

PEACHLAND News

2025

In Review



Construction started on the new childcare centre



Launched Summer Series concerts in Heritage Park



Fought not one, not two but THREE wildfires in Peachland



Opened the new Peachland to West Kelowna Multi-Use Trail

*Let's take
a look
at some
highlights
from 2025*



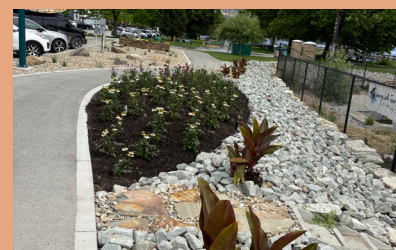
Completed construction of Sanderson Dog Park



Completed the multi-phase Turner Park Improvements



Opened the visitor centre in renovated Peachland Museum



Spruced up the south end of Centennial Way

District of Peachland Council and staff are deeply saddened by the loss of Deputy Mayor Keith "Papa" Thom who passed away on November 6, 2025.

A Celebration of Life in Keith's honour will be held on Saturday, January 24, 2026 at the Peachland Community Centre. Watch peachland.ca for more details.

Please see Mayor Patrick Van Minsel's tribute to Keith on page 4.



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peachland.ca/subscribe

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@districtofpeachland



Business Licence Renewal

Peachland business owners have until December 31 to renew their annual business licence. This includes home-based businesses, short-term rentals and non-profits. Non-profits are charged a nominal rate of \$1/year for the licence which establishes requirements for fire and life safety inspections.

New businesses must submit an application form and the application fee. The application fee will be deducted from the remaining cost of the business licence if approved.

Find the application and more information at peachland.ca/business-licensing. Questions? Contact us at bylaw@peachland.ca or call 250-767-2647.



Snow & Ice Removal

Residents are responsible for clearing snow and ice from sidewalks in front of their property as soon as possible following a snowfall.

Get more information including our plowing priorities at peachland.ca/snow-removal

Winter Holiday Closures

Peachland Municipal Hall, 5806 Beach Avenue, will be closed for the holidays beginning Thursday, December 25, with normal operations resuming Friday, January 2, 2026.

Residents can access District of Peachland information and online services by visiting peachland.ca.

Police and fire services will remain in operation during the closure, as will essential services including snow removal and water and sewer services.

For urgent road, water, sewer or parks matters, please contact 888-804-0666



The Peachland Community Centre will be closed Dec. 25 to 28, and on January 1, 2026.

It will open during the Christmas break for Pickleball Drop-in as follows:

- Dec. 22, 23, 24, 29, 30, 31 and Jan. 2.
- 9 to 11 am: All Play
 - 11:15 am to 1:15 pm: Level 3 to 3.5
 - 1:30 to 3:30 pm: Level 3.75+

Regular hours resume on Sunday, Jan. 4, 2026.

11th Annual Christmas Tree Chipping for Charity

January 3, 2026
10 am to 2 pm

Peachland Community Centre



Peachland Fire & Rescue is teaming up with Sunbelt Rentals for its annual Christmas Tree Chipping Event. Bring your tree for chipping and disposal for a donation. For a minimum donation of \$5, the Fire Department will come to your home and pick up your tree! Contact Peachland Fire & Rescue for pick up and donation information (e-transfers available). 250-767-2841 or email fireclerk@peachland.ca. Please ensure all decorations and tinsel are removed from your tree before chipping.

All proceeds go to Muscular Dystrophy Canada.

Fire trucks on display!

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The best way to stay informed about the District of Peachland. Subscribe for email notification about news, events.

peachland.ca/subscribe



Go Paperless!

Sign up to check your property tax and utility balances online



peachland.ca/online-services

Holiday Waste Collection

Expect some changes to your curbside waste collection this holiday period. Garbage, recycling and yard waste will not be collected on Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25 or New Year's Day, Thursday, January 1, 2026.

