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The District of Highlands would like to thank:

Rick and Janet Hughes
Rob Jirucha of Legacy, Documentary Photography
Allen Dobb,
Anne L'Hirondelle,
Kimberly Grigg,
Chris Leek, and
The HDCA

for use of their photography in the publication of the 2011 Annual Report.



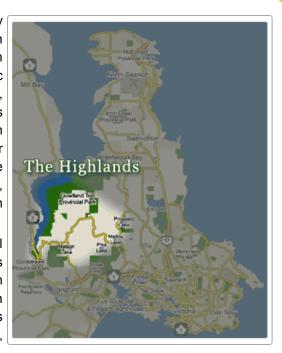






The Highlands is a primarily residential community, rural in nature, and blessed with an exceptional abundance of scenic beauty, native plant and animal life, and public parkland. Those of us who live here place high value on the natural environment and our rural lifestyle. Highlanders are actively involved in the community, which fosters a spirit that is both self-reliant and cooperative.

A stunningly beautiful rural residential area, the Highlands is just northwest of Victoria British Columbia Canada. More than one-third of the Highlands is protected as municipal, regional, and provincial parkland.



Highlanders take great pride in the stewardship of our environment by considering that new developments include conservation covenants limiting human encroachment. We're proud of our volunteers and community involvement.

Highlanders are united by the landscape - rocky uplands and dense

coastal forest

2011 Census of Population

Highlands Population in 20112,120	CRD Population in 2011359,991
Highlands Population in 20061,903	CRD Population in 2006345,164
Highlands Total Dwellings 2011 830	CRD Total Dwellings 2006177,977

2006 Selected Demographic Variables

Census Variables	Highlands	CRD
Lived at same address between 2001 and 2006	69%	53%
Median age of residents	42.6	43.6
Age 19 or younger	24%	20%
Average number of persons in all census families	2.9	2.7
Median income in 2005 – All census families	\$82,586	\$68,424
Owned dwellings	95%	66%
Average value of owned dwellings	\$629,864	\$490,284
Worked at home	17%	10%
Mode of transportation to work – car, truck, van as driver	82%	65%
Dwellings built between 1986 and 2006	67%	28%

SOURCE: Statistics Canada. 2007. *Highlands, British Columbia (Code5917049)* (table). 2006 Community Profiles. 2006 Census. Statistics Canada Catalogue no. 92-591-XWE. Ottawa. Released March 13, 2007.



District of Highlands **Mayor and Council**

Mayor and Council's Role

Council represents the citizens of The District of Highlands, providing community leadership by serving as the legislative and policy making body of the municipality. Mayor and Council approve policy and budgets and provide direction to the Chief Administrative Officer.

Council is comprised of one Mayor and six Councillors. All elected officials have a three-year term of office. Council meetings are held on the first and third Monday of each month with the exception of July and August. Meetings are held in the Old School House, 1589 Millstream at 7pm. Meetings are open to the public, and meeting agendas and minutes can be found on the District's website: www.highlands.ca.

Your Mayor and Council 2011

Mayor Jane Mendum

Councillor Allen Dobb

Councillor Diane Gill

Councillor Sigurd Johannesen

Councillor Marcie McLean

Councillor Karel Roessingh

Councillor Ken Williams



Council and Committee Appointments

The District of Highlands has several Committees, Boards and Commissions including:

SELECT

- Community
 Infrastructure and
 Services Select
 Committee
- Fiscal and Environmental
 Select Committee

ADVISORY

- Advisory Planning Commission
- Board of Variance

TASK FORCE

- Community Centre
- Ground Water
- Heritage
- Sustainability Strategy

If volunteering an hour or two each month seem appealing to you the following committees have vacancies:

- Board of Variance
- Community Infrastructure and Services
- Fiscal and Environmental Committee

Full Terms of Reference for these committees are available on the District website: <u>www.highlands.ca</u>.

Anyone interested in serving is invited to submit a letter and / or a brief resume detailing their interest to serve on one of these committees.

Committees generally meet once per month in the evening with the exception of July, August and December.

Mayor Jane Mendum

- Ex Officio to all Committees, Boards and Commissions
- Capital Regional District Board and Hospital Board Director
- Capital Regional District Environmental Sustainability Committee
- Capital Regional District Planning, Transportation & Protective Services
- Capital Regional District Solid Waste Advisory Committee, Chair
- Capital Regional and JDF Water Supply Commission

Councillor Allen Dobb

- Community Infrastructure and Services Committee, Alternate
- Highlands Heritage Task Force
- Sustainability Strategy Advisory Committee
- BC Transit Representative
- Capital Regional District Arts Committee
- Capital Regional District Solid Waste Advisory Committee, Alternate
- Intermunicipal Climate Action Steering Committee
- Treaty Advisory Committee, Alternate

Councillor Diane Gill

- Community Infrastructure and Services Committee
- Highlands Emergency Planning, Alternate
- Capital Regional District Solid Waste Advisory Committee

Councillor Sigurd Johannesen

- Community Centre Task Force
- Highlands Emergency Planning
- Capital Region Emergency Services Telecommunications, Alternative
- Greater Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee
- Western Communities Policing

Councillor Marcie McLean

- Fiscal and Environmental Select Committee
- Intermunicipal Advisory Committee of Disability Issues (IACDI)
- Greater Victoria Family Court and Youth Justice Committee, Alternate
- Western Communities Policing, Alternate

Councillor Karel Roessingh

- Advisory Planning Commission
- Ground Water Task Force
- Capital Regional Board, Alternate (Board and Hospital Board)
- Capital Regional and JDF Water Supply Commission, Alternate
- Capital Region Emergency Services Telecommunications (CREST)
- Greater Victoria Library Board

Councillor Ken Williams

- Advisory Planning Commission, Alternate
- Community Centre Task Force, Alternate
- Fiscal and Environmental Select Committee, Alternate
- IACDI, Alternate
- Intermunicipal Climate Action Steering Committee, Alternate
- Sustainability Strategy Advisory, Alternate
- Treaty Advisory Committee
- West Shore Parks and Recreation Society



Message from the Mayor

<u>District of Highlands Mayor—Jane Mendum</u>



2011 was a busy and productive year for Council and staff.

