

Saanich Spotlight

Spring update from Mayor Fred Haynes

Our actions over the last term toward road safety and safe transportation for all road users have been non-stop.

In 2020, a “streetscape” on West Saanich Road was completed with 900m of new sidewalks and buffered bike lanes. Prospect Lake Road improvements include a centerline rumble strip, a one-way yield, 90 additional signs, and reduction to a default speed of 30 km/h.

Additionally, throughout 2020, 12 new crosswalks were installed. At Blenkinsop Road and Judge Place, a pedestrian and cyclist-activated traffic signal now provides safe crossing in this difficult location.

The CRD partnered [Active and Safe Routes to School](#) is aimed at increasing rates of students walking, wheeling, or taking the bus. Improvements have been made around those schools that completed the program including parking restrictions, crosswalk and sidewalk installation, visibility improvements and signal timing. We completed Safe Routes with every interested public and middle school in Saanich—25!

2021 saw Council’s approval of \$2 million in accelerated annual funding toward implementation of the [Active Transportation Plan](#) (ATP), which will implement over 100 actions. We also committed to invest \$40 million in ATP works over the next 20 years. Saanich partnered with ICBC for funding from the Road Improvement Program with \$125,000 on nine all road user safety projects.

Saanich receives awards for budgeting and financial reporting

For the 15th consecutive year, we received the Canadian Award for Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for our 2020 financial statements. For the 13th consecutive year, we received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from GFOA for our 2021 to 2025 Financial Plan.



The [Shelbourne Street Improvement Project](#), as many will know, is currently under construction. Once completed, it will provide necessary improvements including better access for pedestrians and cyclists.

Continuing in 2022, we hold strong in our commitment to make Saanich’s roads safe for everyone. Most recently, Council approved a policy framework for road safety presented by staff. In result, Council adopted Vision Zero, a campaign intended to stop traffic-related deaths and severe injuries and to increase safe mobility for all. Council also approved the development of a Road Safety Action Plan and directed staff to undertake priority items including the development of a Council Speed Limit Establishment Policy and to continue to update the ATP, as well as to consider the development of a traffic calming policy.

Additionally, 2022 is expected to have the most capital construction for active transportation projects in the history of Saanich. Some of the projects include West Saanich at Prospect Lake intersection upgrades and new sidewalks from the community hall to Whitehead Park; Sinclair complete street project from Cadboro Bay to Finnerty; Gorge Road all ages and abilities cycling and pedestrian upgrades from Tillicum to Admirals, Vanalman neighbourhood bikeway from Mann to Commerce Circle; and Cordova Bay Road all ages and abilities cycling and pedestrian upgrades from Walema to Rambler, to name a few. More information about all the projects is on our website under [Current Projects](#).

As you can see, we have and will continue to do what it takes to make our streets safer for everyone. We are committed to you.





Saanich looks to redevelop Operations Centre

The need to redevelop the Saanich Operations Centre and the first conceptual site plan are ready to share with residents through an information campaign as the first important milestone for this multi-year redevelopment project.

“The Saanich Operations Centre is the lively hub for our incredible operations staff who deliver services we all depend on and is our highest priority for capital investment,” said Mayor Fred Haynes. “A new facility will be a tremendous asset for our staff and community, and I’m delighted it will ensure continued service delivery into the future while improving working conditions for our dedicated staff.”

The Operations Centre, located at 1040 McKenzie Avenue, houses all of Saanich’s parks and public works operations. Residents and businesses rely on the municipal services provided by these teams every day. Services such as water for drinking and waste removal; transportation, including roads, traffic control and pathways for active transportation; parks, boulevards, waterways, and shorelines; and solid waste removal all support the high quality of life in Saanich.

The facilities at the site reflect almost seven decades of heavy use despite continued maintenance. In addition to being beyond their useful and designed life extents, the facilities are outdated, pose health and safety concerns and are undersized when it comes to building code requirements, operational practices, and future growth needs. As Saanich’s delivery of critical services is essential to the quality of life and well-being residents depend upon, the growing risk to effective and sustainable delivery of services requires urgent planning and preparation.

Next steps

Staff will prepare a business case for Council’s review and decision in late spring 2022. The business case will outline the project options, proposed schedule and costs. Input from the



upcoming public engagement will be incorporated into the report for Council. Opportunities for public engagement at future stages of the project will be outlined in the business case.

