



Mayor's Message

On behalf of council, I'm pleased to introduce our new CAO, Sarah Jones, who is now comfortably settled at the district office.

With a strong background in municipal leadership and a deep commitment to community service, Sarah brings a wealth of experience and a collaborative spirit to her role.



Working closely with Council and community partners, Sarah is focused on enhancing operational efficiency, supporting strategic planning, and fostering inclusive dialogue across departments. Her leadership will be instrumental in guiding the District through upcoming priorities and ensuring that resident voices remain central to decision-making.

Please join us in welcoming Sarah and supporting her efforts to build a resilient and responsive local government.

HIGHLAND FLING

Sept 7 Sunday 12-4

BBQ **KIDS CRAFTS** **LIVE MUSIC** **GIANT TUG OF WAR** **50/50 DRAW** **ICE CREAM** **BALLOON ANIMALS** **DISPLAYS** **MARKET STALLS** **FACE PAINTING**

SCHEDULE

- 12:00 Welcome & Acknowledgement
- 12:05 Music By The Temps
- 1:30 Games: sack race, egg toss, doughnuts on a string, candy hay hunt
- 2:00 Music By The Temps
- 3:40 50/50 ticket Draw
- 3:45 Giant Tug of War

Caleb Pike Heritage Park
1589 Millstream Road

Brought to you by
the Highlands District Community Association (HDCA)
the Highlands Volunteer Fire Department
and the Highland Heritage Park Society (HHPS)



Fire Department News

We are in a full burning ban for the foreseeable future.

TOTAL FIRE BAN



When weather changes occur, it can take weeks before the fire hazard falls to a level where it is safe to burn. September in Highlands is historically our driest and busiest time of the year and we must all remain vigilant in insuring our community is safe, so early spotting and reporting of any burning or fires is prudent in keeping any incidents as small as possible.

Residents are also reminded that all reports of burning are 100% confidential, and are encouraged to contact the Fire Chief at 250-920-6970 or Firechief@highlands.ca if they see anything of concern.

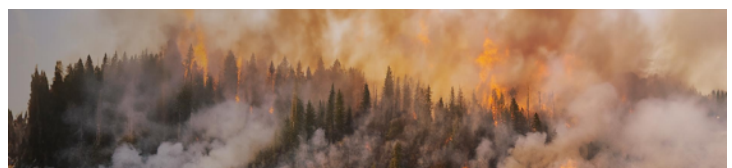


Introducing the District of Highlands state-of-the-art fire truck. This is a game-changer for rural fire departments. Built for performance and resilience, it sets a new benchmark in emergency response innovation.

FireSmart Starts with You Are You Ready?

Wildfires don't wait — and neither should you. With the wildfire season 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**. Explore **FireSmart** resources:

<https://www.highlands.ca/community-services/protective-services/fire-services/firesmart-program>



Community and Council News

South Highlands Local Area Plan (SHLAP) OCP Update:

On August 11, 2025, Council adopted the SHLAP into the Official Community Plan (OCP). You can view the updated OCP here:

[Consolidated OCP – August 11, 2025 \(PDF\)](#)

Key Changes

- The “**Highland Commercial Industrial Gateway Area**” is now called “**Regenerative Development.**”
 - This new designation focuses on creating “**net positive**” developments.
 - It includes new land use policies and a new **Development Permit Area 4**.

Policy goals include:

- Restoring the environment through redevelopment
- Supporting regenerative uses, activities, and on-site programming
- Valuing ecosystem services in planning and design
- Exploring new opportunities for stewardship and climate action
- Securing community amenities and benefits
- Three parcels** were re-designated from “**Rural**” to “**Special Plan Area.**”
 - This allows for site-specific processes before any future land use or zoning changes.



Development Permit Area 4 – New Guideline

- New projects must **minimize the “effective impervious area” (EIA)**.
- EIA** means hard surfaces directly connected to stormwater systems (e.g., paved roads, drains).
- The goal is to **slow stormwater runoff** and let more water soak into the ground.
- Examples include: landscaped parking lot areas, rain barrels, and green roofs.

WHAT IS REGENERATIVE DEVELOPMENT?

A key term used in the 2050 Vision and policies of this document is Regenerative Development.

The term “development” generally refers to the use of resources (e.g., land development, agriculture) to improve the wellbeing of a society.

Regenerative Development is a development paradigm that seeks to push beyond sustainable development. While sustainable development focuses on development that protects the ability of future generations to develop and use resources, **regenerative development focuses on** the use of holistic processes to create feedback loops between manufactured, financial, social, human, and natural capitals that are mutually supportive, increasing the capacity of the underlying systems of each capital.

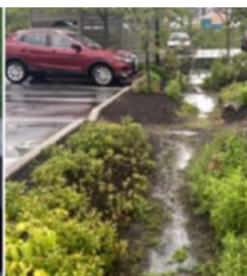


NET ZERO & NET POSITIVE

Seek land use outcomes that are “net zero” or “net positive” based on the full accounting of environmental, social, and economic impacts – i.e., they provide more benefit than cost.



Example of an EIA - precipitation falling and flowing to a stream along a continuous impervious pathway.



Example of a non-EIA - precipitation flowing into an area of a parking lot that mimics natural hydrology.



Example of a non-EIA - precipitation flowing into rain barrels that mimics natural hydrology.

Community News

Highlands District Community Association Update

THE FLING

Don't miss the **Highland Fling** this year on **Sunday, September 7th!**

Your Highlands District Community Association (HDCA), together with the Highland Heritage Park Society (HHPS) and the Highlands Volunteer Fire Department, invites you to this much-loved annual community festival. Thanks to a Grant-in-Aid from Highlands District Council, the event is free for all Highlands residents, friends, and families.



