

# 2023 Fall Noteworthy

## TOWN OF QUALICUM BEACH

### OCP Review & Quality of Life Survey



In accordance with the six-year review cycle established in the current Official Community Plan (OCP) Bylaw No. 800, the Town is preparing for a 2024-2026 OCP review. Here is what to expect.

#### Appoint OCP Steering Committee (complete)

The Committee helps define the scope of the Official Community Plan Review and provides recommendations to Council on decision points. Members will be announced in the Minutes of the October 11, 2023, Regular Council meeting.

#### Quality of Life Survey (QLS) (underway)

Survey development commenced in September 2023, and will be distributed in January 2024. The QLS will report on resident satisfaction with municipal services, shifting trends on hobbies, transportation and lifestyle, and identify and provide feedback on key issues to assist with the OCP Review.

#### Preliminary Consultation (Spring/Summer 2024)

The Town will verify and refine issues identified in the QLS, with public engagement opportunities available.

#### Public Engagement Plan (timeline TBD)

The Town will identify public engagement topics and engagement methods.

#### Draft Plan (timeline TBD)

Amend the OCP through the statutory review process, with public engagement opportunities.

To read more about the OCP & Quality of Life Survey visit [www.qualicumbeach.com/ocp](http://www.qualicumbeach.com/ocp)

### Paying Utilities

**Due November 10, 2023**

Available options to pay your utilities are:

- **Visit Town Hall:** Debit, cash or cheque only. Hours: Monday to Friday 9 am - 4 pm (excluding holidays)
- **Financial Institution:** Online or telephone banking. For online payments, select "Qualicum Beach, Town of - Utilities" as the Payee and enter your account number. Please contact your branch if you require assistance.
- **Mail a cheque:** PO Box 130, Qualicum Beach, BC V9K 1S7. Postmarks are not considered as the date of payment.
- **Drop off a cheque:** A mail slot is located at the entrance of Town Hall (660 Primrose St) nearest to the fountain.

Post-dated cheques are encouraged. Please make cheques payable to "Town of Qualicum Beach".

A receipt will only be issued if requested in writing.

If mailing or dropping off your cheque, please include the bottom portion of the notice.




### What's in My Bill?

Utility bills may include charges for water, sewer and solid waste services. Billings are issued twice per year for the following periods:

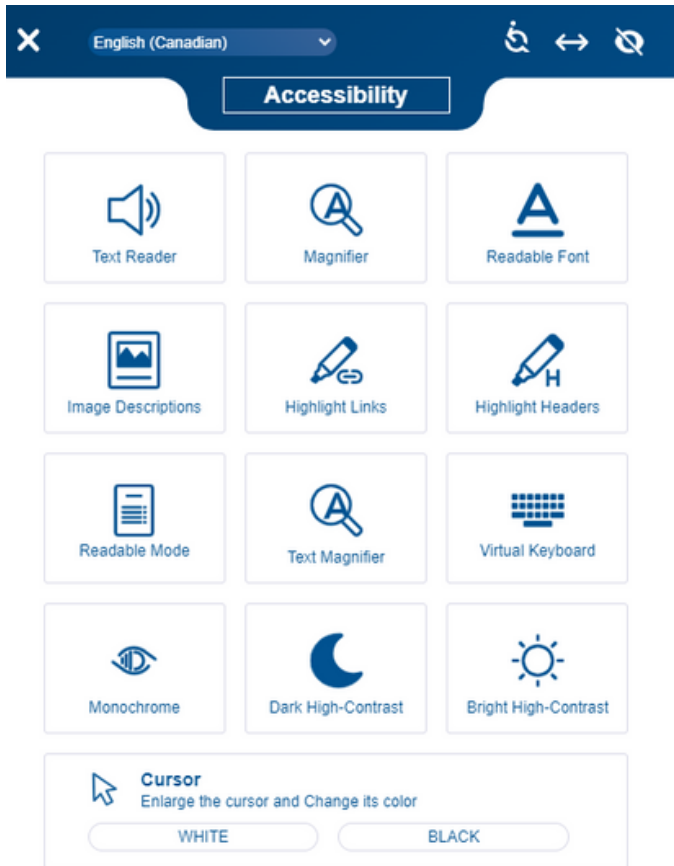
- Winter - Oct 1 to April 30
- Summer - May 1 to Sept 30

## Website Accessibility Tools

Did you know that the Town's website provides accessibility features for those with sight impairment?

The accessibility icon,  which appears on the bottom left of every page of the website, unlocks features that create more readable content.

If you have any feedback on the accessibility of our website or media, please email [media@qualicumbeach.com](mailto:media@qualicumbeach.com).



## Accessibility Advisory Team

In 2021, the *Accessible British Columbia Act* mandated the formation of an "Accessibility Advisory Team" in the Town.

This Team consists of seven community members, chosen for their direct connection to life with a disability or a supporting organization, as well as one member of Council.