Council was introduced to the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan. A group of hard working volunteers along with staff and consultants from the Whistler Centre for Sustainability prepared the plan, *Sustainable Highlands*, based on the recommendations from the (former) Sustainability Task Force. Further to this work, a Sustainability Appraisal Form was adopted by Council later in the year, adding a method of assessing proposals to the decision-making process.

The Heritage Task Force was also busy preparing for Council's approval of two documents, "Highlands Heritage Vision and Values" and "Recommendations for the District of Highlands Heritage Register". These documents provide an important written and photographic record of the District's historic places and will, no doubt, become increasingly valued over time.

The District implemented a new service by establishing a Duty Phone during the winter storm season. Its purpose is to enable after-hours reporting for residents in relation to the effects of extreme weather, especially relating to District roads.

Ryder Hesjedal's first annual Tour de Victoria cruised through the Highlands in May, and many Highland residents watched and cheered along the route.

In April the community gathered to discuss local food production and security.

The Capital Region District began public consultation on its draft Regional Sustainability Strategy in relation to the ongoing Five Year Review of the Regional Growth Strategy.

In July, Council celebrated the valued services of community volunteers at a Volunteer Recognition event held at the School House. It was truly enjoyed by all who attended.

The Community Hall Task Force's final recommendations pertaining to the project were received by Council, and in July Council adopted bylaws which created a lot suitable for the new community hall near the intersection of Finlayson Arm and Millstream Roads.

An important culvert replacement at Millstream Lake and Munn Road took place during the summer months, along with major patching on lower Millstream Road and strategic repair on roads throughout the district.

Council established an American Bullfrog Control Program in 2011, supplementing the ongoing efforts of community volunteers by providing funding for equipment and contracting the services of Stan Orchard.

While staff continued to work on a new Soil Deposit Bylaw, the District's Soil Deposit Regulation Bylaw was amended to include updated fees and received statutory provincial approval in the fall.

Council continued to support the long-established Highlands Summer Market through newsletter and website updates.

In October, Council members were delighted to find themselves re-elected by way of acclamation. Although there was no municipal election, a poll was open in Highlands for school trustee elections. Council members were reinstated during the inaugural Council meeting held December 5.

During 2011, the District's website continued to expand and improve. Council is pleased to provide this important service to residents, and I thank District staff for their many contributions to the success of <highlands.ca>.

During 2011, several goals were achieved along with ongoing work that will complete in 2012. On behalf of Council, we look forward to continuing to serve the community during the term ahead.

Message from the Chief Administrative Officer

Chief Administrative Officer - Chris Coates

I am pleased to present the Corporate Annual Report for the District of Highlands for 2011. The District has a small and very dedicated staff of seven people who administer the services delivered to residents and property owners in Highlands.

2011 was a successful and productive year with many accomplishments. Looking ahead, 2012 could be even busier, with planning for the construction of a new Community Hall and an upgrade to the East Highlands Fire Hall among the many projects that are planned.

Thank you for taking the opportunity to review the ongoing activities of the District of Highlands

District Office Staff

Chief Administrative Officer	Chris Coates
Corporate Officer	Tina Neurauter
Planner	Laura Beckett
Building Official/ Bylaw Officer	Chris Leek
Subdivision Approving Officer	Heinz Burk
Finance Clerk	Brigitte Lapierre
Administrative Assistant	Liz Condon



Long Term Vision Statement

Residents have been clear about what is important to them and there are a number of common perspectives. The following VISION STATEMENT captures shared sentiments and sets a direction for the future.



Long Term Vision Statement

The Highlands is a primarily residential community, rural in nature, and blessed with an exceptional abundance of scenic beauty, native plant and animal life, and public parkland. Those of us who live here place high value on the natural environment and our rural lifestyle. Highlanders are actively involved in the community, which fosters a spirit that is both self reliant and cooperative. The Highlands will strive to diversify its economy while preserving our natural systems, including the aquifers on which we depend so heavily. Land use decisions will be

guided by a community

involvement of residents.

plan, with the ongoing

As stewards of our unique natural environment, we will protect its integrity. We will retain sufficient lands in their natural state to permit a diversity of plant and animal life to flourish and to ensure that the rural lifestyle we enjoy today can be experienced by future generations. We believe in the value of open and green space, trail systems, and outdoor recreational opportunities, both to enhance life in the Highlands and to contribute to the well-being of southern Vancouver Island as a whole. We will provide for an adequate tax base, including light industrial, related commercial and nature-related

commercial and recreational uses in some areas of the Highlands, in order to support basic, affordable municipal services and facilities. We will encourage alternative transportation choices, housing choices, and a community hall. New development in the Highlands will be in keeping with the rural character of the community and carefully designed to protect sensitive environmental conditions. The pace of change should be gradual and the type of development should leave a small footprint on the land.

In order to move toward a future that is consistent with the VISION STATEMENT, the District of Highlands will strive to attain the following six goals:

- Goal 1: To protect the natural environment.
- Goal 2: To retain and strengthen the rural character of the Highlands.
- **Goal 3:** To support economic diversification that is consistent with Highlands' rural character and the natural environment.
- **Goal 4:** To ensure the long-term economic sustainability of the Highlands' community.
- Goal 5: To provide basic, affordable public services and facilities.
- **Goal 6:** To encourage involvement in a healthy rural community, including all planning decisions.



Tax Exemptions, Gas Tax and Declarations

Tax Exemptions

The Community Charter gives Council the authority to exempt certain land/or improvements from municipal property taxes.

 The District of Highlands did not have any Permissive Tax Exemptions for 2011.

Declaration of Disqualified Council Members

There were no Council members disqualified in 2011.

