

January 11, 2024



As we write this enews, cold weather and snow is forecast for our region... and we're ready to go! Our [website](#) has details about how we monitor road and weather conditions with tips on how residents can prepare and help. Please be prepared and drive safely.

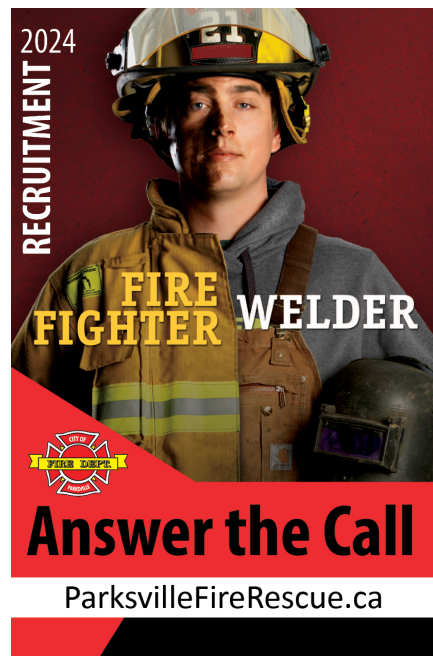
Parksville Fire Rescue Recruitment Campaign 2024

Parksville Fire Rescue volunteer paid on-call and career firefighters provide fire and emergency response services in the Parksville Fire Protection Area. Our firefighters are highly skilled professionals who value integrity, honesty, selflessness, commitment, courage, and are hardworking and family oriented. We provide an outstanding training program, the opportunity to make a difference in people's lives and the chance to join a dedicated team.

We respond to almost 800 calls - structure fires, rescues, motor vehicle incidents, medical assistance, and public service requests. We rely on the commitment of paid on-call volunteer firefighters dedicated to public safety and community service and offer:

- Professional firefighter certification and ongoing training.
- Opportunity to serve your community.
- Personal growth, sense of achievement.
- Part of a team, your chance to be awesome.
- Great benefits - paid on-call, WorkSafe, additional accidental death and disability insurance (on and off duty), and more.

We are your neighbours, co-workers, family, and friends and we need your help with our recruiting efforts; please encourage those who may be interested to contact us. We'd love to chat about what we do at Parksville Fire Rescue and if you are ready to *answer the call*. Call us at 250 248-3242 to speak with an officer or arrange a tour. Application deadline is Friday, March 1. More info on our [website](#).



2024
RECRUITMENT

FIRE FIGHTER WELDER

Answer the Call

ParksvilleFireRescue.ca

Recruitment Open Practice Monday, January 22, 7-9 pm

Regular practice on January 22 will be open to those interested in being a firefighter and learning more. Arrive by 6.30 pm, dress for the weather, and stay as long as you wish. This is a perfect chance to observe a practice, see firsthand what's involved in

training, ask questions, and chat with members. The firehall is located at 160 Jensen Avenue West.

[More Info](#)

2024-2028 Financial Plan

The City's 2024-2028 financial plan process is well underway with meetings held on November 27 and December 11, open to public comment. Discussion on the 2024-2028 financial plan will continue at open Council meetings scheduled as follows.

January 15, 1-4 pm

Regular Council Meeting
Water and sewer funds, operating and capital

January 24, 1-4 pm

Committee of the Whole
General fund, operating and capital

January 29, 9 am-noon

Special Council Meeting
Motions from previous financial plan meetings

February 12, 1-4 pm

Special Council Meeting
Preliminary property tax and utility rates

February 21, 1 pm

Regular Council Meeting
Three readings 2024-2028 Provisional Financial Plan Bylaw

March 4, 1 pm

Regular Council Meeting
Adoption of 2024-2028 Provisional Financial Plan Bylaw

April 8, 1-4 pm

Committee of the Whole
New information, carry forwards, final property tax rates

April 22, 1-4 pm

Special Council Meeting
Three readings 2024-2028 Amended Financial Plan and 2024 property tax rates



Here are the ways residents may engage in the financial planning process:

- Attend meetings in person. Meetings are held in the Forum, 100 Jensen Avenue East.
- Submit comments by email to council@parksville.ca. Residents wishing comments to be considered by Council prior to the meetings, should be received by 4 pm on the working day before the meeting.
- Meetings may be viewed live and archived through webstreaming from the [City's website](#).
- Comments, questions, and ideas may be posted to the City's online engagement site, [Let's Talk Parksville](#).
- All comments about the financial plan received by the City will form part of the public record.
- If you wish to familiarize yourself with the City's financial planning process, previous years' plans and presentations may be viewed on [Let's Talk Parksville](#) and on our [website](#).

