

Thank you for celebrating the holidays with us!

The holidays are all about spending time with family and friends, and we were grateful to have so many families join us to enjoy the Christmas Light Up, Hot Chocolate Pop Up, Forest Lights, and Meadow Park Sparkle Tunnels.



Special thanks to our community-minded Colwood sponsors and partners who helped make holiday events possible:

PC Urban | GableCraft Homes | Red Barn Market | Royal Bay Bakery |

West Shore Parks & Recreation | Arts & Culture Colwood |

Music: Sangster Elementary | Wishart Elementary | David Cameron Elementary |

Chrysalis Acapella Ensemble | Royal Bay Secondary

Have you picked up your 2023 Colwood Calendar?

A limited supply of 2023 Colwood Calendars are available to purchase at City Hall for just \$5 with \$1 of each sale going towards the Goldstream Food Bank.

The calendar is created each year from photos submitted by community members. We are always blown away by the fantastic photos we receive and are happy to create this calendar showcasing the beauty of Colwood. Thank you to everyone who participated!



We love to hear from you.

Subscribe at [Colwood.ca/Subscribe](https://www.colwood.ca/Subscribe) and follow @CityofColwood on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram.
www.colwood.ca | 3300 Wishart Road | Colwood, BC | V9C 1R1 | 250.478.5999

Community Connections

West Shore Parks & Recreation
1767 Island Highway, 250-478-8384

Juan de Fuca Public Library
1759 Island Highway, 250-940-4875

School District 62
3143 Jacklin Road, 250-474-9800

West Shore Child, Youth & Family Centre
345 Wale Road, 250-391-4320

Pacific Centre Family Services Association
324 Goldstream Avenue, 250-478-8357

Juan de Fuca Seniors (55+) Association
1767 Island Highway, 250-474-8618

Branch Drop-Off Dates

FIRST AND THIRD SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH

Saturday, February 4

Saturday, February 18

Council Meetings

SECOND & FOURTH MONDAY OF THE MONTH 6:30PM

February 13 and 27

March 13 and 27

April 11 and 24

May 8 and 23

City meeting agendas, reports, minutes, & videos

[WWW.COLWOOD.CA/MEETINGS](https://www.colwood.ca/meetings)

City Hall Closures

Family Day - February 20

Good Friday - April 7

Easter Monday - April 10

Victoria Day - May 22

*Dates may be subject to change after publication.
Please confirm all dates at [Colwood.ca](https://www.colwood.ca)*

Colwood Connection

Showcasing our spectacular seaside community and encouraging you to get involved.

Winter 2023

Did you participate in the Citizen Survey?

The City of Colwood conducts a citizen satisfaction survey to help Council and staff better understand the needs and expectations of our community. It is an opportunity for residents to share their views about the quality of life in Colwood, which city services are most important to them, and where there is need for improvement.

Findings from the Citizen Survey will inform the City's 2023 strategic planning process to guide short term and long term priorities. The information will also be compared with previous data to evaluate the impact of improvements over time.

Get the details at [Colwood.ca/CitizenSurvey](https://www.colwood.ca/CitizenSurvey)



What matters to you
most
about life in Colwood?

IDEAS FAIR

A COLWOOD TOWN HALL EVENT

Don't miss the Ideas Fair at Royal Bay secondary on Saturday, February 11 at Royal Bay Secondary School!

It's an exciting, interactive opportunity for Colwood residents to engage in conversations and share ideas with Council, staff and each other on a number of topics:

Seniors | Youth | Health | Arts & Culture | Traffic | Sewer Service | Big Ideas

There will be a station for each topic with a staff facilitator and activities to help residents understand some of the considerations and share their views in interactive ways.

“As a new Mayor and Council, our focus is on listening to residents to deepen our understanding of their wants, needs and expectations,” said Mayor Kobayashi. “One way we hope to do that is by hosting an Ideas Fair that focuses on a number of important topics, including: Seniors, Youth, Arts & Culture and Health, as well as Traffic and Sewer Services.”

Event: Colwood Ideas Fair

Date: Saturday, February 11, 2023

Time: 2pm to 7pm – drop in any time

Place: Royal Bay Secondary School 3500 Ryder Hesjedal Way

Learn more at [Colwood.ca/TownHalls](https://www.colwood.ca/TownHalls)



www.colwood.ca | 3300 Wishart Road | Colwood, BC | V9C 1R1 | 250.478.5999

Like any business or household, the needs and expectations of a municipality are often greater than what can be afforded at one time. Difficult choices must be made based on the priorities of the community and Council. The goal is to deliver a high level of service that strikes a balance between household prosperity and city-building initiatives that will improve quality of life while optimizing our tax base.