2011 work included
Millstream Lake Road
culvert replacement
and extensive repairs
on major roads

Federal Gas Tax Transfer Report

The Gas Tax Fund provides funding for BC local governments for a variety of capital and planning projects. Project categories that are eligible include:

- Public Transit
- Community Energy
- Solid Waste
- Water and Wastewater
- Capacity Building/ Integrated Community Sustainability Planning

The District received \$101,142 in 2011 from the Gas Tax Transfer Agreement with the Federal Government. Funds from this transfer are eligible to be used on certain expenditures. In 2011, the district spent \$130,000 of these funds to pay for road improvements. The remaining funds are set aside in a reserve for future expenditures. The current reserve balance for these funds totals \$205,000.



2011 Strategic Planning

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT—SOUTH HIGHLANDS

ISSUE: West side of Millstream Road

PRIORITY: High

STATUS: CRD RGS Amendment Process Complete NEXT STEPS: Awaiting Bear Mountain Restructuring

ISSUE: East side of Millstream Road

PRIORITY: High

STATUS: Awaiting water main installation

NEXT STEPS: Potential re-development at the discretion of the property owners.

Bylaw in place for CRD water and sewer. No action currently required.

INFRASTRUCTURE



ISSUE: Groundwater Monitoring Program

PRIORITY: High

STATUS: Phase 3 underway (as of May 2012 complete)

NEXT STEPS: Bear Mountain now included in data - Sustainability Task Force

recommendations taken into consideration

ISSUE: Annual road structure and surface assessments

PRIORITY: Ongoing

STATUS: 2011 Assessment complete

NEXT STEPS: Maintenance and upgrades included in budget

ISSUE: Transit/ Transportation

PRIORITY: High

STATUS: Council liaison appointed

NEXT STEPS: Participate in as many opportunities regionally to enhance local

transportation opportunities. Sustainability Task Force

recommendations to consider

ISSUE: Juan de Fuca Recreation Facilities

PRIORITY: High

STATUS: Ongoing (2012 Governance Review underway)

NEXT STEPS: To support management of the West Shore facilities for the benefit of all

residents

ISSUE: Trails Master Plan

PRIORITY: High

STATUS: Project complete

NEXT STEPS: Staff recommendations on implementation



District of Highlands Annual Report

2011 Strategic Planning

INFRASTRUCTURE

ISSUE: Park Management Bylaw

PRIORITY: Low

STATUS: Council authorized bylaw drafting

NEXT STEPS: 2012 update - bylaw referred to Select Committee - bylaw to Council

summer 2012

EMERGENCY SERVICES

ISSUE: MacAulay Report Recommendations

PRIORITY: High STATUS: Complete

ISSUE: Fire Hall(s) PRIORITY: Medium

STATUS: Planning work on East Hall has begun

NEXT STEPS: Recommendations on hall construction/ modification to be brought

forward to Council

ISSUE: Day Crew PRIORITY: High STATUS: Ongoing

NEXT STEPS: Recruiting is an ongoing issue

ISSUE: Neighbourhood HELP Volunteers

PRIORITY: Ongoing

STATUS: Ongoing process

NEXT STEPS: Council supports the recruitment of volunteers through newsletter

and website advertisements

ISSUE: Treaty Process/ First Nations Relations

PRIORITY: Ongoing

STATUS: Participate in the Te'Mexw Treaty Advisory Committee

NEXT STEPS: Continue participation in Treaty process to the fullest extent possible.

Develop and enhance relations with local First Nation Governments





2011 Strategic Planning

ADMINISTRATIVE / GOVERNANCE



ISSUE: Millstream Meadows Remediation

PRIORITY: Ongoing

STATUS: Remediation process in progress

NEXT STEPS: Continue to support remediation of property to the highest

degree practicable

ISSUE: Wildfire Interface Regulations

PRIORITY: Medium

STATUS:

NEXT STEPS:

ISSUE: George Cuff Corporate Review

PRIORITY: Low

STATUS: NEXT STEPS:

ISSUE: Subdivision Servicing Bylaw

PRIORITY: Medium

STATUS: NEXT STEPS:

ISSUE: Soil Deposit and Removal Regulation Review

PRIORITY: High

STATUS: Bylaw Amendment Approved

NEXT STEPS: New Bylaw underway - Bylaw with Province for appropriate approvals



PRIORITY: Low

STATUS:

NEXT STEPS:

ISSUE: Heritage Property Recognition

PRIORITY: High

STATUS: Task Force Established and presented Council with

recommendations

NEXT STEPS: Staff Recommendations on Next Steps

ISSUE: Riparian Area Agriculture/ Livestock Management

PRIORITY: Low

STATUS: Not initiated

NEXT STEPS: Consolidate available information for education purposes on website



District of Highlands Annual Report

2011 Strategic Planning

LAND USE

ISSUE: Sustainability Updates to Official Community Plan

PRIORITY: High

STATUS: NEXT STEPS:

ISSUE: Secondary Suites

PRIORITY: High

STATUS:

NEXT STEPS: Staff to draft Terms of Reference for Consultant services

ISSUE: Large Lots PRIORITY: Low

STATUS: Landholder consultation complete

NEXT STEPS: Staff report recommending process to move forward

COMMUNITY BASED



ISSUE: Volunteer Recognition

PRIORITY: Ongoing

STATUS: Next appreciation scheduled for 2014

STEPS: Plan and deliver

ISSUE: Community Hall

PRIORITY: Ongoing

STATUS: Request For Proposal For Design Services
NEXT STEPS: Detailed Design and Construction in 2012/13

ISSUE: Highlands Market

PRIORITY: Ongoing STATUS: Ongoing

NEXT STEPS: Support by advertising in the Highland Newsletter and on website



2011 Project List Status

PROJECT

Administrative	
CAO Performance Review	Underway
Review of Municipal Policies	In progress
Report on Grants vs. Priorities	Not Done
Integrated Community Sustainability Plan	Completed
Infrastructure	
Fire Pond and Hydrant Maintenance	
Integrated to New Road Mainte	enance Contract
Bear Mountain Well Flow Meters	Completed
Land Use	
Bear Mountain Master Development Agreement	
Held pending Bear Mountain	in Restructuring
Amenity Policy	Completed
Third Party Covenants	Not done
Official Community Plan Action ItemsR	eport completed
Delegation of Development Permits Report	Not done

MEASURE



Caleb Pike Homestead

In May of 1893 the Highlands School District was formed and in July of that year 1.75 acres of land above

Millstream Road was donated and \$800 provided by the pro-

vincial

Secretary of

Education for the

"construction of a

school and

incidental expenses"

An excerpt from:

http:// www.calebpikeheritagep ark.org/history_schoolhouse.htm The District has a management agreement with the Highland Heritage Parks Society, whereby they operate and maintain the municipally owned Caleb Pike homestead. The homestead consists of Caleb Pike House, the Little Red Schoolhouse, a heritage orchard and the Gregory House which is used as a caretaker's residence.

