



# VIEW ROYAL NEWS

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## TOWN HALL HOURS & CLOSURES

Hours of operation are Monday to Friday, 8:30 am — 4:30 pm, excluding statutory holidays. COVID-19 safety measures are in place and masks are required. Town Hall will be closed on the following dates for statutory holidays and winter break:

- Thursday, September 30, 2021
- Monday, October 11, 2021
- Thursday, November 11, 2021
- Winter Break — Thursday, December 23 close at 4:30 pm — January 3, 2022. Town Hall re-opens Monday, January 3, 2022 @ 8:30 am
- Monday, February 21, 2022
- Friday, April 15, 2022
- Monday, April 18, 2022

## WHAT'S INSIDE AND REMINDERS

- Community Climate Action Strategy, see pg. 2 for more info.
- View Royal Official Community Plan Update, see pg. 2 for more info.
- Budget Variance Dashboard, see pg. 3 for more info.
- 2021 Sewer Utility Invoice, see pg. 3 for more info.
- Switching to a Heat Pump, see pg. 4 for more info.
- Lawn and Garden Waste Curbside Collection November 2021, see pg. 4 for more info.
- Business Licence Renewal deadline is January 31, 2022.
- CRD Dog Licence Renewal deadline is March 1, 2022.



## FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Council had hoped by this time we would be in Stage 4 of the COVID-19 recovery plan and that our meetings would once again be open to the public. We are sorry that this is not the case as it has been far too long since we have been able to invite the public into Council Chambers. We look forward to a day in the near future when we can again interact face to face with our residents at Council meetings.

There are two major initiatives underway that Council encourage you to participate in. In fact, the participation of the residents is vital to their success. One is the review of our 2011 Official Community Plan (OCP). While the 2011 plan has served our community well it is important to periodically review these documents and update as may be necessary. When complete this new OCP will guide the direction of our community in the years to come.

The other plan underway is a Climate Action Strategy for the Town of View Royal. While the Town itself has been carbon neutral for several years we must thoroughly examine how View Royal can both mitigate and adapt to climate change, especially given events like the recent "heat dome" and the UN report on climate change.

Please take the time to participate in both of these important processes and to have your say in shaping our community for the future.

Our Finance staff have recently posted a budget variance dashboard online. This new tool provides residents with the opportunity to access up to date financial information from the Town's website. It is one more way that the Town is working to be accessible and transparent. Thank-you to our staff at View Royal for designing and implementing this new online tool.

On the finance side we were certainly glad to see Elements Casino reopen its doors on July 1<sup>st</sup> and we wish them every success as they rebuild their business after a long closure.

As always, all of Council are honoured to serve as your representatives. Please feel free to contact any of us at any time with questions or concerns.

Best regards, David Screech



## "DEAR AUNTIE ARCHIVES"

Dear Auntie Archives,

*I am putting together a family scrapbook and have some photos taken since we moved to View Royal a few years ago. We'd like to donate some to the Archives, but are wondering about suitable topics and how old the photos need to be in order for you to accept them. They show everyday family life in some of our favourite spots around Town. Would you be interested?*

Dear Would You Be Interested,

When people ask about what we keep in the Archives, I like to share a key sentence from a poster we have at our entrance; 'We collect information that is valuable to the community.'

While one typically associates this to old black & white photos or yellowed documents, newer records have a place in the Archives too. If you have captured a View Royal moment that will enrich our efforts in documenting community life, we would like the opportunity to preserve it for posterity. We are particularly interested in collecting more material on north View Royal, local businesses, family life and nature.

The Town of View Royal Archives can be contacted at: [archives@viewroyal.ca](mailto:archives@viewroyal.ca) or 250-708-2275. Please email or phone as we are unable to have visitors at this time. Submitted by View Royal Archives



Strawberry Vale  
Community Hall



## VIEW ROYAL OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATE

The Town is launching a review of the View Royal Official Community Plan (OCP). The OCP provides a long-term vision and policies for the Town, which will guide future planning, land use decisions and investments. The OCP update process includes consulting with residents and businesses to understand what residents value most and what their visions are to guide how the community grows over the next 20 years. The OCP will be the Town's principal policy document that Council uses to make decisions about future investment and change.

Important topics that will be discussed include:

- **Housing Matters** - View Royal housing needs, diversity, and future options
- **Placemaking** - neighbourhood centres and urban design
- **Preparing for Change** - climate change and resilience
- **Moving Around** - transportation and the ways we get around
- **A Healthy Local Economy** - a more resilient and diverse local economy
- **Our Natural Connections** - parks, protected areas, and shoreline

The OCP update is an opportunity to examine these topics (and others) in more detail and to get community feedback on how we can best prepare for and direct change.

