

GENERAL LOCAL ELECTION

Shape your community.
Cast your vote.



Your community.
Your voice.



Strong communities
start with you.



Vote for the future
of your community.



Authorized by the Province of British Columbia

2026 General Local Elections

General local elections in B.C. are held every four years on the third Saturday in October. The next general local election will be held on Saturday, October 17, 2026.

There will be multiple voting opportunities for the 2026 General Local Election as follows:

- Advance Voting 1 - October 7, 2026 - Highlands Fire Department (East Fire Hall), 3613 Woodridge Place, from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Advance Voting 2 - October 14, 2026 - Highlands Community Hall, 729 Finlayson Arm Road, from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- General Voting Day - October 17, 2026 - Highlands Community Hall, 729 Finlayson Arm Road, from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Questions about the election may be sent to elections@highlands.ca or by calling 250-474-1773.

HIGHLANDS FLING

FUN • GAMES • MUSIC

Sunday Sept 13 | 12-4

FACE PAINTING
LIVE MUSIC
MARKET STALLS
HOT DOGS
FIRE DEPARTMENT OBSTACLE COURSE
BALLOON ANIMALS
ICE CREAM
DISPLAYS
RACES
GIANT TUG OF WAR
CORN ON THE COB
KIDS CRAFTS

SCHEDULE

12:00	Welcome & Acknowledgement
12:05	Music by Backyard Boulevard Music by Allen Dobb
1:30	Games: sack race, egg toss, doughnuts on a string, candy hay hunt
2:00	Music by Backyard Boulevard Music by Allen Dobb
3:45	Giant Tug of War

Caleb Pike Heritage Park
1589 Millstream Road

For more
info visit
HDCA
on Facebook

🔥 FireSmart Starts with You Are you Ready?

With the wildfire season is still upon us, **first responders are prepared.** Now it's your turn.

Take steps to **protect your home** and ensure you have a **clear evacuation plan.**

Free FireSmart Home Assessments are now available. These no-charge, personalized on-site visits help homeowners understand their property's wildfire risk and receive practical, easy-to-implement recommendations — from vegetation management to building materials and hazard mitigation.

Early action matters. Taking steps now can significantly improve your home's resilience and contribute to a safer community.

To book your free assessment, contact Michael Henderson, FireSmart Coordinator at: firesmart@highlands.ca

COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING EVENT

Help Restore Twinflower Park!

Join the District of Highlands as we continue the restoration of Twinflower Park following the completion of the new trail network.



RESTORATION IN PROGRESS
PLEASE KEEP OUT



**SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 19**



**9:00 A.M.
— to —
12:00 P.M.**



**TWINFLOWER PARK
1564 Millstream Road**



Together, we can help strengthen and naturalize this special community space by planting native trees and vegetation throughout the park.

WHAT TO BRING

- ✓ Weather-appropriate clothing
- ✓ Sturdy boots
- ✓ Garden gloves
- ✓ Your own spade or shovel (if you have one)
- Children welcome with an accompanying adult
- Light snacks will be provided. Just bring your energy and enthusiasm!

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY



The new trails are officially open, and now it's time to help complete the final phase of the project by restoring and enhancing the park's natural landscape.



Whether you're an experienced gardener or simply looking to give back to your community, we'd love to have you join us!



RSVP TODAY

info@highlands.ca

Please RSVP to help us plan for supplies and refreshments.



**DISTRICT OF
HIGHLANDS**

**LAUNCHING
SEPTEMBER 1, 2026**



**ONLINE PERMIT
APPLICATIONS**

Building Permit Hub

The District of Highlands is now accepting permit applications through the Province of British Columbia's online Building Permit Hub.

The Hub is designed to streamline and standardize the building permit application process across participating jurisdictions, making it easier for applicants to submit complete applications online.



SAVE TIME
Apply online
anytime



**EASY &
CONVENIENT**
Submit complete
applications online



**STREAMLINED
PROCESS**
Efficient review
and communication

Fire Chief's Update: Outdoor Burning Season Approaching Backyard Burning Expected to Reopen October 15

If weather conditions continue to improve, backyard burning of hand piles and approved incinerators is expected to reopen on **October 15**. This date remains subject to fire danger conditions.