If Council approves the business case, the project will move into a detailed design phase. Funding for implementation and construction will require further approval processes in future.

Quick facts

- The [Strategic Facilities Master Plan](#), adopted by Council in 2018, provides a framework to help prioritize investment in municipal facilities.
- More than 300 parks and public works staff currently work at or report out of the Operations Centre.
- The Operations Centre was formerly known as the Parks and Public Works Yard and occupies approximately 13 acres.
- Most of the buildings were constructed between the late 1950s and mid 1970s

Learn more

Find more information about the project, including, plans and detailed information, [FAQs](#) and a [video](#), and details about public information sessions at saanich.ca/socplan.



UBCM endorses Saanich resolutions

The **Union of BC Municipalities** (UBCM) Executive recently endorsed five resolutions submitted by Saanich Council in 2021 and 2020 for consideration. Actions within the resolutions are implemented by UBCM accordingly.

UBCM Executive endorsed in February 2022:

Declaring the overdose crisis a national public health emergency

UBCM requests the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia declare the overdose crisis a national public health emergency and develop appropriate comprehensive, holistic Pan-Canadian overdose action plans that include the legislative and funding frameworks for decriminalization, de-stigmatization, free and safe supply, suitable medical treatments and thereby function to holistically address the opioid crisis, mental health issues and their connections to homelessness and overdose deaths in local governments across Canada.

UBCM convention endorsed in September 2021:

Black Lives Matter

UBCM requests the Prime Minister, the Premier of British Columbia, and all federal and provincial ministers responsible for education, employment, housing, mental health, and policing to review and report on elements of institutional racism that may be found to exist in the areas of education, employment, housing, mental health, policing and other sectors.

Implement Early Childhood Education Provincial Wage Grid

UBCM ask the Province to support the Early Childhood Educators of British Columbia and the coalition of Child Care Advocates' proposal to implement a competitive, publicly funded Early Childhood Education Provincial Wage Grid made possible by a significant increase in operation subsidies for child care facilities, as a step towards their plan for a universal child care system.

Increase Supported Child Development Funding

UBCM lobby the provincial government to increase the Supported Child Development funding.

Creating One Planet Communities

UBCM share with local governments who wish to take steps to engage their citizens in reducing their ecological footprint to utilize a "One Planet" or similar model for a sustainable future.

You can read the full correspondence on these items and learn about more important advocacy work at saanich.ca/advocacy.



Saanich Police Department named one of BC's top employers for 2022

The editors of Canada's Top 100 Employers project announced the Saanich Police Department (SPD) as one of BC's Top Employers for 2022!

Published annually since 2006, BC's Top Employers is an editorial competition that recognizes British Columbia-based employers that lead their industries in offering exceptional places to work.

SPD is thrilled with this meaningful recognition as it reinforces our collective efforts, initiatives, and programs that strive to enhance and foster a strong, inclusive, and healthy culture that supports employee and organizational health.

"We are very proud and honoured to be recognized as one of BC's Top Employers and excited to share this announcement with our staff who truly make the Saanich Police Department an employer of choice and an exceptional place to work," said Dean Duthie, Chief Constable.





Police Board promotes Dean Duthie to Chief Constable

In December, the Saanich Police Board announced the promotion of Deputy Chief Constable Dean Duthie to become the 18th Chief Constable for the Saanich Police Department.

This promotion took effect on February 1, 2022, after the retirement of Chief Constable Scott Green. In addition, Inspector Robert Warren was identified for promotion to the rank of Deputy Chief Constable.

Dean Duthie began his career in policing with the Saanich Police Department 26 years ago. Since that time, he has advanced through the ranks gaining experience in a wide range of police operations, investigations, administration, and management, becoming Acting Deputy Chief in 2019 and Deputy Chief in 2020. Dean holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice Studies from the University of the Fraser Valley and a Master of Education Degree in Leadership Studies from the University of Victoria.

Scott Green joined SPD in February of 1988 and worked assignments in the Traffic Safety Unit, Street Crime, Youth, Major Crime, Professional Standards and the Greater Victoria Emergency Response Team. Chief Green worked tirelessly to promote an inclusive and respectful culture where staff feel valued and appreciated for their contribution to our shared mission of working with our community to keep Saanich safe. He never missed an opportunity to remind us of the importance of treating all persons in all circumstances with dignity and respect, in the way that we would all want our loved ones to be treated by the police.



