



Official Community Plan Engagement Summary

The Town initiated several community engagement initiatives between Spring and Fall 2021, to help inform the creation of a vision, goals, and growth scenarios for our updated Official Community Plan.

Engagement activities included two different types of online surveys, virtual workshops, and in-person events that sought to reach a broad and diverse group of people. Over 400 people participated in one of the online surveys, and hundreds more contributed their input in other engagement activities.

The ideas, insights, and experiences shared during this phase of engagement were diverse and plentiful. A number of themes emerged in this phase, including:

- The waterfront and surrounding natural areas are incredibly important.
- Ladysmith's small town character and historic downtown are central to the Town's identity.
- Walking and cycling infrastructure and connections must be improved.
- Better connections and transportation choices

between Ladysmith and neighbouring municipalities are needed.

- Ladysmith is caring and has a strong sense of community.
- People want to see climate action taken seriously.
- Housing affordability must be addressed immediately.
- More supports are needed for people facing barriers.
- Managing growth and development will help address many needs and community goals.
- Relationships between Ladysmith and Stz'uminus First Nation should continue to be strengthened.
- There is a desire for more things to do.
- The arts, culture, and heritage sector is valued and strong.

You can find the full Engagement Summary on our website by visiting www.ladysmith.ca/ocp

Watch for more OCP public engagement opportunities coming up in early 2022.



TOWN OF LADYSMITH



SNOW AND ICE CONTROL

What happens when it snows in Ladysmith:

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, 1st Avenue, 4th 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.

Sand and Salt Mixture

Limited supply chain issues require the Town to conserve salt resources; the complimentary salt/sand mixture at the Public Works Yard will no longer be available until further notice.

The reduced supply is affecting communities across Vancouver Island and notice was received recently that another shipment of salt may not be delivered until February.

The Town currently has a reserve of salt for application on local roads and streets. We are incorporating more sand where appropriate to stretch out our supply for the winter months.

TRANSFER BEACH PARK IMPROVEMENTS

The Town of Ladysmith is gearing up to break ground on improvements to Transfer Beach Park early in 2022.

The work will have a lasting impact on our beloved park as a tourism destination for the mid-Island and is the result of a \$701,552 Provincial grant received by the Town last year.

A portion of the funding is specifically dedicated towards renovating the public washroom and change

UTILITY BILL PAYMENTS DUE FEBRUARY 25, 2022

Utility Bills for October to December are due February 25, 2022. Due to COVID-19 we encourage 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.



room facility. The work will result in the temporary closure of the washroom and we expect that temporary washrooms will be available for the public to use during construction.

The Town will also construct a shelter for the Salish Wind canoe and rebuild parts of the Kinsmen and Sportsman Shelters, which are well-used spaces for our summer daycamps and rentals. We also anticipate building a path to help make the park more accessible to those with mobility challenges.

Watch our website and social media for more information on the construction timeline.

FEDERAL GRANT FOR AGGIE HALL CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Late in 2021, the Ladysmith & District Historical Society and the Town of Ladysmith received a \$15,300 Federal grant from the Building Communities through Arts and Heritage program for the community to commemorate the 100th anniversary of construction of the Ladysmith Agricultural Hall (Aggie Hall).

Aggie Hall is located on 1st Avenue near the roundabout and is an important example of an early community-

driven building project.

The hall and grounds were initially developed with funds raised by the community through subscription and the sale of shares. It was built in 1922 in seven weeks by miners.

The Agricultural Fall Fair became a tradition that continued into the 1990s as a major annual event with extensive involvement from local growers, food producers, artisans, gardeners and families.

Today, the Aggie Hall remains an important 'people place' within the community, hosting numerous community events and housing the Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron 257, one of B.C.'s oldest aid cadet squadrons, and Ladysmith Family and Friends (LaFF).

A celebration for next September is being planned by The Aggie 100 Committee, composed of representatives from a variety of community organizations.

The Town appreciates the efforts of volunteers in carrying on the spirit of this historic landmark in the planning of activities and celebration, details of which will be announced in 2022.

2022 DOG LICENCES

The 2022 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, 2022 to avoid a \$25 late payment fee.

Ladysmith business owners who carry out work in additional Central Vancouver Island municipalities can purchase an Inter-Community Business Licence for an additional \$170. Following are the participating municipalities: Campbell River, Parksville, Qualicum Beach, Courtenay, Port Alberni, Cumberland, Duncan, Lake Cowichan and Nanaimo.

WATER MAIN FLUSHING PROGRAM

Each year, the Town of Ladysmith flushes both water supply mains and distribution water mains. Regular water main flushing is an important part of a comprehensive water management program. Potable water is flushed at a high velocity through the water mains to ensure all piping is refreshed and minor sediment within the pipe is removed.

This is one of the methods relied upon by the Town to help keep our drinking water safe and clean.

During this flushing period, water users may experience some discoloration of the water supply. Should this occur, running a cold water tap for a short period will help to restore water quality back to normal.

Residents who are dependent on medical equipment that uses water are invited to call Infrastructure Services 250.245.6445 for specific flushing dates.

Residents can take this opportunity to clean the screens on faucets and the pressure-reducing valve (where the water enters the house). These should normally be cleaned at least once a year.

If you have any questions regarding the flushing program, please contact Infrastructure Services.

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