Residents must obtain a **free burn permit** before burning. Permits are available online at hvfd.burnpermits.com.

Campfires Still Prohibited

Although the BC Wildfire Service has lifted the campfire ban on Provincial Crown land across Vancouver Island, **campfires remain prohibited within the Highlands Fire Protection Area**.

The Greater Victoria region continues to experience **High to Extreme fire danger ratings**, and local conditions require a cautious approach. The Highlands Fire Department will continue monitoring conditions and will reopen campfires when it is safe to do so.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation in helping reduce the risk of wildfire.

Woodstove Use is Permitted, But Caution is Advised

Woodstoves are **not included in the current outdoor burning restrictions**, and residents may legally operate them at this time.

However, the Fire Department recommends delaying woodstove use whenever possible until fire danger levels decrease further.

Please Help Keep Highlands Safe

The recent cooler temperatures are encouraging, but our forests and grasslands remain exceptionally dry. A few more weeks of caution will help protect our community, our firefighters, and neighbouring properties from unnecessary wildfire risk.

We thank residents for their continued cooperation and attention to fire safety. Updates on burning restrictions and campfire permissions will be provided as conditions change.

Dean Ford, Fire Chief & Emergency Program Coordinator



Highlands WINTER Craft Fair



SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 15



10:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M.



**Caleb Pike
Heritage Park**



&



**Highlands
Community Hall**



INTERESTED IN
BECOMING A VENDOR?
*We'd love to have
you join us!*

Contact Daphne Allen at
daffjim@telus.net
for an application package.



SHOP LOCAL



SUPPORT LOCAL MAKERS



CELEBRATE THE SEASON





HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF PRIMARY HEALTH CARE IN VICTORIA & THE SOUTH ISLAND

Take a 15-minute survey to share your experiences with
primary health care teams in Greater Victoria

Use the [link](#) or [QR code](#) below to
complete the survey:

<https://surveys.reichertandassociates.ca/f/r/VicSI-CitizenSurvey-v2>



HIGHLANDS Music Nights



SECOND SATURDAY
OF EACH MONTH



7:00 PM



CALEB PIKE
HERITAGE PARK



SEPTEMBER 26:
ONE WHEEL BAND



OCTOBER 10:
CHORUS FROGS BAND



NOVEMBER 21:
MURRAY FITCH TRIO



DECEMBER 12:
BRAD PREVEDOROS COLLECTIVE



*Live Music.
Good People.
Our Community.*



FREE FOR
CHILDREN/YOUTH
UNDER 15.



ADULTS BY
DONATION.

A great opportunity to enjoy
live music and connect
with neighbours.



CONTACT: zhinoos219@gmail.com



Highlands District Community Association Update - Fall Newsletter

What is the HDCA?

The HDCA (Highlands District Community Association) is YOUR community association and provides opportunities for social, cultural, and educational activities. The HDCA, in conjunction with the Heritage Park Society and the Fire Department, presents the annual Highland Fling every September with music, games, a market, BBQ and displays. It also organizes the Community Clean Up, the Easter Egg Hunt, the Speakers Series, and supports the Broom Bash and Music Nights. The HDCA also acts as a link between the community and our council, and advocates for community issues. HDCA activities are open to all residents of the Highlands and we encourage everyone to become a member.

It's Fling Time! Make sure you have Sunday September 13th marked on your calendar. It's time for the Annual Highland Fling. If you have attended the Fling previously I don't have to tell you how much fun it is. For those new to the Highlands take the time to join the community festival this year. Our mayor Ken Williams will open the festivities at 12 noon and there will be live music throughout the afternoon with Backyard Boulevard and Allen Dobb sharing the stage. Bring a chair or blanket and have a seat listening to music and watching the festivities. Take the time to wander through the market stands with crafts, produce and even some early Christmas shopping! Browse the exhibits from local organizations which will include Rocky Point Bird Observatory, the Natural History Society, Habitat Acquisition trust HAT and Greater Victoria Public Library. If you have children they will be entertained all afternoon with face painting, balloon animals, games including sack races, egg toss, doughnuts on a string and the candy toss as well as activities organized by Westshore Recreation staff. Early attendees will be able to enjoy the BBQ with hot dogs, corn on the cob and even some ice cream. Even though the super dry summer season is almost over take the time to visit the Fire Department's tent and learn how to fire smart your property while the kids tackle the obstacle course. Finally stop by the HDCA tent to check in with the HELP program - this safety-oriented initiative assigns Highland residents to a neighbourhood group with a leader who can distribute information in emergencies - fires, earthquakes, snowstorms.