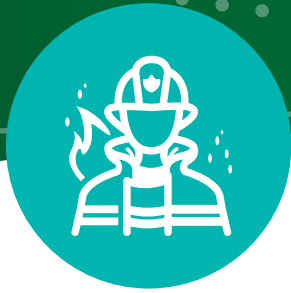


Saanich Fire adds new CRD clients to our fire dispatch services

In July 2021, Saanich Fire Dispatch entered into an agreement with the Capital Regional District to transition 15 agencies to our fire dispatch service. The timeline for this transition was ambitious and in December 2021, the 15 agencies went live with Saanich Fire Dispatch.

The departments include Port Renfrew, Shirley, Otter Point, East Sooke, Metchosin, Sooke, Highlands, Willis Point, Piers Island, Mayne Island, South Galiano Island, North Galiano Island, Salt Spring Island, Saturna Island and Pender Island. Our dispatch centre team has grown to include an Assistant Chief of Communications, eight full time and four part time dispatchers. We look forward to providing our new clients the same high level service as we do for our current dispatch clients of Oak Bay and Central Saanich.





New commercial vehicle rescue system “supports” Fire Fighters with heavy lifting!

The department has acquired a new Paratech Rescue Support System that is designed for use in a broad range of rescue situations such as vehicle extrications, structural containment, excavation containment, trench rescue and stabilization.

Our fire fighters are training at Fire Station 2 with commercial vehicles like a tractor trailer placed on top of a passenger vehicle. The Vehicle Stabilization Kit has a maximum load of up to 120,000 pounds with a 4:1 safety factor, which is approximately 12 elephants in one lift! And our Ladder 1 apparatus is approximately 80,000 pounds.

This kit is designed to stabilize multiple industrial or commercial vehicles in complex collision scenarios. With Saanich having two major highways with large amounts of commercial vehicles travelling through it, this equipment will give our fire fighters the ability to better handle any incident that may happen and increase our chances of rescuing people more efficiently in these major accidents.



FIRE FUN FACTS

It's in the kitchen! Most house fires start in the kitchen, and cooking is the leading cause of home fire injuries. Cooking fires often start from overheated grease and unattended stoves. Electric stoves are involved in more fires than gas stoves.

How long do you think fire fighters have to get fully dressed in their firefighting gear? Less than one minute! This includes all of their clothing, air tank (SCBA) which can add from 80-120 pounds to a fire fighter weight, as shown in these images.

Saanich Fire responds to over 4,000 incidents a year, including emergency and non-emergency.





Speed detection devices

Speed detection devices (SDDs) are dynamic traffic signs which measure the speed of a passing vehicle and then display either the recorded speed or an equivalent speed-based message such as “slow down”. The instant feedback to drivers has proven to be an effective traffic calming method in other municipalities in Canada and abroad.

Through the [Active and Safe Routes to School program](#), parents have raised concerns about the speed and volumes of cars on the streets near schools. This is usually one of the top limiting factors for parents on whether or not they choose to let their children use active transportation to/from school. The goal of the SDD program is to reduce vehicle speeds and increase speed awareness in school zones.

Saanich Engineering has purchased seven SDDs. Potential locations were awarded points based on factors such as collision history, speed reports, traffic volumes, road classifications etc. Based on their totals, locations were ranked. The top six locations are:

- Richmond Road (Lansdowne)
- Burnside Road W (Marigold/Spectrum/St. Josephs)
- Prospect Lake Road (Prospect Lake)
- Carey Road (Northridge)
- Glanford Avenue (Glanford)
- Union Road

All SDDs except for the Union location will be placed within school zones on collector level roads. Union was selected due to speeding and the vertical geometry of the road which makes these speeds especially hazardous.

Last week our first two speed detection devices were installed on Prospect Lake Road upon each approach to Prospect Lake Elementary. This particular device allows us to program three different display configurations and flashes if a vehicle exceeds a set speed. We look forward to the remaining five being installed in the coming weeks.





What's new in SaanichMap?