BUDGET 2023

2023 SERVICE REVIEW fast facts

Current Rate of Inflation*
6.7%
*City of Colwood, Nov 2022

Draft Budget Increase

Proposed Tax Increase for CITY SERVICES
3.6%

ADD: Policing
2.9%

ADD: Sustainable Infrastructure Reserve
1.0%

Budget Process

- 1 Service Review
January
- 2 Budget Discussions
February
- 3 Financial Plan
March
- 4 Tax Rate
April

Each year, staff facilitate a Service Review process to reaffirm Council's service expectations and clarify priorities for the coming year. Following the Service Review, a draft financial plan is prepared for review and discussion in a series of public meetings. Colwood residents are encouraged to attend meetings to learn more and provide input. Feedback is also welcome by email to finance@colwood.ca

Upcoming Budget Discussion Meetings:

- February 7
- February 9
- February 21
- February 23

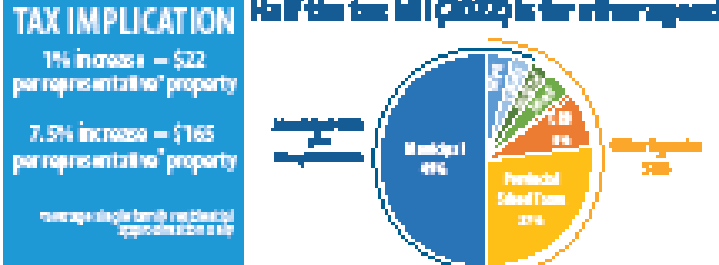
www.Colwood.ca/Budget

Proposed cost of City services reviewed to date

SERVICE AREA	COST/RESIDENT
Public Works	\$62.35
Parks, Trails & Rec + Boulevards	\$140.45
Finance + IT + GIS	\$83.86
Roads + Storm Sewers	\$66.82
Fire/Rescue	\$120.71
Building & Bylaw	\$4.26
Admin & Corporate Services + HR	\$112.27
Communications	\$16.28
Engineering	\$19.71
Development Services	\$21.80
Community Planning	\$69.44
Police	\$263.88

Colwood Demographic Overview

PEOPLE	HOUSEHOLDS	INCOME
Home to 20,863* Residents <small>910 (4.3%) are seniors</small>	7,688 Households	Median Total Household Income in 2021
Population growth 2016-2021 12.5% +2.5% per year	73% Own 27% Rent	\$102,000
Median Age 42.3	Average Household Size 2.5	\$93,000
		\$84,000



The Commons - Spring Opening

The vibrant retail village, The Commons, located at the heart of Royal Bay will soon bring over 76,000 sq. ft of retail space to our community.



The Commons has been under construction since early 2022, and is nearing completion.

Look forward to Cascadia Liquor, Quality Foods, and more, opening this spring!

Visit the business directory on our website for the ever growing list of businesses that call Colwood home.

www.Colwood.ca/BusinessDirectory

Emergency Communications Amateur Radio Operators

Colwood has a dedicated group of volunteer amateur radio operators who are ready to jump into action and serve our community in an emergency. These volunteers put in many hours keeping their skills sharp and equipment ready. During life and death situations, radio operators are there to provide critical communications. Because their radios can operate using generators, batteries or solar power and are not internet dependent, they can function when all other means of communication have failed.

Building on the successful merger of the Colwood and View Royal Emergency Support Services Teams in 2008, Council recently approved a plan to support and strengthen this service by joining with the View Royal radio operators.



Learn more at www.Colwood.ca/EmergencyPlanning

Volunteer to Help Shape Your Community

Apply now to be part of a committee in an area that interests you. Most committees meet just four times per year so you're able to help shape your community without a huge time commitment. Seeking volunteers committee members for the following seven areas:



- Parks, Trails, and Recreation
- Environment
- Waterfront Stewardship
- Active Transportation
- Planning and Land Use
- Board of Variance
- Heritage Commission

Deadline for applications is February 17, 2023.
For details visit: www.Colwood.ca/CommitteeVolunteer or call 250-294-8141

Climate Action Plan

Colwood is working to involve you in the creation of a plan that will guide our climate change efforts.



The goal is to develop actions that multi-solve. Taking actions that reduce emissions and prepare us for climate changes at the same time will help to ensure we advance other community priorities.

The strategies outlined in the draft plan are designed to help the City reach targets of 30% emissions reductions by 2030, and become a net zero community by 2050.

We need your input! Are the targets appropriate? Not quick enough?

See how the plan has progressed, review the draft plan, and share your thoughts at:

www.LetsTalkColwood.ca/LowCarbon

GO CO Catch a ride, Share the cost, Help the planet

Have you discovered the GOCO ridesharing app yet? Download now from the app store to connect with others who are traveling in the same direction! It's a great way to share the cost of gas, decrease the number of cars on the road and reduce emissions that contribute to climate change.



GOCO makes it easy for people to travel to the same university, office, or facility to rideshare and save on gas. Often, GOCO users will know each other, being from the same neighbourhood and heading to a common destination.

It's not just for drivers! Folks who cycle or walk can share their routes, tips and tricks with others who are interested in an active commute.

www.Colwood.ca/GOCO

our parks HAVENWOOD LATORIA CREEK

Planning the Future of Parks

With your help, we're in the final stage of creating the Latoria Creek Park Management Plan and updating the Havenwood Park Management Plan. These plans will guide decision-making over the next 10 years.



- Phase 1 - we asked for your feedback on potential park improvements, issues, and opportunities
- Phase 2 - thoughts and ideas were shared related to visions, guiding principles, and conceptual plans
- **Now in Phase 3** - Draft Park Management Plans are available for public review and comment

Read the draft plans and share your comments before February 15:

www.LetsTalkColwood.ca/OurParks

Connect with Colwood!

- Report an issue at Colwood.ca/ActionRequest
- Subscribe for email updates at Colwood.ca/Subscribe
- Follow @CityofColwood on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram