

## Budget Consultation Dates

Monday, March 25, 2024 –  
Special Committee of the Whole  
Monday, April 15, 2024 –  
Committee of the Whole  
Monday, April 22, 2024 – Regular  
Council Meeting  
Monday, May 6, 2024 – Regular  
Council Meeting  
2024 Budget Meeting Agendas  
are available from  
[www.highlands.ca](http://www.highlands.ca) on Friday prior  
to the meeting date.

Council invites you to get involved  
and attend these important council  
meetings. We will be examining the  
financial details while doing our best  
to balance the cost of our plans  
against rising inflation pressures.



## Highlands Broom Bash ALL OF MAY

Cut Broom in bloom. Don't pull.  
Deliver your cut broom to the field  
behind the Community Garden off  
Finlayson Arm Rd.  
Drop off open every Saturday in May  
from 8-12pm.

We encourage all landowners to cut  
the broom at their  
roadside. Take ownership of your  
section of road.  
We will pick up for you until May 31.  
Contact Paul: 250-478-7885

## Highlands Fire Firefighters Association

### It's an emergency! Can we find your address in the dark?

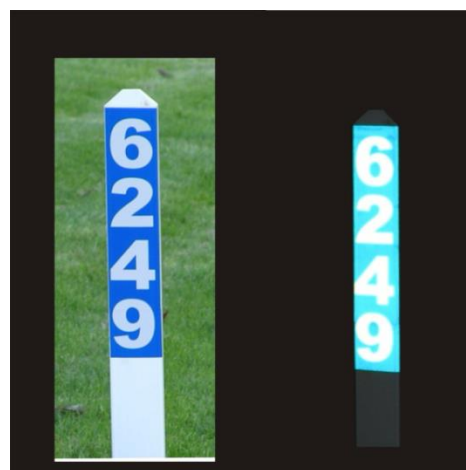
Calls for the Fire Department cover all sorts of emergencies from Medical  
Emergencies, Fires, Motor Vehicle Incidents, Downed Power Lines, Trail  
Rescues, Public Safety, and many more.

When we are responding to these emergencies, it's often at night and in  
poor weather conditions, and we are trying to find your address as quickly  
as possible!

Can we easily see it? Is it in the open near the road? Is it reflective? Are  
the colours visible in the dark? And can we see it from both directions?

Emergency personnel will have a  
difficult time finding you in the  
dark if you have an address sign  
that is not reflective or visible  
from BOTH directions. Precious  
minutes could be wasted as they  
try to find you on a dark road.

We encourage all residents to  
consider improving their signage  
by having high visibility  
reflective double-sided signs that  
can be seen coming from either  
direction.



Daytime

Nighttime

Our Association is working with a supplier to prepare address signs that  
will make your home easier to find in all conditions. Our volunteer  
firefighters are happy to come to your residence and recommend an  
optimum sign solution for your location and we will also help with  
installation, if needed.

We will be offering a double-sided address marker to identify your  
house and driveway. The sign will cost \$65 and is to be installed into  
the ground via 2 steel posts, with contrasting reflective silver numbering  
on a blue background. These signs have proven to be highly visible in  
low light conditions. All net proceeds will be donated to Muscular  
Dystrophy Canada.

If you are interested, please contact us at Highlands Firefighters  
Association:

[HVFFA@outlook.com](mailto:HVFFA@outlook.com) or 250-508-3479

# Community and Council News

## 2024 District of Highlands Property Taxes and 2024 Home Owner Grants

Property tax notices will be mailed at the end of May with Property Taxes being due by July 2, 2024. Should you need to update your mailing address, please call the District Office at 250-474-1773 or email [finance@highlands.ca](mailto:finance@highlands.ca) as soon as possible.

Your Provincial Home Owner Grant must be claimed every year by July 2, 2024 to avoid penalties. Eligible property owners can apply for their grants on the Province's website at [gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant](http://gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant) or by calling toll-free to 1-888-355-2700 to speak with an agent.



Office

## 2024 Provincial Speculation and Vacancy Tax

Please note that the **Provincial Speculation and Vacancy Tax Program** is different than the Provincial Homeowner Grant Program and that both need to be claimed separately.

Declaration letters were mailed in January by the Province. The declaration deadline is March 31, 2024. Every owner of a property must declare every year.