Every two years, we add new aerial photos to SaanichMap as part of a collaboration with neighbouring municipalities and the CRD.

Every set of image files we work with is about 150 Gigabytes in size and includes raw and compressed aerial images, digital elevation models, and planimetry.

Some terms you may hear in GIS include orthophoto, hillshade, and planimetry. An orthophoto is an aerial photograph where displacements due to tilt and relief have been corrected to produce uniform scale and a true representation of the ground.

A Hillshade is a grayscale 3D representation of the surface with the sun's relative position shading the image. This enhances the appearance of the terrain by using patterns of light and shadow to help identify landscape features.

And planimetry consists of the identification and geolocation of land cover and built items, such as rooflines and transportation features.

You can find our latest 2021 products - such as the orthophoto and hillshade - at saanich.ca/saanichmap



FUN FACTS

330 data layers are maintained in Saanich's GIS. Some examples are capital works projects, local areas, heritage sites and tsunami planning zones.

Saanich covers a substantial area (10,334 Hectares) and there are many assets to manage across all departments including:

- 2,327 hydrants
- 313 litter bins
- 46,156 parcels
- 570 km of sanitary sewer mains
- 58 schools
- 2,427 streamside development permit areas
- 8,955 streetlights
- 110 km trail network

We will soon add six new park layers in SaanichMap including bike racks, drinking fountains, and park furniture and park signs.

See if you can find the alien in the 2021 Orthophoto! Hint – it's near UVic.



Follow us on
Twitter at:
@SaanichEP
@SaanichFire

Strong attendance at emergency preparedness presentation

Saanich Emergency Program regularly provides volunteer delivered emergency preparedness presentations. Following the January 15 tsunami advisory, the January 19 offering experienced a big bump in registrations! Events like the tsunami advisory are an excellent opportunity to raise awareness of the need for residents to become more prepared for emergencies in their community.

The January 19 session included the debut of an updated edition of the Preparedness 101 presentation featuring new visuals and a modernized script. Attendees learned how to prepare to support themselves for at least seven days after a disaster. Presenters connected the messaging with recent events throughout the province. Attendees shared excellent reviews with our presenters and some posted remarks to the @SaanichEP Twitter.

Reviews:

I signed up because I was a little concerned with 2021 events and how well prepared I was. I am now motivated to dig out the grab and go bag I had and comparing it to the checklist provided.

This was wonderful! The speakers were excellent and I learned a lot. I had been putting off doing it for fear it would make me more anxious but knowledge is power and I feel better because of what I've learned. Thank you!

Practical prep tip from SEP

Turn routine tasks into preparedness habits!

Many tasks occur on a regular cycle like replacing batteries in smoke alarms, birthdays, yard maintenance and large grocery shops. To ensure you emergency kit contents stay current, turn some of the following routine tasks into an opportunity to form preparedness habits.

- Next time you return home from a large grocery shop, rotate the food in your kit.
- After the last camping trip of the summer, supplement your vehicle kit with sleeping bags.
- Daylight savings can be your reminder to refresh the water you have stored and time this task for when you need to use water, such as a large outdoor event or camping trip to reduce waste.
- And your birthday can be the time when medications come out of the kits and are put into circulation in the medicine cabinet.

There are lots of opportunities to simplify preparedness and break it into smaller steps.

You can find more tips at saanich.ca/prepare.





Check out the 2021 Climate Plan Report Card – hot off the press!

This report card summarizes the climate actions undertaken in 2021 and provides an update on our progress towards our greenhouse gas (GHG) targets.

2021 was a year marked by devastating fires and floods in BC, demonstrating the critical need to ensure we meet or exceed our climate targets and prepare for the climate changes that are not only projected, but also already upon us. As highlighted in the 2021 Climate Plan Report Card, the District is making important progress, including:

- 72% of actions are on track/achieved, thanks to increased funding in 2021. (Due to COVID budget constraints, only 58% of actions were on track in 2020).
- Community and corporate emissions are decreasing, but more reductions are required in order to meet our targets.
- Significant progress was made in all focus areas, including:

- **Transportation:**

- » 20 new public EV charging stations opened
- » Launched the E-bike Incentive Pilot Program
- » Launched “top-up” incentives to the CleanBC Go Electric Charger Rebate Program to support EV charging in multi-family buildings
- » Built more than 2km of new all ages and abilities bike lanes

