risk of a fire. Residents should also consider limiting tree and hedgerow trimming during nesting season (April to summer) to provide our local birds with quality nesting habitat during this critical time. For further information about these and other ideas please contact Councillor Anny Scoones at 656-9740 or call the District's Infrastructure Services Department at 655-5460.



NEW DEVELOPMENT NOTIFICATION SIGN REQUIREMENT

The District now requires applicants to post notification signs on property when certain types of development are proposed, including:

- ◆ Development Permits (DPs) ◆ Development Variance Permits (DVPs) ◆ Rezoning ◆ Land Use Contract Amendments ◆

This objective of this program is to increase awareness of upcoming development applications at an early stage. Development notification signs must remain in place throughout the application process. Generic signs for DP and DVP applications include Municipal Hall contact information. The site-specific signs for Rezoning and Land Use Contract Amendments include a map, details of the proposal, and telephone numbers of the applicant and the District.

For further information on this sign program please call 655-5470 or send an e-mail to admin@northsaanich.ca.

HALLOWEEN BONFIRE

You are invited to attend the District's Annual Halloween Fireworks on October 31st at the Wain Road Firehall. Activities will start at 6:00 p.m. with a bonfire, hotdogs, drinks, cookies and of course fireworks at 7:30 p.m. There is **no collection of burnable materials this year** at the Wain Road Firehall. For further information about the Halloween bonfire please call the Fire Department at 656-1931.



CONTACT NUMBERS

Telephone Numbers:

- ⇒ Administration & Finance..... 656-0781
- ⇒ Engineering..... 655-5460
- ⇒ Zoning, Permits & Licensing..... 655-5470
- ⇒ Public Works 655-5480
- ⇒ Fire Department 656-1931

Hours of Operation: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. week days

After Hours: 920-9235 (4:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. and weekends and holidays)

Emergency Fire, Police and Ambulance: 9 • 1 • 1

After Hours Fire Non-Emergency: 475-6111

E-mail: admin@northsaanich.ca

Web Page: www.northsaanich.ca

FAX NUMBERS



Please note the following FAX numbers for Municipal Departments:

General..... 656-3155

Building, Licensing, Engineering

& Public Works..... 656-0782

Fire Department..... 656-0906

PAYING YOUR TAXES AND WATER BILLS ON LINE

Did you know that you can pay your property taxes and water bills on line? If you choose to pay these bills electronically, the following is the information that should be registered with your bank.

Property Taxes: The number to use is your folio number found on the top right hand corner of your tax notice. It consists of 8 digits and you do not include the decimal point. In the example below the number to provide your bank is 01420200.

DUE DATE

Taxes are due and payable
Before 4:30 p.m.
July 3, 2007

2007 PROPERTY TAX NOTICE

DISTRICT OF NORTH SAANICH
1620 MILLS ROAD NORTH SAANICH, BC V8L 5S9 (250) 656-0781

Mr. J. Doe
1234 Turnberry Place
North Saanich, BC X1X 1X1

Folio No. 01420.200

Civic Address: 1234 West Saanich Road
Legal Desc:
Mortgage Co.:
Access Code:

Penalties

Unpaid 2007 Taxes Including Home Owner
Grants are subject to penalty of:
5% on balance unpaid after July 3, 2007
5% on balance unpaid after October 1, 2007

Water Bills: The number to use is your account number found on the top left hand corner of your water bill. It consists of 14 digits and you do not include the spaces. In the example below the number to provide the bank is 01001420200000.

DISTRICT OF NORTH SAANICH

1620 Mills Road
North Saanich BC V8L 5S9
Phone: (250) 656-0781
Fax: (250) 656-3155

Tri-Annual Utilities Invoice

Account #: 010 01420200 000	Billing Date: 05 Jul 2007	Bill From: 15 Feb 2007
Service Address: 1234 TURNBERRY PLACE	Billing Batch #: 2007070501	Bill To: 15 Jun 2007

Mr. J. Doe
1234 Turnberry Place
North Saanich, BC X1X 1X1

Make Cheque Payable to
DISTRICT OF NORTH SAANICH

Enter Amount Enclosed

If you try to pay your property taxes by using your water bill electronic payment number, your payment will be applied to your water account in error. Similarly if you use your property tax bill electronic payment number to pay your water bill, your water payment will be applied to your property tax account in error. For more information please contact the Financial Services Department at 656-0781.