Numerous events take place at the homestead, such as the summer market, HDCA sponsored Easter Egg Hunt, youth program, garden group, Highlands's Fling and Highlands Folk Music!



Highland School House 1952 in original location



Highland School House today located on the Caleb Pike Heritage Grounds

One of the many magnificent views of Finlayson Arm.....



Citizen Involvement and Volunteerism

2011 Advisory Planning Commission

Eleanor Rayner, Chair

Colleen Robertson, Vice-Chair

Mara Dhillon

Honora Johannesen

Rick Lester

Allan Roger Fred York

involvement is an

important

Citizen

element of

maintaining a

successful

community as no

community can

succeed without

the active

participation of

its volunteers.

Many of the

District's

functions would not be possible

without the

collective efforts

of the District,

volunteers and

residents.

2011 Board of Variance

Will Carrilho

Paul Henry

2011 Community Centre Task Force

Eleanor Rayner, Chair

Bob McMinn, Vice-Chair

Bob Flitton

Bessie Nuk

Rachael Sansom

Sheila Taylor

2011 Community Infrastructure and Services Select Committee

Allan Roger, Chair

Fred York, Vice-Chair

Bob Flitton

Rick Hughes

Bessie Nuk

Eleanor Rayner

2011 Fiscal and Environmental Select Committee

Aniko Varga, Chair

Vicky Husband, Vice-Chair

Patricia Cummins

Kenn Faris

Warren Lee

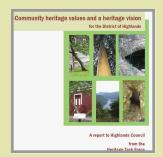
Elaine Limbrick

Bob McMinn

Greg Nuk



Citizen Involvement and Volunteerism



2011 Ground Water Task Force

Eric Bonham

Warren Lee

Michelle Mahovlich

2011 Heritage Task Force

Sally Gose, Chair

Daphne Allen

Bronwen Duncan

Bob McMinn

Diana McMinn

Paul Henry



ndations for a District of Highlands



2011 Sustainability Strategy Advisory Committee

Bob Flitton

Ann Baird

Aniko Varga

Bob McMinn

Dave Mackas

Sally Gose

Libby McMinn

2011 Volunteer Fire Department Members

Guy Brisebois, Fire Chief

Peter Schuttinga, Deputy Fire Chief (Retired September 2011)

Dean Ford, Deputy Fire Chief (September 2011)

Gregg Fletcher, Captain (September 2011)

Rob Tuit, Lieutenant

Stew Bender

Bob Brown

Mathew Cooper

Cliff Cox

Tom Falkener

Dan Haas

Rick Hinde

Sam Hunt

Dwayne Kauffman, Dwayne

Dave Mackas

Brice Patley

Bruce Price

Jason Schuttinga

Andy, Stewart

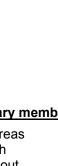
Reg Williams

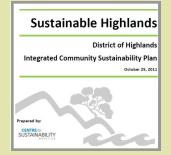
Probationary members:

Stefan Andreas Chase Duch Connor Ridout Ryan Roy

Ken Zavediuk

Sam Barber-Starkey Justin Villebrun









2011 Volunteer Activities and Achievements

Community heritage values and a heritage vision

or the District of Highla





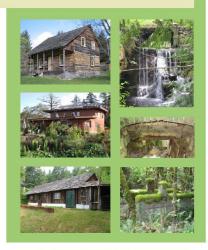


A report to Highlands Council

This report fulfills the first phase of work outlined by the District of Highlands Council for the Heritage Task Force. The purpose of the report is to identify heritage values and establish a heritage vision for the Highlands. The report is divided into two main sections. The first summarizes the Task Force findings, while the second describes the planning and community consultation process undertaken by the Task Force on which the findings are based. In this process, the community was provided with a definition of heritage and then asked to provide input on heritage values in the Highlands. The value statements from the community were then used to develop the heritage vision statement for the Highlands.

This report fulfills the second phase of work . Its purpose is to make recommendations to Council for property, buildings or other areas of the municipality to be included on a Community Heritage Register. The Task Force developed an inventory of heritage sites for consideration by reviewing the list of heritage resources generated by the community consultation . Each site was examined in relation to the community heritage values, and a list of places was developed for further research and potential site visits. The Task Force identified twenty sites to be considered for the Community Heritage Register, and nineteen are being recommended to Council for registration. This report provides specific recommendations regarding the heritage sites being put forward for the register, as well as a number of general recommendations for the ongoing recognition, conservation and celebration of the District's heritage resources.

Recommendations for a District of Highlands HERITAGE REGISTER



A Report to Highlands Council from the

Heritage Task Force

Sustainable Highlands

District of Highlands

Integrated Community Sustainability Plan

October 25, 2011



The District of Highlands Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP) is a framework to help the Highlands reach its sustainability goals. It was informed by the final report of the Highlands Sustainability Task Force (STF), and developed by the Whistler Centre for Sustainability, the Sustainability Strategy Advisory Committee (SSAC), and staff. The ICSP is the community's highest level policy and will guide all future planning and decision-making. The Highlands' Official Community Plan (OCP) will be updated to align with the vision and goals of the ICSP).



Other Volunteer Groups and Activities Associated with District of Highlands



Pike House Halloween

Highland District Community Association

HDCA was registered in 1965 as the Highland District Ratepayers Association under the BC Society Act. The current name was adopted a few years later to indicate all residents and property owners are eligible for membership. The HDCA provides opportunities for social, cultural, and educational activities. Contact Scott, 250-478-2526.