- **Buildings and infrastructure:**

- » 267 households received Saanich top-up rebates to switch from fossil fuels to renewable electric heat pumps for home heating and cooling
- » 38 commercial buildings representing 3.7 million square feet in Saanich are working towards achieving GHG reductions through the Greater Victoria 2030 District

- **Food and materials**

- » Phased out single-use plastic bags with the introduction of the Checkout Bag Regulation Bylaw
- » Expanded Saanich battery recycling drop-off program to include electric mobility batteries

- **Ecosystems**

- » 2,450 trees planted in Urban Forest and Natural Areas
- » Acquired land to expand Swan Lake Nature Sanctuary by 1,089 m²

- **Community well-being**

- » The [One Planet Saanich](#) program grew to 20 organizations, committing to over 200 climate actions
- » Delivered 16 Emergency Preparedness workshops to 179 attendees
- » Online Climate Action Workshop Series launched with over 50 registrants

- **Leadership in District Operations**

- » Purchased renewable diesel for 20% of our fleet diesel use, saving 360 tonnes of carbon annually
- » Installed 9 Level 2 EV charging stations for fleet vehicles at Fire Hall#1 and the Municipal complex
- » Saanich achieved an A grade from the CDP for Climate Action Progress in 2021
- » Saanich joined the Race to Zero and Race to Resilience campaigns to rally leadership globally in preparation for COP26
- » Saanich Climate Plan won the 2021 Award for Planning Excellence in Climate Change Planning by the Canadian Institute of Planners

Learn more about how we're doing. The Climate Plan and the 2021 Climate Plan report card can be found at saanich.ca/climateplan.



Progress on all 2020 and 2021 actions



Saanich honoured with award for measuring climate pollution in buildings

Building Benchmark BC has recognized Saanich with an award for Highest Data Quality in the 11-30 building submissions category!

The local-government driven program is encouraging property owners and managers to measure and report their buildings' energy usage and GHG emissions. We're honored to be given a nod for ranking among the province's leaders and appreciate the collaborative work of the Municipal Facilities and Sustainability Divisions in participating in this initiative. Thanks for the recognition, [Building Benchmark BC](#) team, and congratulations to all the winners!



Environmental Services updates

Saanich Environmental Awards

The annual Saanich Environment Awards are open for nominations from March 1 to April 19, 2022. These awards are hosted by the Environment and Natural Areas Advisory Committee. Find more information to nominate someone at saanich.ca/enviroawards.

Since 2000, more than 170 people and organizations have been recognized for their contributions to the protection of the natural environment in Saanich.

Invasive Species

Staff are preparing for the active invasive species season. One of our programs provides treatment for properties with invasive Knotweed, which is very damaging and extremely difficult to manage. See saanich.ca/invasives for more information about priority invasive species, how to report priority invasives and for information about different plants and animals that are priorities for management in Saanich.

Resilient Saanich update

The Resilient Saanich process is in Milestone 2 of development, with an updated terms of reference for the Resilient Saanich Technical Committee (RSTC). Of note are upcoming continued meetings and training sessions for the RSTC with First Nations Elders. These include a meeting with the W̱SÁNEĆ Leadership Council on February 22, 2022 and a cultural safety training sessions with Elders through Roundtable Consulting (February 28 and March 1). Some of the topics they'll be exploring together focus on oral history and local observations about the land and biodiversity in the region.

Updates on Resilient Saanich are available on the website at saanich.ca/biodiversity.



The Housing Strategy gains momentum

Implementation of the recently approved Housing Strategy has gained significant momentum!

In January, Council approved a four-year funding plan that will drive implementation of priority actions identified as the most impactful for improving housing outcomes in Saanich. Guided by the leadership of the Housing Planning and Policy Manager, two new staff positions were also approved to help ensure the successful implementation of the Strategy.

The Housing Strategy provides clear direction and actions to increase the supply, affordability and diversity of housing options to accommodate a broad range of housing needs over the next 10 years. Comprehensive recommendations from the Housing Strategy Task Force provided the foundation for the strategy, along with feedback from Saanich residents. In addition, the Strategy was informed by the Housing Needs Report, which is a detailed analysis of Saanich's housing supply and projected needs.

