

March 22, 2019



# Village Update

Your Weekly News & Updates

## Updates from Mayor and Council

### From the Mayor's Desk

Hello Lions Bay,

Last month my eldest son, Richard, told Mary and me that he and his family will be returning to Canada after 8 years in Hong Kong. Great news! What we didn't expect is that they would really be returning home as in buying a home in Lions Bay down the street from us. Wow! We didn't see that coming. In addition to us being the winners, Lions Bay School will have our two grandchildren in attendance in September, and there will be new volunteer recruits arriving in the 'hood!

The final review of the 2019 Preliminary Budget Report ([here](#)) occurred this week. Following discussion my motion passed unanimously to increase taxes by 13% and have it become part of the Five Year Financial Plan. This will come forward for first and second readings on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Each year after this one Council will debate taxes based on operational needs and infrastructure requirements. Legislatively we need to balance our budget (no deficits); 3% covers this and I don't see this reducing. Throughout Lions Bay's history we have been focused on providing the operational essentials, and maintaining a low tax rate. Unfortunately, there is an estimated \$24.8 million of replacement infrastructure work needing to be done over the next 30 years or so to keep us at our current state of repair. Taxation is part of the revenue source to fund this, in addition to asset sales, internal and external borrowing,

potential senior government grants, and potential funds generated from increased density. Council takes taxing for infrastructure seriously and I am sure there will be discussion on what the money will be used for to ensure that the greatest value is derived.

Using Mary and me as an example, what does the proposed taxation increase look like? Last year our home was assessed by BCAA at \$1.75 million. While our BCAA value may have changed this year, taxation is a zero sum exercise and unless your property drastically rose in value your municipal taxation will be similar to last year. In our case gross taxes were \$4,676 of which \$2,522 was the municipal levy. If our municipal taxes go up 13%, it will cost us an additional \$328 (3% - \$76 for operations, and 10% - \$252 for infrastructure). There is no hiding the numbers. With my children moving home I understand how it affects younger families. Some home owners, such as those over 55 and others who meet certain criteria, will be able to defer their taxes if they choose to (32% deferral rate in 2018) but it's real cash any way you look at it. If our Community is to regenerate its infrastructure, taxation is one of the tools to allow us to do so. Our cash will be the first source of funds used for infrastructure spending because it is the cheapest. What this means is that you will get the benefits of it now. We don't take tax increases like this lightly. The Community has been silent since I first started to propose it a month ago. It is unsettling. We are fine if you are in agreement with our plan and stay silent, but if not or you want to show concurrence, please come to the next Council meeting.

Councillor Abbott's article follows. Please take the time to read it and participate.

Regards,  
Ron  
(604) 921 7138  
[Mayor.McLaughlin@LionsBay.ca](mailto:Mayor.McLaughlin@LionsBay.ca)

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## From the desk of **Councillor Abbott**

**Proposed Metro Vancouver Bylaw to  
Restrict the Use of Wood-burning Appliances:  
Have your say**

Last week you were informed that by 2025, Metro Vancouver is proposing to ban the use of residential wood-burning appliances that do not meet specific emission criteria, and I asked for feedback. We've had a healthy number of responses, however, we would like to hear from as many residents as possible to make sure we represent the wishes of the Village accurately. One might believe this is a fait accompli and Lions Bay residents will have to comply with the new bylaw, however, in my discussions with the Director of Air Quality at Metro, we most certainly have an opportunity to request we be exempted from complying, based on the realities of life in Lions Bay.

***The question is: as a community, do we want to comply, or do we want to be excluded?***

In case you missed it (it is Spring Break, and the great weather has arrived!):

## **How Metro's bylaw will roll out**

### ***2020: Seasonal ban begins***

- Residential wood burning heating appliances may no longer be used between May 15th and September 15th.

### ***2022 - 2025: Existing and new wood-burning appliances must be registered***

- Appliances that emit no more than 4.5 grams particulate per hour, depending on the appliance, must be registered;
- Appliances that don't meet these requirements will not be able to be registered and therefore may no longer be used after 2025.

### ***2025: Total ban of wood burning appliances, except:***

- Registered appliances that meet emission standards;
- Appliances that are the sole source of heat;
- In case of hardship;
- In areas outside the Metro Vancouver Urban Containment Boundary (UCB)

[Click here for full details of the proposed Metro bylaw \(as sent out last week\).](#)

Given that Metro Staff must draft the new legislation by the second quarter of this year, and we need to formulate a response, we would like to hear from you **no later than March 27<sup>th</sup>**.

To make things easy, there are several ways you can respond:

- we've provided a short survey in print in your mailbox, also available [online](#);
- [email input to me](#);
- use the [Feedback form](#) on our website;
- drop completed survey forms or comments in the new "Have your say" letter box you may have noticed in the Village Store, or at the Village Office.

To encourage input, you may choose to respond anonymously.