Some HDCA sponsored activities in Highlands include:

- Easter Egg Hunt
- Community Roadside Cleanup
- Broom Bash
- Education events including: wildfire forum, all candidates meetings, HELP, Speakers Series
- The Highlands Fling
- Halloween Event
- Winter Craft Fair
- Roadside Bulletin Board Construction
- The Highlander



Pike House - Easter Egg Hunt





Summer Market

Highland Heritage Park Society

This group of volunteers main priority is the preservation and on-going maintenance of the Caleb Pike Heritage Park. More information regarding the grounds and the society can be found here: www.calebpikeheritagepark.org.

Highlands Folk Music Coffee House

This monthly event is organized through Zhinoos - the coffee house is held the 2nd Saturday of the month at the Caleb Pike House (always check the District's website for event information and dates). If you would like to contact Zhinoos regarding booking an event you can at: zhinoos9@gmail.com. A special coffee house is held in May to highlight the talents of youth - it and all other events are packed with talent and worth attending!









District of Highlands Municipal Parks

In 2011 the District had a management agreement with the Highland Parks and Recreation Association whereby they managed and maintained our active use municipal parks. This agreement was dissolved towards the end of 2011 and the District has assumed the responsibilities within the agreement. The primary municipal park is Twinflower Park, which has a tot lot

playground, a non-regulation size ball field, a bicycle jump and a horse-riding ring.

The other primary active recreation park is Eagles Lake Park, which has a very small swimming beach and picnic area.

The District pays for any capital cost or operating cost items.



**from the West Shore Parks and Recreation Societies Summer Activities Brochure The Society provides a FREE summer program at Twinflower Park on Thursdays throughout July and August.





Capital Region and Provincial Parks

"The Parks and
Recreation Master Plan
for the District of
Highlands envisages a
system of parks,
protected areas, trails
and facilities that
provide recreational
opportunities for the
residents of Highlands
and the Capital Region,

Parks and Recreation

Master Plan Vision

while protecting

natural environments

and cultural features."

The District of Highlands places high value on greenspace, trail systems and outdoor recreational opportunities. The Official Community Plan (OCP) states that "the major roles of the Highlands are to preserve large areas of green space, to protect elements of the region's ecosystems, and to provide outdoor recreational opportunities for Capital Regional District residents and visitors."

Partnership between Highlands, CRD, the Intermunicipal Advisory Committee on Disability Issues (IACDI) and West Shore Parks and Recreation revamped and created an 630-metre loop trail in the midst of evergreens and native shrubs at the Munn Road entrance to Mount Work Park.



Provincial parks: Gowlland Tod Regional parks: Mount Work Thetis Lake Lone Tree Hill







Services and Operations - Building

The Building Inspector administers the BC Building Code and ensures that all buildings in the District of the Highlands are constructed to the standards of the National Building Code.

The Building Inspection Department can help with the following:

- Issuing building, plumbing, chimney, soil deposit and soil removal, tree cutting and blasting permits
- Building permits the building inspector processes building applications and reviews plans to ensure compliance with the BC Building Code, municipal bylaws and policies
- Inspections inspections are performed at various stages of construction and include:
 - ⇒ foundation and footing forms (before concrete is poured);
 - ⇒ installation of perimeter drain tiles and damp-proofing (prior to backfilling);
 - ⇒ rough-in of all chimneys and fireplaces and solid fuel burning appliances;
 - ⇒ rough-in plumbing;
 - ⇒ insulation and vapour barrier;
 - ⇒ health and safety aspects of the work prior to occupancy; and
- ⇒ a final inspection is required upon completion of a project and before an occupancy permit can be issued
- Site Inspections site inspections are required to determine that conditions set out in the permit have been satisfied

Comparison of Construction Values and Permit Fees 2010 and 2011 Includes building and plumbing fees

The Building
Department
saw a significant decrease
in construction
values in 2011.
Construction
totals for 2010
totaled
\$4,361,865
while in 2011
construction
values were
\$1,361,265.

2010	Construction Value	Permit Fees
January	589, 530	13, 530
February	278, 035	6, 550
March	277, 850	4, 265
April	268, 500	6, 230
May	446, 830	10, 300
June	652, 540	13, 360
July	469, 770	9, 875
August	725, 295	15, 330
September	242, 675	5, 510
October	375, 690	7, 540
November	8, 000	505
December	27, 200	640
2010 TOTALS	\$4,361,865	\$93,630

2011	Construction Value	Permit Fees
January	57, 465	1, 300
February	78, 660	2, 060
March	19, 360	540
April	131, 490	3, 010
May	252, 980	6, 420
June	135, 840	3, 400
July	255, 655	5, 410
August	90, 255	2, 155
September	15, 000	5, 510
October		
November	240, 145	4, 990
December	84, 415	1, 740
2010 TOTALS	\$1, 361, 265	\$ 31, 425





2011 Finance

2011 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Supplemental Items in Operations in the budget consist of the following:

Snow Removal Contingency \$30,000.

As in the past, the budget contains an additional sum to address winter storm issues.

American Bullfrog Eradication \$9,900.

The budget allocation was made based upon requests from the Highlands Stewardship Foundation. Actual authorization to proceed and to what extent will be subject to further consideration by Council

Additional Crack Sealing

A total allocation of \$20,000 for crack sealing District Roads was recommended in 2010 and the budget has been increased from \$10,000 in 2010.

CRD Housing Trust and CRD Arts Additional Contributions - \$3,920

The CRD Requisition was topped up by District taxpayers to provide for a \$4,200 contribution to the CRD Housing Trust, and a \$2,600 contribution to the CRD Arts.