## Backyard Burning

Please note that burn permits are required for ALL outdoor burning, campfires, incinerators etc:

<https://hvf.d.burnpermits.com/>



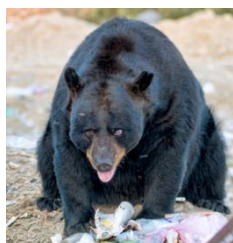
Before resorting to burning:

- Recycle through your local program or at a collection facility.
- Check what other disposal options are available for the material you want to burn.
- Compost instead of burning leaves and clippings.
- Hire tree trimming companies to dispose of land clearing debris.
- Woody material could be turned into wood chips, particle board, wood pellets, or fuel for cogeneration plants.
- Make sure the [weather and venting conditions](#) are appropriate for burning.
- Don't burn prohibited materials. [More Information](#)

## Are You Bear Aware?

- Remove or secure attractants.
- Do not store garbage or other organic waste outdoors.
- If you have curbside collection, only put the containers out on the morning of collection day - never the night before.
- Make sure recyclables have been cleaned.
- Pick fruit early and do not let windfall accumulate.
- Avoid feeding birds when bears are most active (April to November) and ensure birdfeeders are always inaccessible to non-target species such as squirrels and raccoons. Do not let seed that may attract rats and other rodents accumulate.

Wildsafe B.C. <https://wildsafebc.com/>





### SPRING MARKET

The Highlands Market Returns!

**Market dates - June 9<sup>th</sup> / July 14<sup>th</sup> / August 11<sup>th</sup>, and at the Fling**

There will be veggies, plants, baking, eggs, garden sculpture, embroidered items, crocheted animals, wood products, soaps, driftwood hearts, local wool blankets & shawls, and much, much more!



**Caleb Pike Heritage Park**  
**1589 Millstream Rd**

Come, meet your neighbours and take the opportunity to buy wonderful local goods and produce!

## 2024 Greater Victoria Flower Count

The 49th annual Flower Count will take place from March 6<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>. This event encourages residents and students in each municipality to count blooms in their community and upload their totals to [www.flowercount.com](http://www.flowercount.com).

# Community and Council News

## Highlands Easter Egg Hunt



**MARCH 31** **11:00 am**



**Highlands Annual  
- Easter Egg Hunt -**  
All Highlanders and guests are welcome

**Caleb Pike House | Easter Sunday  
1589 Millstream Rd | March 31 11AM**

**Please bring "nut-free" treats to hide**  
For more information, please visit the HDCA Facebook page



**On Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Highlands Music Coffee House** is delighted to bring a concert with **Rainshadow AI** to Caleb Pike House (address: 1589 Millstream Rd., Highlands) Doors open at 6:30. Come and catch up with new and old friends, we will start the music at 7:00 pm.

**Upcoming...**

**April 13 - Ryton Rigg**

**May 11 - Ukes Misbehavin**

**June 8 - Hank Kramer**

contact Zhinoos at:

[zhinoos219@gmail.com](mailto:zhinoos219@gmail.com)

## You are invited to the 13th Annual SPRING POTLUCK & SCOTTISH DANCE

**Saturday, March 2nd**

**Highlands Community Hall, 729 Finlayson Arm Rd**

Sponsored by the Highland Heritage Park Society. **Free to attend!!**



**The potluck supper begins at 6 pm**

Please bring your own plates, cutlery, drinking vessel, beverage and a delicious dish to share. Tea and coffee will be provided.



**The dance begins at 7:30 pm**

Mary Ross will provide the live music and Bob Anderson will lead us through the dance steps.

Let us know whether you and a partner and any children want to join the fun - either supper and dance, supper only or dance only. Please RSVP Feb 29th.

If you have any friends who might enjoy the occasion, please send us their email or phone number so that they can be invited.

**RSVP to:**

**Ingo Lambrecht** [ingomail@gmail.com](mailto:ingomail@gmail.com) **250-708-3332**  
**or Bob McMinn** [bobmcminn@shaw.ca](mailto:bobmcminn@shaw.ca) **250-478-4403**



## Highlands Information at your fingertips!

You simply sign up for items such as: agendas, minutes, news alerts and events posted to the community calendar and an alert will be directed to either your cell phone or email account informing you of the new item. Sign up by visiting [highlands.ca](http://highlands.ca).