SAFETY TIPS FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

To minimize the spread of a fire and smoke damage please ensure you close all doors behind you when exiting a building where there is a fire or an alarm has sounded.

Please remember that when you're driving and hear sirens approaching, be sure to pull over to the nearest shoulder of the road to ensure a clear passage for oncoming emergency vehicles. This applies to both sides (directions) of the road. If you are in a traffic circle, exit the circle then pull over. Do not stop in the circle or enter the circle if you hear emergency vehicles approaching.

VIRTUAL ELIMINATION OF PESTICIDES FOR NORTH SAANICH

Did you know that North Saanich has virtually eliminated the use of pesticides in the last 10 years? In all cases where pest control is required, alternatives are always considered as a first step toward pest reduction or eradication. Only in extreme cases where no other practical solution exists are pesticides considered. The District also supports the CRD's Pesticide Use Reduction Education Initiative which is currently being developed. We will ensure that residents are kept informed about this program as it progresses. For more information about alternatives to pesticides please consult the District's website at www.northsaanich.ca or drop by the Municipal Hall and ask about alternatives to pesticides.

WHO TO CONTACT AT THE MUNICIPAL HALL

Bruce Williams – Chief Administrative Officer (implementation of Council policies and programs)
bwilliams@northsaanich.ca

Sandy Bowden – Director of Corporate Services (Council meetings/procedures, human resources matters, and local government elections) sbowden@northsaanich.ca

Ralph Gillis – Director of Financial Services (the District's budget and taxation) rgillis@northsaanich.ca

Tracy Olsen – Director of Development and Community Services (planning, zoning, building, bylaw enforcement, and licensing) tolsen@northsaanich.ca

Gary Wilton – Director of Emergency Services (burning regulations, the North Saanich Volunteer Fire Department and emergency planning) gwilton@northsaanich.ca

Tim Tanton – Director of Infrastructure Services (sewage treatment, drainage, subdivision development, roads, and public works) ttanton@northsaanich.ca

Brian Robinson – Works Superintendent (district parks and trails, repairs and maintenance of drainage systems, roads and utilities) brobinson@northsaanich.ca

John Carnell – IT/GIS Manager (electronic mapping and information technology) jcarnell@northsaanich.ca

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Council meets every 1st and 3rd Monday of the month - Committee of the Whole meets every 2nd and 4th Monday. There are no meetings on statutory holidays. All meetings take place in the Municipal Hall Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m. Check with the Corporate Services Department for the dates of summer meetings. All agendas and minutes are posted on the District's website.

Mayor Ted Daly	656-8700
Councillor Peter Chandler	656-7226
Councillor Sheilah Fea	656-2719
Councillor Cairine Green	656-3205
Councillor Anny Scoones	656-9740
Councillor Bob Shaw	655-9610
Councillor Bob Williamson	655-1270

ADVISORY COMMISSIONS

Advisory Planning Commission

...meets at 7:30 p.m. every 4th Wednesday of the month at the Municipal Hall

Members	Michael Stanlake (Chair) Dan Carrier Michael Houle Ted Izard Don MacKinnon Kit Spence Carolyn Stout
Council Liaison	Councillor Peter Chandler

Environmental Advisory Commission

...meets at 7:30 p.m. every 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Municipal Hall

Members	Al Burgoyne (Chair) Richard Bailey Ron Barnhart Richard Nordlund Ian Norie Brian Sibley Elizabeth Stanlake John Thorp Jock von Kaldenberg
Council Liaison	Councillor Cairine Green

Parks Commission

...meets at 4:30 p.m. every 3rd Thursday of the month at the Municipal Hall

Members	Farrell Boyce (Chair) John Braithwaite Joan Coldwell John Enright Tom Gore Floyd Mailhot Joyce Nordlund Janet Silman
Council Liaison	Councillor Anny Scoones
APC Liaison	Carolyn Stout
EAC Liaison	Richard Bailey

Heritage Advisory Commission

...meets at 10:00 a.m. every 1st Wednesday of the month at the Municipal Hall

Members	Peter Hurley (Chair) Ann Aylard Susan Banas Debbie Gray Helene Malvet Freda Thorne
Council Liaison	Councillor Anny Scoones

