



30th ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

The 30th Ladysmith Light Up takes place November 30, acting as the official kickoff of the six week-long Festival of Lights. Since 1987, the Light Up has grown from a tiny community event attended by 500 people, to a massive display of thousands of twinkling lights, volunteerism and community spirit that attracts approximately 20,000 visitors. In addition to a dazzling display of holiday cheer, Light Up go-ers can explore downtown Ladysmith and enjoy a spaghetti dinner, craft fair, entertainment, food concessions, a special visit from Santa, the Kinsmen Parade along 1st Avenue to Aggie Hall, spectacular fireworks and more.

Be sure to bring your entire family, but please leave your furry friends at home. Dogs are not allowed on 1st Avenue during public events, and the fireworks are enjoyed much more by people than pets. Also, don't forget that parking can be difficult to find as 1st Avenue will be closed to traffic from 3:00 pm until after Light Up concludes. Rather, take advantage of shuttle buses that will travel from Transfer Beach and the churches at the north end of 4th Avenue. For more information, visit <https://www.ladysmithfol.com/>

UTILITY BILL PAYMENTS DUE NOVEMBER 28

You can pay by mail, in person at City Hall (cheque or debit) or online through your bank.

Check out www.ladysmith.ca to sign up for electronic utility billing (go paperless!) or to sign up for pre-authorized utility bill payments.

CONTACT US 250.245.6400 / info@ladysmith.ca

410 Esplanade MAIL PO Box 220 . Ladysmith . BC . V9G 1A2

www.ladysmith.ca

GET CONNECTED   





CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

When Council adopted a new set of Strategic Priorities last year, it listed improvements to Communications and Engagement as one of five key commitments. Civic engagement is a critical component of the decision making process. By reaching out and involving residents in public decisions, Town staff and Council are provided with information that supports thoughtful, measured decision making, program development and service delivery.

Informing and Engaging Ladysmith Residents

While civic engagement practices have expanded considerably since the introduction of the Internet and social media, local governments, including Ladysmith, continue to look for new ways of ensuring citizens are fully engaged and informed.

For example, we worked hard to engage the community in the conversation about Ladysmith's Waterfront Area Plan. With the help of a consultant, the Town planned numerous community meetings that included speakers' nights, open houses and a design charrette. We also solicited feedback via two surveys and posted regular updates and reminders about meetings on our website, through our social media platforms, in newspapers and magazine ads, and on community bulletin boards.

Our most recent community consultation focused on the potential for Council to amend a bylaw to allow backyard hens. We employed a number of traditional civic engagement tools, such as a September 20 community open house; informative posters placed in prominent locations around Ladysmith; a news release posted in the News and Media section of the Town website; a survey available in person from City Hall or via email; and ads in the Ladysmith Chronicle and Take 5 magazine.

Seeking Innovative Engagement Platforms

The Town also posted multiple reminders on its Facebook and Twitter pages and introduced an innovative, location-based, online consultation tool called PlaceSpeak. The platform at www.placespeak.com/backyardhens allows users to discuss issues openly and respectfully while accessing related resources, surveys, polls and other helpful information. Further, the Town provided information about the topic to stakeholders, including the Ladysmith Chamber of Commerce, which encouraged members to join the discussion in person or online.

Your Feedback Matters

Good civic engagement isn't aimed at reaching a consensus on a decision. Rather, it's about ensuring that Ladysmith residents can have their say and assist Town staff and Council in shaping the policies, programs and services that benefit our entire community. With that, we invite you to get involved. Follow our Facebook and Twitter pages, check out our website, subscribe to our newsletters, and sign up for a free PlaceSpeak account. If you aren't computer savvy, keep an eye on the Town's community bulletin boards and drop in to our next open house. Your feedback matters.



FIREWORKS DISCHARGE PERMITS

Now that the campfire and open fire bans for our area have been lifted, some residents are preparing for Halloween fireworks. This is a friendly reminder that a CVRD Fireworks Discharge Permit must be filled out and submitted to the Town of Ladysmith. Please note that fireworks may be discharged only between the hours of 6:00 pm and 12 midnight on October 31 (and 12 midnight and 1:00 am on January 1). Pick up a form at City Hall or email info@ladysmith.ca

GREAT PLACES IN CANADA CONTEST

Showcase your collective pride in our incredible community by voting for 1st Avenue in the Great Places in Canada competition. This national contest, hosted by the Canadian Institute of Planners, recognizes great streets, public spaces, and neighborhoods in communities across the country. Until October 27, Ladysmith residents, the business community and other stakeholders near and far are invited to show their support by voting once per day for 1st Avenue as Canada's Greatest Street at <http://greatplacesincanada.ca/vote/>

WATERFRONT AREA PLAN: UPDATE



The Town of Ladysmith and Stz'uminus First Nation have been working together on a plan for Ladysmith's waterfront area. The community consultation process for the new waterfront area plan has been rigorous with multiple opportunities for public engagement and feedback. Thank you to everyone who has participated! The consultation process continues through October with the final public event to review the final draft plan expected to be held in November. Stay tuned to the Town's website and social media further updates.





AROUND TOWN

- **Remembrance Day Ceremony** (Cenotaph) Nov. 11, parade leaves the Legion at 10:30 am, ceremony at 10:45 am
- **Ladysmith Light Up** (1st Avenue) Nov. 30 beginning at 3:00 pm
- **Ladysmith Waterfront Art Gallery Presents: Santa's Workshop** (610 Oyster Bay Drive) Dec. 1-22
- **Old Time Christmas and Candlelight Walk** (1st Avenue) Dec. 8 from 5:00 pm-8:00 pm
- **Ladysmith Christmas Mt Brenton Sail Past** (Transfer Beach) Dec. 9 from 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

For more fun community events, visit www.ladysmith.ca or the Chamber of Commerce Calendar of Events at www.ladysmithcofc.com/calendar/

SIGN UP FOR OUR ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTERS

Call City Hall 250.245.6400, click the button on our website www.ladysmith.ca, or send us an e-mail to info@ladysmith.ca to be added to our electronic newsletter mailing list. You can choose to receive City Hall News, Parks, Recreation & Culture News, Council Meeting Agendas and/or Emergency Information right in your e-mail inbox in a safe, secure e-newsletter.

WE VALUE YOUR FEEDBACK

If you have any comments, questions or suggestions, we want to hear from you. Send us an e-mail to info@ladysmith.ca or call City Hall at 250.245.6400.

In the event of an after hours emergency involving water, sewer or drainage, please call the 24-hour phone line at 250.741.3373.

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

- ✉ Send an E-mail to info@ladysmith.ca
- ✉ Mail a Note 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)