Engagement will be a key component of the OCP update process and will include various OCP events and engagement activities. These will range from in-person events such as neighbourhood walk-shops held mid-September, an online survey and workbook in October and open houses. All engagement activities will follow the latest COVID-19 guidelines and restrictions from the Province.

Engagement events and activities will be posted on the Town's OCP Update page. The best way to stay up to date on the OCP project is to check the website often! You can also subscribe to the Town's RSS feeds [www.viewroyal.ca](http://www.viewroyal.ca).

**Project Process and Timeline:** This project is taking place between August 2021 and June 2022.

For more information about the OCP update project, please send us an email: [planning@viewroyal.ca](mailto:planning@viewroyal.ca).

Project Start-up	Existing Conditions & Community Vision	Land Use, Growth, & Community Character	Drafting the OCP	Finalizing the OCP & Bylaw Approval
JUN - OCT 2021	SEP - NOV 2021	NOV 2021 - FEB 2022	FEB - APR 2022	APR - JUN 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project research, inventory and analysis</li> <li>• Community engagement plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community engagement</li> <li>• Visioning</li> <li>• What We Heard Report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community engagement</li> <li>• Land use options and directions</li> <li>• What We Heard Report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft OCP</li> <li>• Community engagement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final OCP</li> <li>• Community engagement</li> <li>• Public hearing and adoption</li> </ul>

## COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION STRATEGY

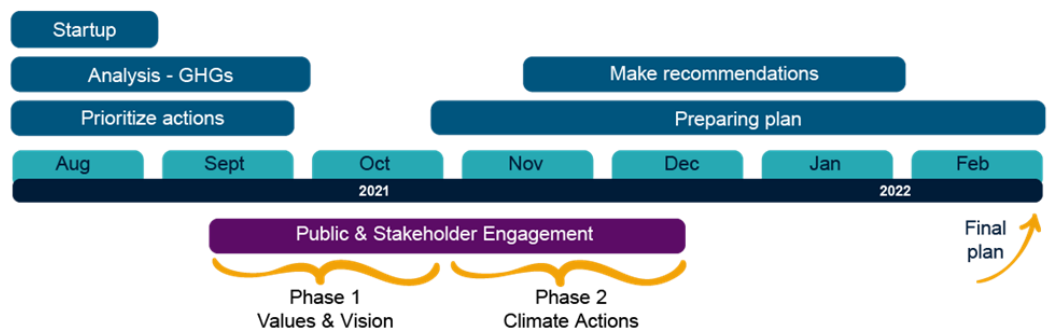
The Town of View Royal is one of nearly 1,500 communities to have declared a climate emergency. Like the greater global community, we are not immune to the impacts of climate change. Now, more than ever before, we all need to take action that reflects the gravity of this declaration and addresses the climate change crisis.

The Town has initiated a Community Climate Action Strategy which will reassess the Town's climate action targets and support the Official Community Plan review with actions and policies to guide long term sustainability. The strategy will reflect scientific data as well as our community values and needs to enhance social, economic and environmental resilience. It will be our guide to strengthening and protecting what makes View Royal unique while lowering our impacts on global climate change.

As we build this strategy, we want residents to tell us what matters and where we can best reduce the local greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change.

During Phase 1 of public engagement, we will find out what residents currently know and think about climate change, especially as it relates to the top two ways we create greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, transportation and buildings. During Phase 2 of public engagement we will ask residents for feedback on the specific actions we should take to reduce GHG emissions and how we can best prepare for the future.

Engagement events and activities will be posted on the Town's website. For more information about the Community Climate Action Strategy, please visit the project page at [www.viewroyal.ca](http://www.viewroyal.ca).