[More Info](#)

Jensen Centre is the New Name

Parksville Council approved the renaming of the Parksville Community Centre at 132 Jensen Avenue East to the Jensen Centre. The community has known 132 Jensen Avenue East as the Parksville Community Centre for more than twenty years, but it will now have a new identity.

The City owns the trademark to the name, Parksville Community Centre, with full and exclusive legal rights to the name. The City has agreed to allow the Parksville Community Centre Society to continue the use of the name and associated branding for a five-year period, subject to entering into a licence agreement and terms with the City. We are pleased to provide this agreement to the society and provide clarity for the public.

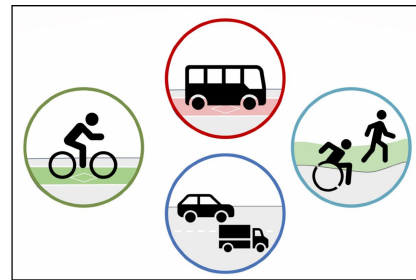
Since the Parksville Community Centre Society opened the Parksville Community Centre on Mills Street in 2022, members of the community have expressed frustration and confusion with two facilities with the same name, confusing the Mill Street location with the Jensen Avenue location. Over the past two years, the City has attempted to brand the facility as the Parksville Community Centre on Jensen; however, this did not eliminate confusion. Renaming the facility as Jensen Centre will also facilitate emergency response to the correct location.

As the home of the Parksville Child and Family Centre, the **Jensen Centre** will continue to provide services and amenities to the community. To support the change in name, new signage will be installed on the building and City staff will update online information and directories.

Transportation Master Plan Next Steps

Progress to update the City's 2016 Transportation Master Plan (TMP) is well underway. Working with consultant, McElhanney Ltd, the new comprehensive plan will reflect the changing needs and expectations of the community and provide a roadmap to ensure a well-coordinated, efficient, and sustainable mobility network aligned with the goals and vision of the community. The new plan will communicate recommendations including costs, impacts, and policy direction along with an implementation plan with monitoring and expected outcomes. The process to develop a new TMP began in July 2023, and we expect Phase 2 will complete in June followed by the third and final phase of the process.

The TMP will address current and future needs for all modes (auto, pedestrian, transit, cycling, and new and micro-mobility) along with emergency services and goods movement, with a particular focus on the downtown section of the Island Highway corridor. The goal is to provide a safe and accessible transportation network that will support a high quality of life for residents, and efficient mobility for all, recognizing the unique characteristics of the City.



Phase 1

What we heard

We are pleased with the progress to date and thank the public for their input into Phase 1. The first round of engagement involved a five-hour public open house in November, attended by about 100 residents. The open house included presentations of the base conditions assessment work as well as extensive questions and answers and discussion time to hear thoughts and insights from the community. The information presented at this open house is available [here](#).

Following the open house, several meetings were held with interested community groups and agency representatives to receive specific feedback and input. A public survey was also made available on the City's website and *Let's Talk Parksville* to collect responses from residents. With about 300 completed surveys, the feedback was extremely helpful in better understanding how mobility in Parksville is perceived. The overwhelming majority of respondents expressed a desire for Parksville to become a walkable, vibrant, well-

Phase 2

Where do we want to go?

With the insights gained from Phase 1, we move into the second phase of the transportation master plan process which is *where do we want to go?* During this phase, we will forecast future demands based on the Official Community Plan and other projections of growth within the City and broader region and assess the impacts to the transportation network.

Phase 2 begins with a second public engagement session for residents on Tuesday, March 5 where we will present the emerging recommendations to receive input and adjust our approach based on community input and this engagement will be captured in *What We Heard* report #2. This phase will explore opportunities to address identified challenges and meet community priorities, with recommended approaches developed and assessed. An online survey will also be provided in Phase 2 engagement.

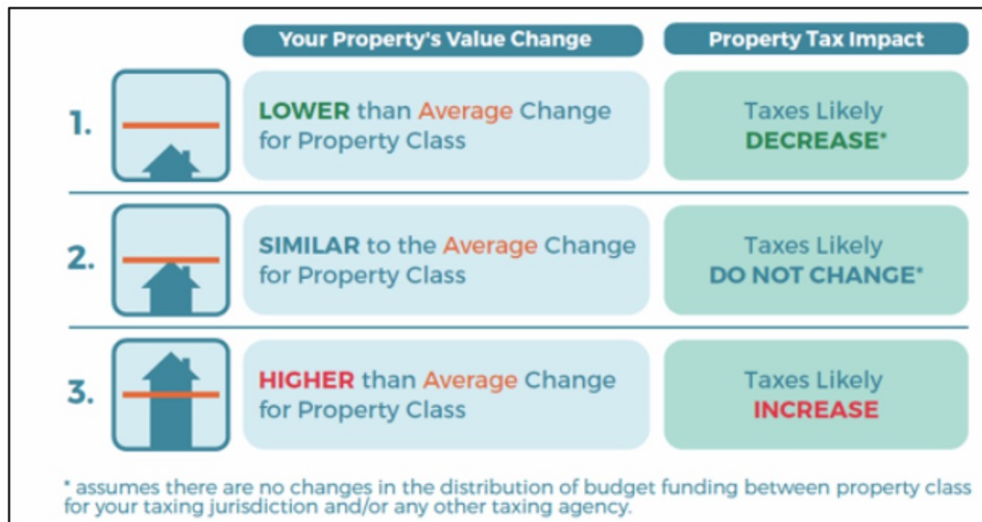
[More Info](#)