As a result, curbside pick-up moves ahead one day for those with Wednesday, Thursday or Friday collection during the last week of December and the first week of January. Put your bins out for collection the day following your typical pick-up day during these two weeks.

rdco.com/recycle



Find tips for proper placement of waste carts in winter at rdco.com/recycle

Don't get on the naughty list!

Keep these out of your recycling cart:

- * ribbons & bows * foil gift wrap
- * padded envelopes * toys * lights * batteries *
- * plastic bags * glass *

Still time for that yard clean-up

Peachland residents still have time to get their yard waste collected before winter. Bi-weekly curbside yard waste collection continues until the end of December. There is no yard waste collection in January or February. Residents are reminded to put yard waste, garbage and recycling out for collection by 7 am on the morning of pick-up. DO NOT put waste bins on the curb overnight as this may attract wildlife. Get more information at rdco.com



Drop in to our Fitness Room at Peachland Community Centre

The Fitness Room at Peachland Community Centre is equipped with cardio machines, a universal cable machine, three benches, dumbbells, a pull-up bar, a squat rack with bars, kettlebells, Plyo boxes, and medicine balls. Come by the Community Centre and one of our staff members will be happy to give you a tour! Our fitness room is available for drop-in or you can buy monthly or yearly passes. 14+ and paid members only, no guests. Hours are Monday to Sunday 5 am to 10 pm. Get more information at

peachland.ca/parks-recreation/fitness-room



WINTER 2026 Recreation Guide

We have a new software system! We're hosting drop-in events at the Peachland Community Centre to assist you in creating your Xplor Recreation account.

Dec. 8 @ 11:30 am - 12:30 pm
Dec. 10 @ 2:30 - 3:30 pm
Dec. 11 @ 4:30 - 5:30 pm

Peachland's WINTER 2026 Recreation Guide is available Dec. 12. Registration opens for residents on Dec. 15 at 9 am and non-residents on Dec. 16 at 9 am

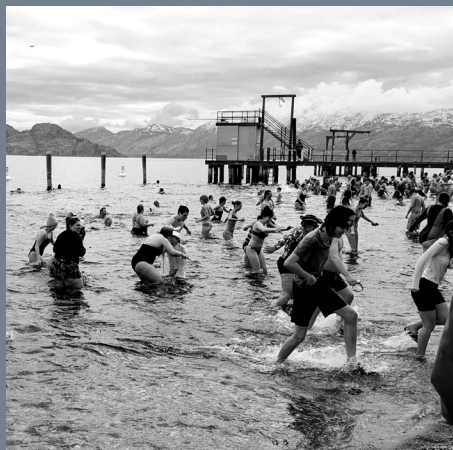


peachland.ca/recguide

Christmas Social with Marty Edwards and special guest, Craig Brown

Friday, December 19, 2025, 10 to 11:30 am at the Peachland Community Centre. Join Marty and Craig for a very special Christmas celebration as they perform seasonal and non-seasonal favourites. Event is free and goodies will be provided.

peachland.ca/recreation



New Year's Polar Bear Dip

Thursday, January 1, 2026, Swim Bay, Beach Avenue and 6th Street.

Event is free. Swim starts at 1 pm, registration is from 12 to 12:45 pm.

peachland.ca/recreation

2026 Budget Open House

Tuesday, February 25, 2026
Mark your calendars for this session to review the draft 2026 financial plan with Council.

peachland.ca



Mayor's Message

A tribute to a
colleague and friend



Patrick
Van Minsel

It was with heavy hearts that we announced the passing of Councillor Keith "Papa" Thom, who died on November 6, 2025. Keith was far more than a colleague—he was a dear friend, a steady presence, and a passionate ambassador for our town of Peachland. Over years of service—both on Council and in the community—he touched countless lives through his warmth, his music, his generous spirit, and his dedication.

Our thoughts are with his beloved wife, Mary Lynn, know that we are here for you in this difficult time. Our deepest condolences also go out to his family, his children Fiona, Andrew, and Rachael, grandsons Maxwell and Carson, stepchildren Charles, Alexander, and Mathew.