2010

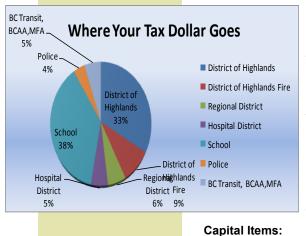
2011

Top Dressing to Twinflower Park \$4,000

General Capital - Security at Municipal Office Fire Capital -		\$10,000 \$57,900
- SCBA Lease Payment	\$10,000	
- Replace one Mini Pump Truck	\$52,000	
- Planning East Hall Upgrade	\$10,000	
Millstream Lake Road Culvert Replacement		\$30,000
Miscellaneous Road Patching		\$100,000

Taxes paid by a typical Highlands Residential Property – Comparison 2010—2011

	2010	2011
Assessment of Typical Property	\$533,310	\$566,002
Municipal Taxes		
General Property	922.09	918.62
Specified Area (Fire Protection)	259.35	258.83
Total	\$1,181.44	\$1,177.45
Tax Rate	2.2153	2.0803
Property Taxes Collected for Other Governments		
School District 62, West Highlands		
School	1,040.43	1,062.90
Capital Regional District	154.66	160.01
Regional Hospital	156.79	161.31
Regional Transit, BC Assess., MFA	129.01	158.25
Police Tax	106.66	114.22
Total Taxes for Other Governments	\$1,587.55	\$1,656.69
School District 61, East Highlands		
School	962.30	973.01
Capital Regional District	154.66	160.01
Regional Hospital	156.79	161.31
Regional Transit, BC Assess., MFA	129.01	158.25
Police Tax	106.66	114.22
Total Taxes for Other Governments	\$1,509.43	\$1,566.80
Total Property Taxes West Highlands	\$2,768.99	\$2,834.14
Total Property Taxes East Highlands	\$2,690.87	\$2,744.25



The Finance

Department

oversees the

policies and

budgeting process.

practices, and coordinates the

operations of the
District, develops
and implements
sound financial

financial

District of Highlands **2011 Administration**

There was a General

November 2011 which

did not proceed as

Council members of

the District of

Highlands were

Local Election

scheduled in

The Administration Department provides legislative and administrative functions to Council, its Committees and the municipal organization in general, ensuring that statutory requirements are met and that Council policies and directives are accomplished.

The Administration Department is also responsible for addressing Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act requests.

The department has three members, Chief Administrative Officer, Corporate Officer and Administrative Assistant. Some of the typical duties of the department include:

- making recommendations to Council on a broad range of policy and administrative issues
- efficient management of the municipal workforce
- ensuring that Council's directions and policies are carried out
- encourage open communication with the community to create a better understanding and appreciation of Council's role, its policies and its statutory responsibilities
- providing statutory support and organizational services to Council and the municipal organization in general.
- preparation of Council and Committee agendas, minutes and correspondence
- municipal Bylaws
- · records management

Bylaws Adopted in 2011

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

elected by Freedom of Info

- Deposit of Soil Prohibition, Amendment
- Financial Plan and Tax Rate
- Official Community Plan Amendment Community Hall
- Zoning Amendment Amenity 1 Zone (Community Hall Land)
- West Shore Fees and Charges Bylaw
- District of Highlands Fees and Charges Schedule
- Subdivision Amendment (Water and Sewer)
- Development Permit Delegation Bylaw

Policies Adopted by Council in 2011

- Highlands Sustainability Appraisal Form
- Amenity Rezoning Considerations
- Development Permit Approval Delegation within DP Areas 1, 2, and 3 regarding soil deposit



District of Highlands **Planning**

The Planning

Department

handles various

The Planning Department is responsible for all aspects of planning including processing all rezoning, development permit, development variance permit and Official Community Plan amendment applications. The Planner is available to answer planning related questions regarding environmentally sensitive development permit areas, future development potential and zoning of land within the District. The Planner will also be able to discuss trails, parks and recreation throughout the District.

applications	2011 APPLICATIO	ON PROGRESS:
including:	APPLICATIONS	DETAILS
development permit	Development Permit	Completed:
and development	2010.00	1. 679 Taylor Way – <i>Water and Riparian DP</i> – Driveway
variance permit		5050 Munn Road – Water and Riparian DP – House addition and carport (associated with development variance permit)
applications, as well as rezoning and		2539 Bukin Drive East – <i>Water and Riparian DP</i> – Leveling of ground for garden use
Official Community		710 Red Cedar Court – <i>Water and Riparian DP</i> – Installation of tiered retention wall
Plan Amendment		3523 Munn Road – <i>Water and Riparian DP</i> – Work within 30m riparian area associated with installation of a box culvert stream crossing
applications. The department		5240 Stag Road – <i>Water and Riparian DP</i> – Repair of existing rock retention wall and existing stairs
is also responsible		7. 7. 1786 Millstream Road – Steep Slopes AND Water and Riparian DP – Pursuant to completing requirements of subdivision application conditions
for certain		Active/Pending:
environmental		1. 1701 Millstream Road – Water and Riparian DP – Earth works within 30m riparian area associated with bridge repair
management		Denied:
practices according		4735 Talon Ridge – Water and Riparian DP – Peat removal from wetland to return wetland to pond (associated with covenant amendment)
to Provincial and Federal legislation.		1999 Hawkins – Water and Riparian DP – Reduce covenanted area to accommodate house plan (associated with covenant amendment and development variance permit)
Included in this is the	Covenant	O-material.
effort to reduce	Covenant Amendment	Completed:1. 2009 Hawkins – To allow fence in portion of covenanted area (associated
Greenhouse gases		with development variance permit)
(GSG's) as the		Denied:
District is a signatory		4735 Talon Ridge – Peat removal from wetland to return wetland to pond (associated with development permit)
to the BC Climate		2. 1999 Hawkins – Reduce covenanted area to accommodate larger home
Action Charter.		