Star Party We finally had the weather cooperate and had a very successful astronomy night in August at Twinflower Park. It was so successful we are planning on another star party next summer.

Highland Music Nights organized by Zhinoos Armstrong continue at Caleb Pike Heritage Park, sponsored by HDCA and HHPS. Dates are normally the second Saturday of the month, 7 pm, however the next music night is September 26th

Summer Markets The Summer Markets are over but if you missed out this year you have one more chance as there is a Market at the Fling (Sep 13). All sorts of items for sale including vegetables, preserves, baking, woodwork, cards, art, candles, eggs and lots more. If you would like a table please contact Karel@roessong.com

All Candidates Meetings It's election time for Municipalities and the HDCA is organizing two All Candidates Meetings, virtually on Oct 1 and in person on Oct 6th. The 'in person' event will be at the Community Hall at 7 pm. Once the official slate is announced we will know if we have more candidates running than seats available. When we have more information it will be posted on the bulletin boards, the webpage and our FB page. Candidates interested in participating in the All Candidates meetings should contact the chair of HDCA, (Doone Watson doonew@hotmail.com)

Call for Volunteers If you have ideas for speakers, or other events and want to be involved with planning, please contact Doone Watson at doonew@hotmail.com. If you would like to join our board we have several openings for directors-at-large. This allows you to participate without having major responsibilities.

Communications in the Highlands Recent events in the Highlands have revealed how difficult it can be to communicate with Highlands residents. The HDCA has traditionally used our bulletin boards to post information on our events but these boards are beginning to age to a point where five of them have been removed for repairs. There is now question as to the future of the bulletin boards and the HDCA has requested that the new council address the bigger picture of communication at the same time they determine the future of the bulletin boards. We have recommended a town hall approach to help determine if the future will be exclusively electronic communications or if the bulletin boards should remain. In the meantime the District will arrange for the temporary use of sandwich boards at the five locations where the bulletin boards have been removed. If you have strong feelings about what to do with the bulletin boards let the HDCA know!

In the meantime for information on HDCA events there are several options. We still rely heavily on our community bulletin boards, located beside each bank of mail boxes, to relay information. Please take the time to read the official side of the board. If you are reading this you have already found the Highlands District Newsletter put out by the District four times a year. The newsletter is sent electronically and paper copies are available in the plastic holders on the bulletin boards. The Sandwich Boards on the roadside at the entrances to the Highlands will also remind you of upcoming events. Finally, we post events on our Face Book page and on our website. See the links below. Note that our HDCA Facebook page is not the one called Highlands BC Community (which is a great source of information, but is a private page)

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064562177401>

<https://highlands-hdca.weebly.com>

Highlands Community Garden Update

A few years ago, a small group of community gardeners got together every month to talk about the relationship between our gardening efforts and the broader history of colonization. We spent several months learning about the precolonial history of the Highlands and from that we developed a land acknowledgement and an action plan to honour local First Nations and the TRC's recommendations.

This past year we have been planning and preparing a native plant area at the entrance to the garden so we can learn more about the plants that grew here before colonization and restore some habitat. We will be planting and seeding the area with local native plants this fall. If you are interested in, or have expertise in local native plant species, please join us! (annual membership is \$20).



Email HighlandsCommunityGarden@outlook.com for more info about becoming a member and come grow with us!

handyDART SERVICE EXPANSION

The Victoria Regional Transit Commission recently approved an expansion of the handyDART service area to include the **northern portion of the District of Highlands.**

This change improves access to custom transit service for residents in the area and better aligns service eligibility with the regional transit service area.



PLAN YOUR TRIP WITH EASE



Visit the BC Transit Victoria website
bctransit.com/victoria



Call Busline
250-382-6161

For trip planning, schedules, and customer alerts.