connected, and accessible community with a small-town feel. The report and information will soon be available on *Let's Talk Parksville*.

Understanding Your BC Property Assessment Notice

This month, Parksville property owners will receive their 2024 assessment notices from the BC Assessment Authority. 2024 property assessments reflect market value as of July 1, 2023, and the average increase in property values for your class of property is shown on the assessment notice.

We encourage property owners to visit [BC Assessment Authority](#) to search your property, compare assessments and review recent sales of nearby properties to determine if your assessment is reasonable. The deadline to appeal your 2024 assessment through BC Assessment is January 31, 2024. Should you have questions about your assessment, contact BC Assessment at 1 866 825-8322.



Special Events

We are now accepting applications from organizations and individuals wishing to hold special events at City-owned venues or on City streets; review process starts January 31. Annual events will be given priority provided the request is received by January 31, after which time applications will be addressed as first-time events on a first-come, first-served basis, based on availability. After January 31, applications must be received at least thirty days prior to the event. Policy and forms are available on our [website](#). More information at 250 248-5412 or ops@parksville.ca.

Business Licences

Business licence renewals are due January 31 and fees which remain unpaid after January 31 will be subject to fines. Please direct questions to biz@parksville.ca or 250 954-4650 and payment options are listed here:

- Credit card (Visa or Mastercard) payments from our [website](#)
- By mail (P O Box 1390, Parksville V9P 2H3)
- Dropbox (100 Jensen Avenue East)
- In-person (weekdays, 8 am to 4 pm)

2024 Dog Licences

Dog licences are required for all dogs older than six months in the City of Parksville. Due by January 31 and after January 31, Fido will cost you more. Until January 31, spayed/neutered \$20 and \$30 for un-spayed or un-neutered. The rate increases to \$25 and \$35 after January 31. Tags must be purchased in-person from City Hall (Monday to Friday, 8 am to 4 pm) and the BCSPCA (Tuesday to Saturday, noon to 4 pm).

Parksville Pooch Photo Contest

We'd love to see photos of your pooches and hope you will share with us on social media. Photos will be entered into a draw to win one of two dog licences and some doggie treats. Don't wait to renew, we will refund if you win! Contest is open to February 29 with



two ways to enter:

- Visit our [Facebook](#) page - Upload the photo in the comments section on any contest-related post.
- Upload photo on [Instagram](#) or [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#) . Use hashtag #parkvillepooch and tag @parkvillecity on Instagram and @City_Parkville on X.

REMINDERS AND THINGS TO KNOW...

- **Recycle BC pop-up depot** in Parksville will continue through 2024, accepting free of charge – flexible plastic packaging, white and coloured foam packaging, glass packaging and paper packaging and cardboard. Materials may be dropped off from 10 am to 3 pm at 1080 Industrial Way, Parksville. For dates and more info visit Recycle BC [website](#).

WORKING FOR US!

Employment opportunities at the City of Parksville are posted regularly.

CLICK HERE and check us out!



CITY DATES

January 15	Council and Financial Plan
January 22	Parksville Fire Recruitment Open Practice
January 24	Committee of the Whole (Financial Plan)
January 29	Special Council Meeting (Financial Plan)
February 5	Council Meeting
February 12	Special Council Meeting (Financial Plan)
February 19	Family Day (offices closed)
February 21	Council Meeting
March 1	Application deadline for Parksville firefighter
March 4	Regular Council Meeting
March 5	Transportation Master Plan Open House
March 18	Council Meeting
March 29	Good Friday (offices closed)
April 1	Easter Monday (offices closed)
April 3	Council Meeting
April 8	Committee of the Whole (Financial Plan)
April 15	Council Meeting
April 22	Special Council Meeting

COMING UP AT COUNCIL

Monday, January 15 at 1 pm

[Agendas](#) | [Minutes](#) | [Reports](#)

For more information:

Deb Tardiff, Manager of Communications
250 954-3073; communications@parkville.ca

parkville.ca | letstalkparkville.ca



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