The Strategy identifies 73 immediate, high, medium and low priority actions to address areas of greatest housing needs. While a number of actions have been initiated already, Council's decision ensures sustained funding to make continued progress on tackling vital community priorities. Significant actions that will be initiated in 2022 include: a missing middle housing program for infill housing, land capacity analysis, and support for existing and future rental housing.

Visit saanich.ca/housing for more information.





20 new public chargers open in Saanich

In January, the District of Saanich hosted the official ribbon cutting ceremony for 20 new level 2 public electric vehicle (EV) charging stations to make it easier for Saanich residents to drive EVs in the community and ensure access to charging on the go.

The 20 new stations are located at the following eight municipal sites, including four brand new locations at Saanich parks:

- Saanich Commonwealth Place – 6 new stations (plus 2 existing stations)
- G.R. Pearkes Recreation Centre – 2 new stations (plus 2 existing stations)
- Cedar Hill Recreation Centre – 2 new stations (plus 2 existing stations)
- Cedar Hill Golf Course – 2 new stations (plus 2 existing stations)
- Gyro-Cadboro Park – 2 new stations
- Mount Douglas Park – 2 new stations
- Hampton Park – 2 new stations
- Beckwith Park – 2 new stations

The project involved collaboration between Planning, Engineering, Parks and Finance to implement and was generously supported by a \$100,000 grant from the Federal government's Zero Emissions Vehicle Incentive Program (ZEVIP).



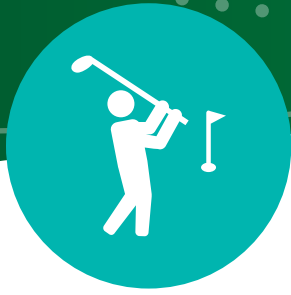
These new stations bring the total number of Saanich-operated stations to 32. Since 2013, there have been over 109,000 charging sessions, averaging over 12,000 sessions per year. With the 20 new stations installed, there are now over 115 public charging stations in Saanich.

Saanich charges a \$1/hour user fee for the charging stations to encourage turnover and cover the cost of maintenance and electricity.

- EV charging stations and their availability can be found in real-time on plugshare.com.
- Instructions on how to access Saanich's EV stations are available at saanich.ca/ev.

Transitioning to electric vehicles is expected to make the largest contribution toward Saanich's target to cut greenhouse gas emissions in half by 2030. An EV Infrastructure Roadmap commissioned by the Capital Regional District (CRD) in 2021 estimates that 770 new public level 2 stations and 132 new DCFC stations are required in the CRD by 2030 to support a target of 25% EV ownership in the region.

With these 20 under our belt, Saanich will continue to add to the public stations we provide as well as work with partners to expand the public stations available to residents and visitors alike.



100 years of the Cedar Hill Golf Course

Golfers of all abilities enjoy the natural beauty and playability of the [Cedar Hill Municipal Golf Course](#), the only 18 hole municipal golf course on Vancouver Island.

The course is an asset to the community, available to all ages and abilities of golfers. The elevated playing environment makes it comfortable for all levels of play and works in harmony with the natural surroundings.

At the end of 2021, we marked 100 years of history with a plaque and planting of a Japanese Snowball Tree.

History of the course

The Cedar Hill lands 150 acres was purchased in 1886 from the Hudsons Bay Company by George and Elizabeth McRae. George was originally born (1860) in New Zealand but had moved to Oregon. George was a racehorse enthusiast and his dream was to start a race track, as there was none on Vancouver Island at the time. You can notice signs about horse racing in some of the street names nearby like Doncaster, Derby, Ascot, Epsom, Queensbury, etc.

In 1918 Elizabeth signed a lease with Harry Eve, a golf professional who wanted to start a golf course for the public player because the only options were private courses (Colwood and Victoria). With the pandemic (Spanish flu) in full force, Harry did

not get the 9 hole course open until 1921, and he would run it until 1937.

The only Mcrae child who took up golf was Kate Mcrae (who was the first public health nurse in Victoria), and the only trustee for the lands after Edith passed away. Kate leased the golf course to Harry Young for \$75 a month from 1937 to 1958. During that time Harry Young added another 9 holes of golf, and eventually Lyle Barnes and his son Greg took over the lease in 1958, and the land was purchased in 1968 by Saanich.

