



BUDGET AND FINANCIAL PLAN DISCUSSIONS

Council has been reviewing the proposed 2021 Budget and 2021-2025 Financial Plan.

The Financial Plan and Tax Rates bylaws must be adopted by May 15, 2021. To view all budget presentations, visit: <https://www.ladysmith.ca/discover-ladysmith/community-plans/our-financial-plan>

VIRTUALLY ATTEND COUNCIL AND CoW MEETINGS

In order to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission, Council has been meeting electronically since March, 2020. Electronic meetings are permitted under Ministerial Order No. M192. The Town of Ladysmith is using Zoom Webinars to conduct our meetings.

Please read on to find out how you can “virtually” attend meetings and ask a question live during Regular Council Meetings.

How to register

A registration link will be included on each agenda cover page which, once you clicked on will direct you to a very short registration form. After you fill out the form, you will immediately receive a confirmation email with your own unique link to join the meeting. You'll also receive two reminders of the meeting: on the day before the meeting, as well as one hour before the meeting starts.

By “virtually” attending, it will feel as if you are sitting

in the Council Chamber watching the meeting. There is an option to ask questions live during Question Period as well – your video will remain off, but you will be able to ask questions. You'll receive all the information you need in your confirmation and reminder emails. Please note that only Council meetings include Question Period (CoW meetings do not).

You can join the meeting using either your computer/tablet or your telephone. We recommend downloading the free Zoom App from the Google Play or Apple App Store for your smartphone or tablet.

BURNING REGULATIONS

Please be reminded that no outdoor burning is permitted within the Town of Ladysmith, with the exception of small cooking fires (no bigger than 0.5m sq.) such as a barbecue, fire pit or chiminea.

REMINDER

ATV's and other motorized vehicles are NOT allowed on any Town of Ladysmith Trails.



SNOW AND ICE CONTROL

What happens when it snows in Ladysmith:

The mountains overlooking Ladysmith may be blanketed with snow but those toboggans and shovels are still collecting dust in our garages. It's still a good idea to be prepared to deal with snow on our streets.

In the event of a snowfall, the first priority for the plows is to clear access to public buildings such as the Community Health Centre, RCMP detachment, Ambulance Station and Fire/Rescue Station.

We then clear and maintain all main roads on a 24 hour basis as the snow continues to fall. Our primary concern is keeping the main roadways, First Avenue, Fourth Avenue, Dogwood Drive, Davis Road and Chemainus Road open to traffic.

Weather permitting, we then clear snow from the main hills throughout the Town, focusing on widening the roads we have already cleared to make room for traffic. Local neighbourhood roads will be cleared after the main thoroughfares (listed above) are completed.

Through roads will be cleared first, and then cul-de-sacs. Did you know it can take about 48 hours to clear all 60 kilometres of roads in Ladysmith? Remember that it is your responsibility to shovel the sidewalks bordering your

property by 10:00 am after a snowfall. This helps to ensure the safety of your neighbours and other pedestrians. We also provide a free salt/sand mixture at the Public Works Yard.

UPDATED TOWN WEBSITE

The Town's website (www.ladysmith.ca) is undergoing a fresh new look and an upgrade to make it mobile friendly.

This process has included updating the design of all pages, including the homepage and overview pages, and the addition of six new features.

Additional features include:

1. Emergency alert banners with the ability to colour change depending on the degree of severity.
2. Accessibility options, including increased font size and contrasting colours.
3. An embedded billing calculator for property taxes.
4. An updated e-newsletter subscription form added to every page as a footer.
5. A new "I Want To" section on the homepage for quick reference.
6. Accordion (expanding) styling lists added to tidy up space and increase design flexibility.

For users of our new website, it is important to note that all pages and content have been brought over,

UTILITY BILL PAYMENTS DUE FEBRUARY 26, 2021

Utility Bills for October to December are due February 26, 2021. Due to COVID-19 we are encouraging you to pay online through your financial institution. However, payments can be made in person at City Hall using debit, cash or cheque, by mail or by using our after-hours drop box.

If you have questions about your bill, please call 250.245.6400 or email: billing@ladysmith.ca.



and remain in the same section as before - easing any navigation worries. The search function has also been upgraded to include an auto-complete setting.