PARTY IN THE PARK
West Shore Parks & Recreation 60th Birthday Celebration

Join us on
SEPTEMBER 12, 2026
for a fun-filled, one-day community celebration!

Bring the whole family and enjoy:

FAMILY FUN RUN
1km & 3km distances

LIVE PERFORMANCE STAGE
Talented local musicians

KIDS ZONE
Bouncy castles, dunk tank, craft stations & more

FOOD TRUCKS
Tasty eats for everyone

VENDORS & DEMONSTRATIONS
Experience something new

THROWBACK PRICING
Fitness, swimming & skating pricing

This special anniversary celebration is a chance to honour our past, enjoy the present, and look ahead to many more years of West Shore Parks & Recreation Society supporting a healthy, active community.

For more details visit:
www.wspr.ca/60thparty

Where Do Your Recycled Plastics Go?

In British Columbia, most plastics collected through residential recycling programs are managed by **Recycle BC** and sent to **Merlin Plastics**, a BC-based processor that sorts materials for use in new products. Because residential recycling is tracked and regulated, residents can have confidence that recyclable plastics placed in approved programs enter a managed system with accountability and oversight. Every item sorted correctly helps keep valuable resources out of the landfill and supports BC's recycling industry.

Learn more: • Recycle BC: [The Recycling Process](#) • Merlin Plastics: [Our Process](#) • BC Recycling Regulation: [Extended Producer Responsibility](#)

Community News

≡ Upcoming ≡ COUNCIL MEETING DATES AND OFFICE CLOSURES

	SEPTEMBER 7, 2026	OFFICE CLOSURE - LABOUR DAY
	SEPTEMBER 8, 2026	REGULAR COUNCIL
	SEPTEMBER 30, 2026	OFFICE CLOSURE - TRUTH & RECONCILIATION DAY
	NOVEMBER 2, 2026	INAUGURAL COUNCIL
	NOVEMBER 11, 2026	OFFICE CLOSURE - REMEMBRANCE DAY
	NOVEMBER 16, 2026	REGULAR COUNCIL

≡ Be Part of WHAT'S HAPPENING



Never miss what Council and committees are discussing.



Get agendas delivered straight to your inbox—and watch meetings live or anytime through our online portal.



SUBSCRIBE TO MEETING NOTIFICATIONS



Subscribe here:
<https://highlandsbc.community-ca.diligentoneplatform.com/Portal/Subscribe.aspx>

≡ Stay informed. Stay connected. Get involved. ≡

STAY CONNECTED to Highlands!

Get Alerts, Events and News delivered straight to your inbox. It's **quick, easy, and free!**



ALERTS

Important notices and emergency updates.



EVENTS

Find out about community events and activities.



NEWS

The latest news from your District and Council.



SIGN UP TODAY!

Don't miss what matters in our community.



Subscribe now: highlands.ca/subscribe

COUNCIL

Mayor Ken Williams

kwilliams@highlands.ca

250-882-5481

Councillor Leslie Anderson

leslie.corvidconsulting@gmail.com

778-350-8180

Councillor Ann Baird

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Councillor Gord Baird

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Councillor Marcie McLean

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250-474-4725

Councillor Karel Roessingh

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250-727-9808

Councillor Rose Stanton

rose26@telus.net

250-474-3403



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Help Shape a More Accessible Community ≡ WE NEED YOU! ≡

Are you passionate about creating an inclusive and accessible community?

The District of Highlands is seeking a dedicated resident to serve as the District's Citizen Representative on the Capital West Accessibility Advisory Committee (CWAAC).



WHY GET INVOLVED?

As a committee member, you will:

- ✓ Advocate for accessibility improvements
- ✓ Collaborate with neighbouring municipalities
- ✓ Help advance inclusive practices across the Capital West region
- ✓ Support the goals of the Accessible BC Act to improve inclusivity, accessibility, and livability for all



TERM DETAILS



Volunteer position



Two-year term ending December 31, 2026



Meetings rotate among partner municipalities



MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Interested in applying or learning more?

accessibility@highlands.ca

(250) 474-1773

Building a more inclusive Highlands for everyone.