We look ahead to the future years of play as a time to build public access and maintain high quality playing conditions.

[100 years at the Cedar Hill Golf Course! - YouTube](#)



New operator hired for Cedar Hill Golf Course

The District of Saanich has hired Lakeland Golf Management as the new operator of the Cedar Hill Golf Course effective April 1, 2022.

“Cedar Hill is an award-winning golf course in the heart of our community,” said Saanich’s Senior Manager, Recreation Tiana Solares. “We’re confident with Lakeland’s experience with public courses across western Canada they will provide a seamless transition and bring added value to their management of this important public asset.”

Lakeland will manage all operational aspects of the course including pro-shop, driving range and lessons, as well as food and beverage concession services. They will respond to the current increasing demand for golf and provide opportunities for growth and public access.

“We are excited for the opportunity to partner with the District of Saanich to build on the great public golf history at Cedar Hill and look forward to welcoming golfers of all generations,” said Lakeland President Harry Brotchie.

Lakeland brings extensive experience managing resort and public courses, including municipal courses in Regina and Winnipeg; provincial park courses in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba; and the Waterton Lakes Golf Course within Waterton National Park.

Saanich’s Cedar Hill Golf Course is a 5,200-yard, 18-hole, par 67 course open year-round for public play. It features affordable green fees, power and pull carts, a learning centre, instructional programs and a snack bar. The course is designated park land and is encircled by a three-kilometre wood chip walking trail that is well-used by walkers and runners throughout the year. The course celebrated its 100th anniversary of operation in 2021 and has previously won several awards including the Times Colonist Readers’ Choice Award for Best Public Golf Course.

Visit lakelandgolfmanagement.com for more information about Saanich’s new operator and saanich.ca/golf for details about the municipal course.

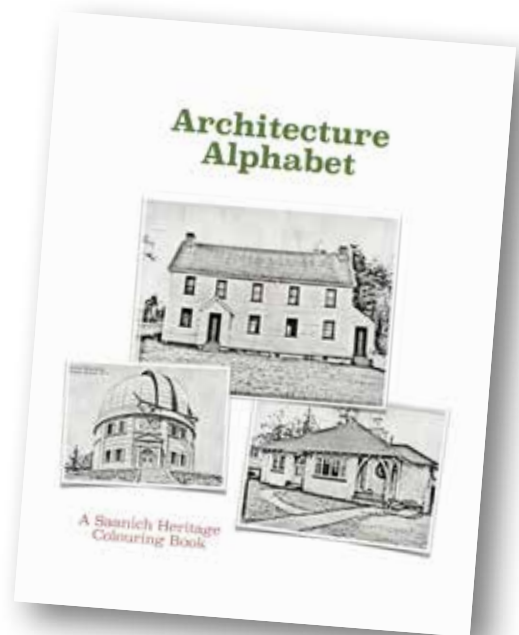




You might know your A-B-Cs, but how about the Architecture Alphabet?

Put together by the Arts, Culture, and Heritage Advisory Committee and the Saanich Heritage Foundation with the assistance of Saanich Archives, the [Saanich Heritage Coloring Book](#) is now available!

You can learn about different architectural features while colouring archival photos of heritage houses in our municipality. Suitable for all residents, of every age!



Vendor applications open soon for Food Trucks in Parks 2022

Our Food Trucks in Parks Program is making a comeback this summer! The positive feedback we received last year sparked the decision to, once again, host food truck vendors in select Saanich parks for summer 2022.

A total of 10 vendors will be permitted to conduct business on a rotating schedule in Beckwith Park and Cadboro-Gyro Park from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. seven days a week from July 1 to September 9.

All interested vendors are encouraged to submit applications starting April 11. Completed applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Applications sent before April 11 will not be accepted.

Visit saanich.ca/foodtrucks for more information about how to apply.





Uptown-Douglas Plan envisions area as a vibrant regional centre

Council endorsed the Uptown-Douglas Plan at a public hearing in February.

The Uptown-Douglas Plan (UDP) is a comprehensive strategy to guide land use and transportation changes over the next 20 to 30 years in the Uptown Douglas area. Stretching from the City of Victoria border to just north of the Saanich Municipal Hall, the area represents a critical regional hub expected to see significant growth and change.