District of Highlands **Planning**

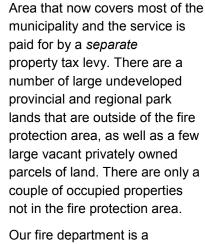
	APPLICATIONS	DETAILS
	Development Variance	Completed:
	Permit	5050 Munn Road – Water and Riparian Regulations – House addition and carport (associated with development permit)
		2009 Hawkins – Water and Riparian Regulations – Allow fence in covenanted no-build area (associated with covenant amendment)
		207 Ross Durrance Road – Accessory building's floor area – Increase floor area of a single accessory building
Special 2011		Denied:
Planning project		1. 1999 Hawkins – Water and Riparian Regulations – Reduce covenanted area to accommodate house plan (associated with covenant amendment and development variance permit)
included:	2224	· · ·
Comprehensive	OCP Amendment	Completed:
Groundwater		 RZ-01-11 (1786 Millstream Road and 743 Finlayson Arm Road): Set up new Amenity Areas land use designation and established first of these – Amenity Area 1 – Community Centre/Hall (associated with rezoning)
Study;		Active:
Amenity Policy		RZ-02-10 ('Section 74'): Amenity Area 2 – East West Trail Connector (associated with rezoning)
Review; Integrated		 RZ-02-11 (1150 Bear Mountain Parkway): Amenity Area – 1150 Bear Mountain Parkway (associated with rezoning)
Community	Rezoning	Completed:
Sustainability		RZ-01-08 (889 Finlayson Arm): 3 lots total / community amenities of 2-party covenant on Manzanita hilltop and \$17,538 to community hall (completed early 2012)
Plan (iCSP);		RZ-01-11 (1786 Millstream Road and 743 Finlayson Arm Road): 11 lots
Regional Growth		total / community amenity of 21-acre land donation for community hall, include- ing trail dedication in desirable areas (associated with OCP amendment)
Study Update/		3. RZ-04-11 (1786 Millstream Road): Zoning change from R3 to P2 for
Transition to		community hall
Regional		Active:
Sustainability		 RZ-02-10 ('Section 74'): 13 lots total / Community amenities of 40-acre land donation for regional park/trail; \$75,000 toward community hall; community garden and associated items (associated with OCP
Strategy;		amendment)
Sustainability		 RZ-02-11 (1150 Bear Mountain Parkway): 52 lots total / Communities amenities of \$550,000 toward community hall; pump system or value to community hall; conservation covenant improvements (associated with OCP amendment)
Appraisal Form;		
Climate Action		 RZ-03-11 (1289 Millstream Road): 2 lots total / Community amenity of 1.26- acre land donation for municipal park and trail
Charter		



Commitments

District of Highlands **Fire**





The District has a Fire Specified

Our fire department is a volunteer department with about 18 members. The Fire Chief and

Deputy Chief were each provided with an annual stipend of \$11,000 and \$5,500 respectively. Individual fire-fighters received small stipends of \$5.00 per practice or call-out for their invaluable service to the community. In addition Officers received small stipends to recognize their specific contributions resulting from the positions held. The District has two fire halls and six fire vehicles (two main pumpers, two mini pumpers, one tanker and one pickup).

The Fire Chief is Guy Brisebois and the Deputy Fire Chief is Dean Ford.



2011 - A Year in Reflection by Fire Chief Guy Brisebois

- 2011 was the busiest on record. The department had a 7% increase in calls.
 With an increase of population and vehicular traffic, our ranges of emergencies are also changing.
- This year has seen a minimal decrease in medical calls, an average number of MVIs, and a marked increase in fire related emergencies resulting in numerous large fires. Power related incidents have remained steady.
- In addition to all the hard work provided by our firefighters responding to calls and attending training session, a lot of work has been done working towards the rectifications of issues around the fire halls and towards commercial inspections.
- The Fire Department's computer network is in place and operating, and files are being transferred/scanned electronically to the server. Time is still required to transfer files and paperwork that has accumulated over 20 years.
- The wireless laptops have been installed in trucks to ensure timely access to information. Also, updated Operational Guidelines are being distributed to all firefighters.
- The next 12 months will be challenging with commercial fire inspections ongoing and with the new SCBAs in service, efforts will be concentrated in completing the fire hoses testing. Also plans to replace the east fire hall are underway.
- Overall, the last 12 months were successful, though emergencies that put stress, pain and extreme sorrow on our neighbours should never be classified as being successful. My expectations are that the next 12 months will be even busier.





Fire - Volunteer Recruitment

FIRE FIGHTER RECRUITMENT

Practices are held
Thursday nights from
19:00-21:00.

Day practices are also
held once each week
and additional
practices from time to
time usually on
Saturday or Sunday.

As a probationary member you are expected to attend at least one regular practice each week and as many extra practices as possible for a period of 6 months.

Does this sound like something you can committee to?

Our fire department is a volunteer department with about 18 members.

Individual firefighters receive a small stipend per practice or call-out for their invaluable service to the community. In addition Officers receive small stipends to recognize their specific contributions resulting from their position held. The District has two fire halls and several fire vehicles.

The Fire Department responds to all 911 calls regarding a vast array of emergencies from medical calls, motor vehicle

accidents, fires, electrical emergencies, rescue and so on.

All training and equipment is provided, and besides feeling good about yourself for helping people in need, this is also a great opportunity to make new friends and be part of a great team.

We are presently looking for volunteers, aged 19 and up to join our group of energetic firefighters and help us in providing these very important services to our community.

Please take a few moments to ponder on your possible involvement within the Fire Department, and if this is something that you have been looking for and sounds interesting to you. Please get in touch so that we can discuss the recruitment process.





An Excerpt from THE HIGHLANDER - SUMMER 1998......

Barry Ford is enthusiastic about women firefighters. "They work hard; they pull hose, they wear air packs, none of the women want to be treated differently. Of course, let's face it, men are stronger usually, though some men who work in offices aren't as strong as those women. But (as a chief) you

look at your people and utilize them the best way to get the most out of them." "Some fire departments are against women, for some reason. But I've always strongly backed the lady firefighters. If you look back at the Second World War, when men were away fighting, women took over a lot of the jobs: in the factories, driving trucks, or whatever. Women are as capable as men at doing any job, until it comes to the actual physical labour part of it, and then a person (woman or man) who is not as strong may have to figure out a different way of doing the job. You can bull-work it or you can use your brains."

"I hope more women will come out. Generally, women haven't been encouraged to be all that they can be." Nor have men for that matter. We all need to be encouraged to use our whole selves, to be free to stretch our bodies, minds and hearts.

Municipal Emergency Services

The District has a

small volunteer

emergency

program. The

primary

responsibility is

emergency

planning, as well

as some on site

support for major

fire events or search

and rescue.