**Notify Me®**  
Sign up to receive  
notifications

# Volunteer with Emergency Support Services

Interested in being part of an emergency response team that would support Highlands residents in the event of a disaster? The District of Highlands is looking for Emergency Support Services (ESS) volunteers. ESS is a community-based volunteer emergency response program that provides short term support to individuals and families affected by disasters, whether that be a single house fire or a major disaster. The goal of ESS is to help people begin to re-establish themselves as quickly as possible following a disaster. An ESS volunteer plays an important role by providing basic needs such as:

- Referrals for food, clothing, and lodging.
- Information updates that are accurate, current, and relevant.
- Family reunification.
- Multicultural services.
- Childcare.
- Pet services.



As an ESS volunteer you would be part of a team that would provide essential services and support in your community during a time of need, and a valued member of ESS providers on the South Island with access to many opportunities for networking and training exercises.

Please contact me if you have questions or if you are interested!

Sally Gose, ESS Director District of Highlands [ess@highlands.ca](mailto:ess@highlands.ca)

*ESS is coordinated and funded by Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) and training is provided at no cost through in-person or on-line courses. The courses are offered through the Justice Institute of BC and are taught by professionals with years of practical experience in the field. The courses are brief and concise and include an introduction to ESS as part of EMCR response to disasters, how to register evacuees and make referrals, and how to set up a reception centre. More information is available at: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-management/local-emergency-programs/volunteers/emergency-support-services>*

## Meeting Dates

### March

Council – Monday, March 4 – 7:00pm  
Committee of the Whole – Monday, March 11 – 7:00pm  
Social Sustainability Select Committee - Tuesday, March 12 – 7:00pm  
Heritage Select Committee - Wednesday, March 13 – 7:30pm  
Council – Monday, March 18 – 7:00pm  
Sustainable Land Use Select Committee - Wednesday, March 20 – 7:15pm  
Special Committee of the Whole - Monday, March 25 – 7:00pm  
Good Friday Holiday – Friday, March 29

### April

Easter Holiday – Monday, April 1  
Council – Monday, April 8 – 7:00pm  
Social Sustainability Select Committee - Tuesday, April 9 – 7:00pm  
Heritage Select Committee – Wednesday, April 10 – 7:30pm  
Committee of the Whole – Monday, April 15 – 7:00pm  
Council – Monday, April 22 – 7:00pm  
Sustainable Land Use Select Committee – Wednesday, April 24 – 7:15pm

### May

Council – Monday, May 6 – 7:00pm  
Heritage Select Committee – Wednesday, May 8 – 7:30pm  
Committee of the Whole – Monday, May 13 – 7:00pm  
Social Sustainability Select Committee - Tuesday, April 14 – 7:00pm  
Sustainable Land Use Select Committee – Wednesday, April 15 – 7:15pm  
Victoria Day Holiday – Monday, May 20  
Council – Tuesday, May 21 – 7:00pm

Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour on Sunday, March 10th for daylight savings time. It is also recommended that you test your smoke alarms and replace the batteries to ensure that they are functioning properly.

## Contact Info:

Mayor Ken Williams  
[kwilliams@highlands.ca](mailto:kwilliams@highlands.ca)  
250-882-5481

Councillor Leslie Anderson  
[leslie.corvidconsulting@gmail.com](mailto:leslie.corvidconsulting@gmail.com)  
778-350-8180

Councillor Ann Baird  
[ann@eco-sense.ca](mailto:ann@eco-sense.ca)  
250-812-5481

Councillor Gord Baird  
[gord.baird@gmail.com](mailto:gord.baird@gmail.com)  
250-818-7986

Councillor Marcie McLean  
[marciemclean@shaw.ca](mailto:marciemclean@shaw.ca)  
250-474-4725

Councillor Karel Roessingh  
[karel@roessong.com](mailto:karel@roessong.com)  
250-727-9808

Councillor Rose Stanton  
[rose26@telus.net](mailto:rose26@telus.net)  
250-474-3403

Fire Chief Ford  
[firechief@highlands.ca](mailto:firechief@highlands.ca)  
250-920-6970

Municipal Office  
[info@highlands.ca](mailto: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