Providing clear objectives and actions to implement the goals and policies of Saanich's Official Community Plan, the UDP focuses on affordable and diverse housing, active transportation, employment opportunities, urban design, sustainable development and climate change mitigation and resilience.

"The Uptown Douglas area is increasingly recognized as the heart of Saanich, and I couldn't be more excited about the approval of a long-term plan for this area," said Saanich Mayor Fred

Haynes. "The area is also uniquely positioned as the geographic centre of the Capital Regional District, and I'm looking forward to seeing an increase in diverse housing, employment, transit, green spaces and amenities for pedestrians and many other opportunities come to life around this hub over the next 20 to 30 years."

One of the key objectives of the UDP is to expand opportunities for higher density development and increase housing possibilities while retaining a focus on employment options. The plan sets out to retain and strengthen the area's current employment role while focusing new growth in mid to high rise mixed-use and residential buildings that will expand housing opportunities in an area with abundant transportation options. The plan also provides a clear vision to transform streets and public spaces to better support walkability and a vibrant public realm.

Uptown-Douglas Plan envisions area as a vibrant regional centre (continued)

The UDP was developed through a comprehensive multi-year process that involved diverse engagement with residents, the business community, property owners and stakeholders such as BC Transit and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.

Saanich continues to work internally and with partners to implement complete street designs, improve the public realm and address housing needs. The UDP is a living document and will continue to adapt to keep pace with evolving trends and best practices.

Plan highlights

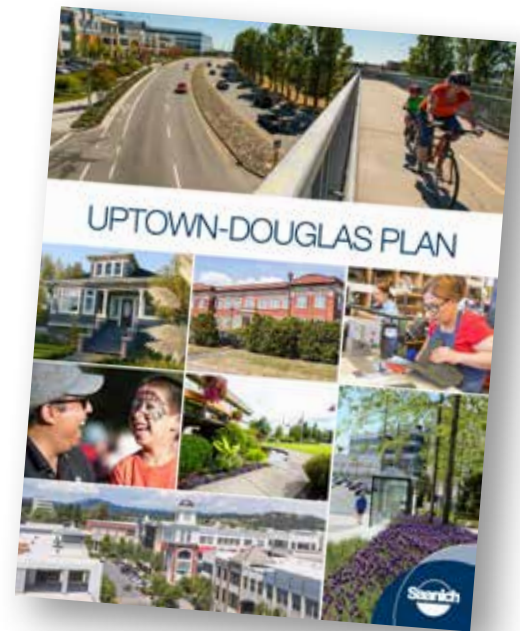
- Accommodating diverse housing options over the next 20 years in a location with convenient access to transportation options, services and amenities.
- Developing a walkable network of parks and open spaces highlighted by a central civic space.
- Re-designing major roads into complete streets that comfortably accommodate all modes of travel.
- Providing opportunities for industrial properties to expand and diversify their operations through additional density.
- Supporting the development of a multi-modal transit hub near the Uptown Shopping Centre that serves as a central nexus for regional transit routes, incorporating a mix of uses and public amenities and serving as a gateway to the area.
- Incorporating a range of housing opportunities to accommodate a variety of lifestyles and socio-economic needs.
- Enhancing the Galloping Goose Trail as a central feature, by widening the trail, providing better connections and encouraging adjacent land uses to animate this public space.
- Redeveloping larger commercial sites into mixed-use developments with a variety of housing and employment options.
- Enhancing and expanding green spaces to build green corridors and improve the area's livability, biodiversity and ecological performance.

Quick facts

- Over 10,000 people are employed in the Uptown-Douglas Corridor area
- 4,400 residents call the Uptown-Douglas Corridor home
- Population in this area has grown by over 4% annually in recent years
- Approximately 30,000 transit riders travel through the area daily
- 30% of Saanich's industrially zoned land is located in Uptown-Douglas Corridor area

Learn more

To view the plan visit saanich.ca/udcp.



UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

We encourage you to tune in to the meeting
webcast at 7 p.m. at saanich.ca

COUNCIL MEETINGS

March 28

April 25

May 9

May 30

June 13

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETINGS

March 21

March 22

April 4

May 2

May 16

June 6

Visit our website to view the latest meeting schedule:
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