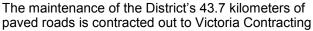
At the end of 2011, Highlands long time Emergency Coordinator, Val Fletcher retired. Council provided Val with a Community Service Pin and a Laptop Computer to recognize his many years of dedicated service and contributions in this capacity.

The District will be seeking a replacement for Val in the coming months. In the interim Chris Coates, the District's Chief Administrative Officer is acting in this capacity.

Wildfire Report: Report to be submitted,

Shakeout BC: Under the direction of the Emergency Coordinator, Municipal staff at the District Office participated in the Shake Out BC drill held at 10:20 am on October 20, 2011. Immediately before the drill a discussion was held on earthquake hazards within the office environment and why we should DROP, COVER and HOLD ON!

Municipal Roads



and Municipal Maintenance Corporation. Road work in 2011 included Millstream Lake Road culvert replacement, and extensive repairs on major roads.

Council also approved a new 3-year contract with Victoria Contracting and Municipal Maintenance corporation.

Anticipated work in 2012 will include:

- Chip seal resurfacing of Blue Valley Road
- Major repairs in various locations







Library Services



The District participates, along with most of the local municipalities, in the Greater Victoria Public Library system (GVPL). Our local branch is located at the West Shore

Parks and Recreation site, 1759 Island Highway. You can also find an express concept library at 775 Goldstream Avenue in Langford.

The District pays a portion of the central branch costs for the administration of all of the branches. District of Highland residents may access any branch of the Greater Victoria Public Library within the Capital Region. For a full listing of branches and services available visit the Greater Victoria Public Library website at: www.gvpl.ca/.



NEW FOR 2011. The Greater Victoria Public Libraries are now lending Kobo eReaders. All readers come with a selection of current and popular fiction and nonfiction books purchased by the library. Borrows may also download other titles from the Library's collection of ebooks. Please refer to www.gvpl.ca for more information.

Recreation Services

Available activities at the centre include: two ice arenas, Curling rink, BMX Track, Club House, Kinsmen Fieldhouse, an indoor pool, swirl pool/sauna/ steam room Seniors Activity Centre weight room, playing fields, ball diamonds, beach volleyball, tennis courts, basketball courts, lacross box. lawn bowling, jogging trail. velodrome, 9 hole golf course, and Centennial Centre

West Shore Parks and Recreation

The facility is jointly owned by Colwood, Highlands, Langford, Metchosin, View Royal and the CRD, on behalf of a portion of the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area. The facility is operated by a jointly owned Society. The Society has a joint Board of Directors (**Councillor Williams represents the District of Highlands as our appointed Director)** and engages all of the recreation staff.

2011 Highlights

- Grand Opening of the 9000 sq. foot addition to the fitness facility
- Change room upgrades and reconfiguration of reception counter
- Exterior access upgrade of ramps, sidewalks, automatic doors and accessible entrances
- Two accessible trails (Mt. Work Park @ Munn Road and Witty's Lagoon Park)
- Fund raising started for a new Rotary Picnic Playground
- Jogging trail renovation and upgrade highway frontage
- New drainage installed on baseball diamond #1
- New UV system installed in the pool (reduction in chemical use and water waste)

**The full West Shore Parks and Recreation Annual Report can be found at: www.westshorerecreation.ca



Bylaw Enforcement

Don't forget...When you see this,

contact the district
office immediately
as our bylaw

enforcement officer will investigate the site

to see if information on the owner may be located within the dumped material.

Office Number: 250-474-1773

The District has a fee for service contract with the Capital Regional District for Bylaw Enforcement Services. Under the provisions of the contract, the District can call upon CRD Bylaw Enforcement staff on a fee for service basis to undertake any bylaw enforcement activity. CRD Enforcement Officers can assist the district with maintaining compliance to numerous bylaws including:

- Animal Control
- Land Use

Unsightly premises

- Environmental services
- Noise abatement
- Regional parks

The use of CRD Bylaw Enforcement staff has decreased significantly since engaging the services of a Building Inspector/Bylaw Enforcement Officer.



Bylaw	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Admin/ Misc.						.25							0.25
Soil Deposit				2.75		.5	3.5	2			3.75	3	11.75
Eagle Lake Patrol						3	3	1					7.00
Noise	1	05			.75								2.25
Roads					1								1.00
Tree Management				1.25	1		1.5						3.75
Unsightly		2.5	2	1.25	4.5	1	2.5	1	1	3	2	4.5	25.25
Zoning								10.25	6	10	16.75	2.5	45.50
Total Actual Hrs/ Month	1	3	2	5.25	7.25	4.75	10.5	14.25	7	13	18.75	10	96.75

CRD Animal Control

The Capital Regional District provides Animal Care Services to 11 of the 13 local municipalities. The service includes dog licencing and control as well as any other animal re-

lated matters. The contract provides that the District shares in the total cost for the animal control service with other participating areas and municipalities, as if we were a participant in a regional service. Therefore, the CRD collects and keeps any dog licence fees and fines.

The CRD's mandate is to return pets to their owners, and where this is not possible animals are cared for at the CRD Pound facility.

In most cases, if these animals are unclaimed a suitable adoption or foster home is found. If you feel that your family may be a suitable foster family or adoption family, a adoption application can be found on the following CRD website: www.crd.bc.ca/animal/adoptionpolicy.htm.

ANIMAL	Adoption Fee	
Dog - > 8 years	\$150	
Dog - < 8 years	\$280	
Dog - puppy (2 - 8 mnths)	\$380	
Cat - > 8 years	\$75	
Cat - < 8 years	\$145	
Cat - kitten (2 - 6 mnths)	\$175	1

Animal Summary For 2011	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Patrol Hours	12.5	35.25	31	21.5	56	34	19	25.5	22	23	18	14	312.75
Complaints	1	3	5	1	5	5	1	6	2	2	1	2	34
Enforcement Actions	1	1	3	1	2	3	0	1	0	2	0	1	15
Impounds	0	0	1	1	0	3	0	1	0	0	3	0	9
Total Dog Activity	0	0	1	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Total Cat Activity	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	4