We are excited to launch the website in early 2021.

HOLLAND CREEK CROSSING

Our community continues to grow and welcome new residents.

Developer Lamont Land LP is starting construction of a bridge crossing at Colonia Drive in order to access a land parcel it owns within the Holland Creek Local Area Plan (HCLAP).

The HCLAP, which forms part of the Town's Official Community Plan, outlines planning, design principles, land use, transportation and servicing policies for this 360 acre area, more than a third of which is preserved as trail and parkland.

The traffic assessment for this new neighbourhood concluded that the area should be served by three accesses - Dogwood Drive, Colonia Drive and Thetis Drive.

The bridge crossing at Colonia Drive will eventually form part of a future collector road through this predominantly residential neighbourhood near the

centre of town. The parcel owned by Lamont Land is currently zoned Single Dwelling Residential (R-1).

Lamont Land has set a tentative completion date of April 2021.

The Town is not involved in any of the site preparation work or the actual construction of the crossing.

However, we do understand and can appreciate that community members will have additional questions regarding this project.

The developer's proposed crossing design includes a two-lane road with a multiuse pathway on one side for pedestrians and cyclists. Two pedestrian tunnels will pass underneath the roadway and connect with the existing trail system.

The Town will keep you informed of the progress of the bridge crossing, as well as notify you of any temporary closures of the Holland Creek Trail during construction, through the town's webpage.

For the latest information about this project, including a list of Frequently Asked Questions, visit: www.ladysmith.ca/hollandcreekcrossing. Trail closures will also be posted on our social media accounts.

2021 DOG LICENCES

The 2021 dog licences (tags) are now available and eligible for an early discount until the end of January.

Dog tags are available at City Hall, 410 Esplanade during regular office hours; Frank Jameson Community Centre, 810 6th Avenue; and For Pet's Sakes pet store, 416 1st Avenue.



WE VALUE YOUR FEEDBACK

If you have any comments, questions or suggestions, we want to hear from you.

E-mail us at to info@ladysmith.ca or call City Hall at 250.245.6400.

BUSINESS LICENCE RENEWALS DUE BY FEBRUARY 28

The Town of Ladysmith offers inter-municipal business licences with Duncan, North Cowichan and Lake Cowichan. Your Ladysmith business licence is valid when you offer mobile business services within these three other communities. The cost of an annual business licence is \$100. Renew by February 28, 2021 to avoid a \$25 late payment fee. If you are a new business in Ladysmith and apply after July 1st, your cost will be prorated to \$50 for the balance of the calendar year.






Ladysmith business owners who carry out work in additional Central Vancouver Island municipalities can purchase an Inter-Community Business Licence for an additional \$170.00. Following are the participating municipalities: Campbell River, Parksville, Qualicum Beach, Courtenay, Port Alberni, Cumberland, Duncan, Lake Cowichan and Nanaimo.

WATER MAIN FLUSHING PROGRAM

Regular water main flushing is an important part of the Town's comprehensive water management program. Each year, between January and April, Public Works flushes both water supply mains and distribution water mains. Potable water is flushed at a high velocity through the water mains to ensure all piping is refreshed and minor sediment within the pipes is removed. This is one of the methods relied upon by the Town to help keep our drinking water safe and clean.

During the flushing period, water users may experience some discolouration of the water supply. Running a cold tap for a short period will help restore water quality back to normal. If you or someone you know depends on medical equipment that uses water, please call Public Works at 250-245-6445 for flushing dates. Yearly water main flushing is also a reminder to clean the screens on your faucets as well as the pressure reducing valve (where water enters the house). This should be done on an annual basis.

WE WANT TO HEAR WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY. CONNECT WITH US:

-  Send an E-mail to info@ladysmith.ca
-  Mail a Letter to Town of Ladysmith City Hall, 410 Esplanade, Box 220, Ladysmith, B.C. V9G 1A2
-  Follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/LadysmithBC
-  Follow us on Twitter [@TownOfLadysmith](https://twitter.com/TownOfLadysmith)
-  Follow us on Instagram [ladysmithbc](https://www.instagram.com/ladysmithbc)

CONTACT US 250.245.6400 / info@ladysmith.ca

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GET CONNECTED