## Budget &amp; Finance

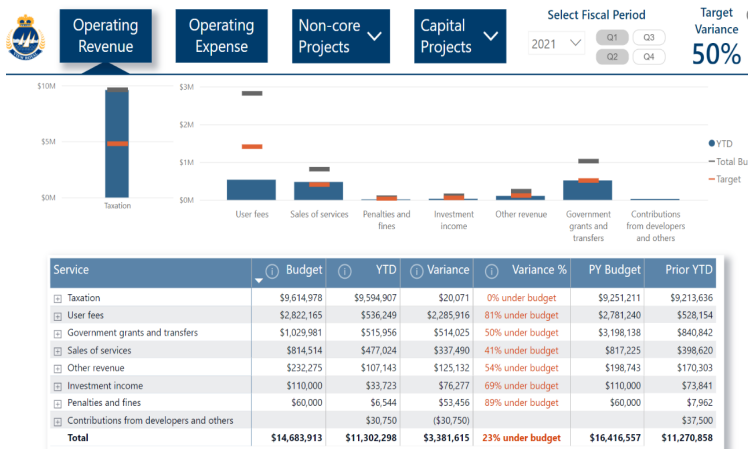
**NEW!****BUDGET VARIANCE DASHBOARD**

Visitors to the Town of View Royal's website [www.viewroyal.ca](http://www.viewroyal.ca) can now access detailed information about the Town's budget and finances via a new online [Budget Variance Dashboard](#).

The Dashboard describes up-to-date financial information on operating revenue and expenses and provides metrics on non-core (service level changes, infrequent or one-time expenditures) and capital projects. The data includes a current and prior year overview that illustrates trends over multiple years.

Dashboard visitors can drill down on operating revenue and expense for all services, through to categories within each service area, and the status, schedule, and project summaries for 42 key projects in the current budget. Financial information will be refreshed weekly, with regular progress updates on projects from across the organization.

Access the companion ["How to" video](#) that gives a tour of the dashboard, showing new users how to navigate and interact with the information. Residents can email questions or comments about the Dashboard or its content to [finance@viewroyal.ca](mailto:finance@viewroyal.ca).



## VIEW ROYAL EMERGENCY PROGRAM VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



**Emergency Radio Team** – Provides emergency communications during major emergencies and disasters. The Team meets weekly via radio net. Emergency management training and amateur radio licence provided free.

**Emergency Support Services Team (ESS)** – Provides emergency support to residents displaced due to emergencies or disasters. The Team delivers public education regarding emergency preparedness and assists with support to emergency responders. ESS and emergency management training are provided free and the Team meets monthly. Interested or have questions?

Contact View Royal Emergency Program at 250-479-7322 or email [emergencyprogram@viewroyal.ca](mailto:emergencyprogram@viewroyal.ca).

**2021 SEWER UTILITY INVOICE**

Sewer utility rates for 2021 are projected to increase 1% to recover projected sewer system costs. All non-institutional users' invoices are based on November 2020 to April 2021 water consumption, so if your consumption increased from 2020 then you will likely see a similar percentage increase. Conversely, if your consumption decreased, you should see a related decrease in your sewer utility invoice. If you experienced a water leak during that period, your 2021 fee will be affected, and you may qualify for a leak adjustment. Please visit [www.viewroyal.ca](http://www.viewroyal.ca) to review the leak adjustment policy for eligibility requirements and keep all records pertaining to the leak as this will help us in assisting you through the adjustment process.

The 2021 Sewer Utility Invoice will be issued in mid-October with payment due near the end of November.

If you have not received your invoice by October 31, 2021, please contact the Finance Department at 250-708-2270 or [finance@viewroyal.ca](mailto:finance@viewroyal.ca). You can pay your sewer utility invoice in person at Town Hall using cheque, cash and debit card, via the payment drop box located by the front doors of Town Hall, by mail, or via online or telephone banking. Any balances outstanding will be transferred to arrears property taxes, effective January 1, 2022.

Did you know you can sign up to receive your sewer utility invoice by email instead of a paper copy in the mail? You can also access your sewer utility account information securely online. Look for the Online Services link on the home page at [www.viewroyal.ca](http://www.viewroyal.ca).

**THE GREAT BC SHAKEOUT**

Don't leave it to luck. Get the facts on how to protect yourself during an earthquake by participating in the Great British Columbia Shakeout at 10:21 a.m. on Thursday, October 21, 2021. Register today at [www.shakeoutbc.ca](http://www.shakeoutbc.ca) and join more than 770,000 British Columbians for the eleventh annual "Drop, Cover and Hold On" drill.



## VIEW ROYAL FIRE RESCUE IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS



# WE HAVE A SPOT FOR YOU

## VIEW ROYAL FIRE RESCUE IS NOW RECRUITING

Applications available on-line @ [www.viewroyalfire.ca](http://www.viewroyalfire.ca)  
or call 250-479-7322 for more information

## DID YOU KNOW THAT SWITCHING TO A HEAT PUMP IS GOOD FOR YOUR WALLET AND THE PLANET?

Switching to an electric heat pump provides year-round comfort, better indoor air quality, and produces 97% less greenhouse gas emissions than natural gas/oil heating AND you could save 40-75% on your annual heating bill if converting from oil to an electric heat pump!