The **Fling** takes place at **Caleb Pike Heritage Park from 12 noon to 4 pm**. Enjoy games, displays, live music, hot dogs, corn, ice cream, face painting, and a giant Tug of War. If you liked the Summer Community Markets, you'll be glad to know a full market will be part of the **Fling**.

Live music will be provided by **The Temps**, and you'll also have the chance to explore the Highland Museum, Pike House, and Schoolhouse heritage buildings. Sack races, doughnut-on-a-string contests, and water relays will keep kids busy, while the fire department will demonstrate some of their equipment. Be sure to visit the **HELP Program** booth to learn more about community emergency preparedness. And don't forget to stop by the **HDCA booth** to meet board members, renew your membership, and explore volunteer opportunities.

OTHER EVENTS

- Our **HDCA Speaker Series** workshop, *Reconciliation: Journey of Our Generation*, was well attended and deeply impactful. With guidance from the Quw'utsun' Cultural Connections Society and Quw'utsun' Elders, participants left with a new perspective on colonization and reconciliation. We hope to host a follow-up event in 2026.
- **Music Nights** organized by Zhinoos (zhinoos9@gmail.com) continue at Caleb Pike Heritage Park, sponsored by HDCA and HHPS. These are usually held on the **second Saturday of the month at 7 pm**.



September 13

October 11

November 15

December 13

Jenny Allen, Katrina Kadoski, and Joanna Finch

Allen Dobb

Peach and Quiet with Jonny Miller and Heather Read

Gravitation with Bill Hamilton, Brad Hawkes, and Burke Rosen

- Stay tuned for details about a **Community Potluck Supper and Social Event** this fall (October or November). Updates will be shared on our Facebook page and website.

STAYING IN TOUCH

Want to keep up with HDCA events? Here's how:

- Notices are posted on the community bulletin boards beside mailboxes.
- Events are shared on our **Facebook page** and **new website**.
- Roadside sandwich boards at the entrances to the Highlands will also remind you of upcoming gatherings.

Facebook: [HDCA Facebook Page](#)

Website: highlands-hdca.weebly.com

We also have QR codes for quick access to both the website and Facebook page.



We hope you had a wonderful summer and look forward to seeing you at some (or all!) of our upcoming events.

~Doone Watson

Highlands Community Garden Update

It's harvest season at the Highlands Community Garden and the orchard and garden beds are bursting with fruit, veggies and flowers!

What a productive year we had, from learning about building soil and year round gardening to pruning fruit trees and constructing garden paths. And as always, sharing fun and garden knowledge with each other.

Are you curious about the Community Garden? Would you like to get on the waitlist for a garden box next year?

We'll be at the Fling and will be happy to answer your questions. Or you can contact us at HighlandsCommunityGarden@outlook.com

Happy harvest season everyone! ~ Karen Burns



Stay Informed and Engaged





Your voice matters. Your access matters.

The District of Highlands is making it easier than ever to stay informed and involved in local decision-making.

Explore the Meeting Portal

Visit: <https://highlandsbc.diligent.community/Portal/Default.aspx>

On the portal, you can:

-  View upcoming and recent meetings
-  Access detailed agendas before meetings
-  Review past discussions and decisions
-  Search for topics that matter to you

Watch Live or Recorded Meetings

All Council, Committee of the Whole, and Public Hearings are now **live-streamed and recorded**.

- Visit the District of Highlands YouTube Channel
- Or click the **VIDEO** button on each meeting page via the Meeting Portal

Want to Speak at a Meeting?

Residents can participate during the **Petitions and Delegations** portion of meetings.

- Speak **in person** or **electronically**
- Request to speak electronically no later than **1:00 PM on the day of the meeting** to ensure your participation is confirmed at <https://highlandsbc.diligent.community/home/public/requesttospeak/0>.

Get Notified

Never miss a meeting!

Subscribe for meeting e-notices at:

<https://highlandsbc.diligent.community/Portal/Subscribe.aspx>



A big shout out to Cole Byers, who is the owner of The Rack restaurant on Millstream Rd, and for the past two years has donated gift certificates and SWAG to the HDCA Broom Bash volunteers
~ Paul Henry

Highlands Winter Craft Fair

Come to the Highlands Winter Craft Fair on Sunday, November 16th at 10am to 3pm. Held at Caleb Pike Heritage Park and at our Highlands Community Hall. This event is not to be missed. ~ Daphne Allen



Be in the Know

Stay connected through:

- The **District of Highlands Website** <https://www.highlands.ca/>
- Our official **Facebook Page**
- The **Alertable App** for real-time updates <https://alertable.ca/signup/index.html?site=BC7B>

Mayor Ken Williams
kwilliams@highlands.ca
250-882-5481

Councillor Leslie Anderson
leslie.corvidconsulting@gmail.com
778-350-8180

Councillor Ann Baird
ann@eco-sense.ca
250-812-5481

Councillor Gord Baird
gord.baird@gmail.com
250-818-7986

Councillor Marcie McLean
marciemclean@shaw.ca
250-474-4725

Councillor Karel Roessingh
karel@roessong.com
250-727-9808

Councillor Rose Stanton
rose26@telus.net
250-474-3403

Fire Chief Ford
firechief@highlands.ca
250-920-6970

Municipal Office
info@highlands.ca
250-474-1773

CRD Animal Control
250-478-0624

CRD Bylaw Enforcement
250-474-3351

CRD Parks
250-478-3344

Wildlife Information
1-800-663-9453

Upcoming Council Meetings

- September 15, 2025
- October 6, 2025
- October 20, 2025
- November 3, 2025
- November 17, 2025
- December 8, 2025