First elected to Council in 2014 and re-elected in 2022 for another term, Keith also served as Deputy Mayor, applying his voice and his values to local government with a rare combination of heart and purpose. He brought to the table his experience in business, construction, and adult education, tempered by the compassion of an artist.

Outside of the Council Chambers, he was known as "Papa Thom" — a beloved folksinger, songwriter and performer who used his musical platform to give back. Through his live-streamed performances and fundraising, he raised thousands of dollars for food banks during the pandemic. His charitable efforts extended to supporting local seniors, community groups, and arts initiatives.

Keith believed in looking for the good in people, in bridging divides and building relationships. He led with kindness and diplomacy—whether advocating for sustainable programs, asking tough questions of business licensing or representing our community at the regional level with the Southern Interior Local Government Association. Because of his steady leadership as Deputy Mayor, Council accomplished far more than we might otherwise have.

While no words can fully express the loss we feel at the passing of such a committed, generous, and talented person, we hold tight to the memory of his service, his music, his kindness, and his enduring love for Peachland. He will be missed—deeply—by his colleagues, his friends, his family, and the community he cherished.

In honour of Keith's legacy, let us continue to work together as he always encouraged: with open hearts, respectful dialogue, and a shared commitment to this place we all call home.

Keith's passion was raising funds to support the homeless and the un-housed. In that spirit of generosity, a donation to the Peachland Food Bank in his memory would be most welcome. A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, January 24, 2026 to honour his memory.

Warmly, Mayor Patrick Van Minsel

Council Highlights

November 4, 2025 REGULAR MEETING

Ponderosa Developments - Rise & Report

Mayor Van Minsel reported that Council passed a motion at an in-camera meeting that any development submission for the North Golf Course Area in the Ponderosa neighbourhood must include a nine-hole golf course and that Council will enforce the terms of the existing covenant that exists for the South Golf Course Area. This covenant stipulates that a monthly penalty of \$100,000 will be applied for failure to complete the golf course by November 1, 2025. Council also indicated that no further extensions will be granted.

Traffic Surveillance Cameras

Council directed staff to bring a report to Council about the implementation of traffic surveillance cameras at the two main entry points to downtown Peachland, the intersection of 13th Street and Beach Avenue, and the intersection of Princeton Street and Beach Avenue. Council requested the cameras operate 24 hours a day recording vehicles entering and leaving the downtown core. Recorded footage should be retained for a maximum of 28 days, consistent with current Peachland policy, after which it shall be securely purged. Access to the recorded footage be restricted to CAO, Corporate Officer and RCMP, consistent with current Peachland policy. Councillor Randy Brophy raised the notice of motion on the matter at a previous council meeting.

November 4 & 12, 2025 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETINGS

Official Community Plan Workshops

Council took part in two workshops as part of its minor review of the Official Community Plan (OCP). The review is expected to improve the clarity of the OCP, adopted in 2018, and its Land Use Designations (LUDs). The public engagement conducted in Summer 2025 indicated key findings including the need for affordable and diverse housing, downtown revitalization, local business support, safer transportation and environmental protection. The population projection in the current OCP is unrealistically high and the growth management strategy should be adjusted. Council discussed LUDs and made recommendations to clarify the characterizations. These designations are not rigid and are open for interpretation based on site context, especially with the variety of properties in Peachland. The Committee of the Whole will recommend that Council direct staff to proceed with preparation of a draft revised OCP containing the updated LUDs. An updated draft OCP will be presented to Council in early 2026 followed by a public consultation session.



Randy
Brophy



Dave
Collins

Peachland Council

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UPCOMING REGULAR COUNCIL MEETINGS

November 25
December 9
January 13, 2026

January 27
February 10
February 24

Regular Council meetings begin at 3 pm in Council Chambers, Peachland Community Centre, 4450 6th St. The public is welcome to attend or view live and archived meetings via webcast.

[peachland.ca](http://peachland.ca/council)
/council