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## Updates from the Municipality



Earth Hour 2019 is March 30, 8:30 – 9:30 pm. See: <https://www.earthhour.org/>

Plan some quiet, disconnected, time with the family and reflect on our impacts on Mother Earth. What started in Sydney Australia in 2007 is now celebrated by millions worldwide. Please join in by flicking the switch, lighting some candles or firing up the BBQ.

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# HARVEY CREEK WATER TANK CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

The Harvey Creek water tank construction project is in its initial stages. Industria's construction crews have begun preparing the site for construction by moving in a construction office trailer and installing signage. Further mobilization tasks will include trucking in construction materials including lock-blocks, fencing, small and large heavy equipment. To this end:

- Expect increased traffic along Oceanview from the highway up to the top cul-de-sac;
- For hikers and dog walkers, expect heavy traffic and congestion on the gravel access road from the cul-de-sac up to the Harvey Creek tank site;
  - Please consider using alternate hiking trails during this construction project;
  - If you do proceed beyond the Oceanview gate, please keep your dogs on leash through the construction area;
- Expect dust and noise levels to increase during the daytime as demolition of the old Harvey Tank begins.

Please accept our apologies in advance and bear with us as we work through the commencement of this critical infrastructure project.

Please provide any feedback or comments to Public Works via email at [works@lionsbay.ca](mailto:works@lionsbay.ca).

Thanks for your patience and understanding.

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# IT'S TIME TO RENEW

## DOG LICENSES & BOAT SPACES

WOOF!  
(AHEM!)

REMINDER: Boat spaces and dog license renewals were due starting January 1 for this year. The **early discount payment** ends March 31 at which time fees will increase to their regular amounts:

- Dog Licenses will increase from \$30 to \$60 (spayed or neutered) and from \$60 to \$90 (unaltered);
- Boat Licenses will increase from \$125 to \$150 (note: after May 31 a boat will be seized and removed, and charged a daily fee).



# 2019 UTILITY NOTICES

The 2019 Utility Notices were mailed out on March 1. **Pay by April 1<sup>st</sup> at 4 pm** in order to qualify for the **prompt payment discount**.

The notice (for single family houses) includes a Secondary Suite Declaration. Please complete the questions in the declaration and return to the Village Office. The declaration can also be completed online on our website ([here](#)). Section 7 of the [Secondary Suite Surcharge Bylaw No. 513, 2017](#), as amended, requires all single family property owners to answer the questions on the Secondary Suite Declaration. The mailing also includes a brochure with information about secondary suites. (Click [here](#) to see brochure).

#### **Online Services:**

Residents are now able to access information regarding their utility notices and property taxes through the online service portal. The portal can be found under the Financial Services section of the Village website ([here](#)).

To set up your account, all you need is an email address, your account number and the online access code that you will find under your civic address on the front of your utility notice. Once set up, you will be able to add accounts and view and pay any outstanding bills with a credit card. Please be aware that a processing fee is applied to the payment by the third-party provider.

If you have any questions please email [accounting@lionsbay.ca](mailto:accounting@lionsbay.ca).

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*Note: All meetings take place in Council Chambers unless otherwise noted. The Village Office is open until 6:30 pm on Regular Council Meeting nights. Please check the Meeting Calendar for changes or cancellations.*

#### **Upcoming Council and Committee Meetings**

- Infrastructure Committee - March 25 at 7 pm
- Curly Stewart Memorial Award Committee - March 27 at 7 pm

Meeting Calendar

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## **What's happening in the community?**



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## **CCUNESCO**

### **Now accepting applications for its Youth Advisory Group**

The [Canadian Commission for UNESCO](#) (CCUNESCO) has positions to fill in its [Youth Advisory Group](#) (YAG). They are looking for people with expertise in various areas. These areas are listed in the [application form](#).

If you are between the ages of 18-30 and connect with [UNESCO's mission and vision](#), you are invited you to submit your application now!

Members of the YAG are key players to ensure youth engagement in UNESCO programs and activities in Canada. You are invited to refer to the Annex of the



application form to find out more on how YAG members can contribute to CCUNESCO's work.

If you are interested, please submit your [application form](#) along with your resume by **April 7, 2019** to [thierry.ntakirutimana@ccunesco.ca](mailto:thierry.ntakirutimana@ccunesco.ca).

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If you would like to attend, please RSVP by March 25th to [info@lionsbayarts.ca](mailto:info@lionsbayarts.ca). We look forward to seeing you there!

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### Seniors Social Circle

For details on the scheduled events on March 26th: Tai Chi, a craft event, Finding Stillness, Enhanced Woodland talk with Joe Ronsley, and for info on other upcoming events, click [here](#).



To take the "Community Centre Survey" for Lions Bay Social Interests, click [here](#) and send your completed survey to [info.lbdirectory@gmail.com](mailto:info.lbdirectory@gmail.com).

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## Lions Bay Community Scholarship Foundation



### Calling All Grade 12 Students

The Lions Bay Community Scholarship Foundation presents Scholarships to successful Grade 12 applicants from the Lions Bay community who are pursuing further education at a post-secondary institution. Applications are due by 4 pm on Tuesday, May 7, 2019. Click for: [Information and Application Form](#).

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