Access up to \$3,000 in rebates plus municipal top-ups and electrical service upgrade rebates when you make the switch from a fossil fuel (oil, gas, propane) heating system to an electric heat pump.

Join View Royal friends and neighbours in a webinar to learn more about heat pumps and what rebates, financing offers and supports are available to help you upgrade your heating system.

- Date: October 21, 2021, 7:00 pm
- Register: <https://bit.ly/2VJTEvz>



## TRANSPORTATION SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS TO WATCH FOR

### LED Lighting Program \*UPDATE\*

Continuing its street lighting conversion project, the Town has now converted all street lights along arterial & collector roads to use LED bulbs. Progressing along with local roads, by late fall, every side can be the “sunny side” of the street.

### Six Mile Road Corridor

Those travelling along Six Mile Road this fall will notice big changes at the intersection of Six Mile Road and Chilco Road/Nursery Hill Drive. As part of the Town’s phased approach to traffic mitigation, a 4-Way Stop has been installed. Currently in its design phase, the Town will also be implementing a roundabout at the intersection of Six Mile Road and Atkins Road to improve the flow of traffic.

## KEEPING OUR WATERWAYS CLEAN

The Town is currently updating its Storm Water Regulation Bylaw, No.902. This bylaw serves as a tool to ensure that property and business owners in View Royal are appropriately discharging their storm water.

### What does this mean for residents?

We recommend familiarizing yourself with the bylaw’s list of “Prohibited Waste” under Schedule B. Did you know that pool water must be dechlorinated before draining into the Town’s system?

### What does this mean for business owners or strata properties with parking lots?

Affected business owners and strata properties with parking lots will be given a new due date for compliance with their respective Code of Practice in the bylaw. To ensure compliance, please review the bylaw’s “Code of Practice” most relevant to your activities.



## LAWN AND GARDEN WASTE CURBSIDE COLLECTION IN NOVEMBER 2021

The Town’s waste collection contractor, Waste Management, will be collecting lawn and garden waste (grass, leaves, flowers, shrub clippings, weeds and small branches) from the curbside of View Royal residential homes this fall. See the schedule below for your 2021 collection date:

Regular Weekly Garbage Day	Lawn & Garden Waste Collection 2021
Tuesdays	Saturday, November 6 <sup>th</sup>
Wednesdays	Saturday, November 13 <sup>th</sup>
Thursdays	Saturday, November 20 <sup>th</sup>
Fridays	Saturday, November 27 <sup>th</sup>

### THE PROCEDURES TO FOLLOW ARE:

All items are to be placed at the end of your driveway at the curbside by **7:00 am** on the day of your collection. We will accept these items **ONLY**:

### GRASS, LEAVES, FLOWERS, SHRUB CLIPPINGS & WEEDS

These are to be put in RECYCLABLE BROWN PAPER YARD WASTE BAGS and weigh no more than **35 pounds** each. Please shake off any extra soil from flowers and weeds to reduce weight.

NOTE: Invasive and noxious weeds, such as Scotch Broom, English Ivy, and Himalayan Blackberry are not allowed in this collection service. They are allowed in Hartland Landfill and can be included in your weekly garbage in a separate bag.

**BUNDLED BRANCHES:** Branches are to be no longer than 3 ft. in length, no more than 3 inches in diameter, and are to be bundled and then tied with string in bundles that weigh no more than **35 pounds** each.

Each resident is allowed up to **5** of the above bags or bundles in total. If you would like to put out more than this, you can purchase extra bag decals at the Town Hall for \$3.00 each, for each additional bag or bundle over this limit.

**IF YOUR LAWN & GARDEN WASTE DOES NOT COMPLY WITH THE ABOVE, IT WILL NOT BE PICKED UP.**

This service does not include composted food materials, and please note that this service **applies only to those residences that are part of the Town’s Residential Garbage and Household Food Waste Collection Program.**

NOTE: **Private strata roads** cannot accommodate the size of the lawn and garden waste collection truck. Residents on these roads need to place their lawn and garden waste at the edge of the main road into the strata.

For more information about this service or to report a missed pick up, please contact the Town Hall at 250-479-6800.

Remember also that the Yard and Garden Waste Transfer Station Facility at 605 Canteen Road in Esquimalt is available to View Royal residents free of charge at the gate. Please call the facility at 250-883-8683 for operating hours, location, and materials allowed.