Over recent months, this dedicated group has developed a Draft Accessibility Plan, based on input gathered from public engagement. The Draft Plan is scheduled to be presented to the Town Council on December 6, 2023.

To read the Draft and learn about the Team visit [qualicumbeach.com/\\_acessteam](http://qualicumbeach.com/_acessteam)

## Fire Department Open House



On October 14, 10am to 2pm, join us for our annual Open House in conjunction with Fire Prevention Week 2023!

There will be lots of fun activities including a department tour, and an opportunity to practice using a fire extinguisher. Demonstrations include firefighters rappelling off our training tower and cutting open cars.

Have a refreshment, learn fire safety tips for your home, and get high fives from Sparky the Fire Dog.

See you at 130 Rupert Road East, from 10am to 2pm.

## Airport Consultation



The Town is conducting an airport structure review of the Qualicum Beach Airport (CAT4). The review kicked off in July with stakeholder engagement, and continues through the fall, with public engagement workshops scheduled for November 6 and 7.

The intent of the assessment is to better understand how the Airport is viewed and used by the community, and to identify opportunities for Council decision-making beyond the regulations of Transport Canada and the guidance of NAVCANADA.

### Process Overview:

- July 2023 - Stakeholder Engagement
- Fall 2023 - Public Engagement Workshops (Nov 6 & 7)
- Winter 2023 – Final Report to Council

For more details on the public engagement visit [qualicumbeach.com/airport-consult](http://qualicumbeach.com/airport-consult)



# Qualicum Beach

## Bus Garage Revitalization



The Town of Qualicum Beach owns a portion of the land known as the former 'Bus Garage' site located at the corner of Memorial Avenue and Fern Road West.

In 2018, the Official Community Plan identified potential uses for the space. In 2019-2020 the Town underwent a thorough consultation process to produce a Vision Report for the Bus Garage and adjacent Qualicum Commons area.

In January 2021, the Town sold one acre of land to Naked Naturals Whole Foods Ltd for the purpose of building a new grocery store, residential units, and onsite parking.

That brings us to today. The Town has retained PWL Partnership to create a Conceptual Design and Mobility Study for the Bus Garage site. The Design will establish what types of amenities and activities will be included on the site, how the site interacts with its surroundings (including transportation, pedestrian connections, and nearby businesses), and the overall character of the site.

### Key Phases in the Bus Garage Revitalization

- Fall 2023 - Phase 1 & 2 Public Engagement Activities
- Winter 2023 - Phase 3 'Bus Garage' Concept & Final Report

### Public Engagement Overview

- Farmers Market Pop-Up - September 2023
- Survey Distribution - Open (see below)
- Public Engagement Open House - November 2023
- Virtual Public Presentation - January 2024

### Complete the Survey

A survey, designed to gain high-level feedback on the design of the Bus Garage site, will be open until October 20. Complete the survey online at [qualicumbeach.com/busrevive](https://qualicumbeach.com/busrevive) or obtain a paper version from Town Hall, 660 Primrose Street.

The next phase of the project will create a Detailed Design Plan that will make decisions on the site plan so Council can plan, prioritize, and budget in order to bring the project to fruition.

For more information visit [qualicumbeach.com/busrevive](https://qualicumbeach.com/busrevive)

## Saahtlam Detailed Park Plan



In 2018, the Town purchased the historic St. Andrew's Lodge property. The property is approximately 9,800m<sup>2</sup> (2.4 acres), has over 70m of waterfront and is in a key location at Buller Road and Highway 19A. The park is now named Saahtlam, which was gifted by the Qualicum First Nation and refers to "the green at the mouth of the river".

Beginning in June 2019, the Town undertook a comprehensive public consultation and visioning process. The resulting Conceptual Plan helped understand the site's existing conditions and assets; engage with stakeholders, members of the public, staff, and Council; understand key issues; and develop a strong vision.

Several key decisions have been made since 2020 including the restoration of St. Andrew's Lodge that will house a publicly accessible washroom.

Using the previous Conceptual Plan as a launching point, a Detailed Park Plan will create a working site plan, and recommendations to allow the Town to plan, prioritize, and budget for improvements over time.

### Key Phases in the Saahtlam Detailed Park Plan

- Summer 2023 - Phase 1: Plan Update Exploration
- Fall 2023 - Key Stakeholder Engagement
- Winter 2023 - Phase 2: Plan Development

For more information visit [qualicumbeach.com/saahtlam](https://qualicumbeach.com/saahtlam)

## Age Friendly Transportation

The Age-Friendly Transportation Plan seeks to improve transportation networks for persons of all ages and abilities. This can include all roadways, intersections, sidewalks, crossings, cycling paths, traffic speeds, and public transit.

This Plan is reviewed and updated every two to three years to account for completed projects, new projects, and changing conditions. All traffic-related concerns received by the Town are being referred to the Age Friendly Transportation Plan Review.

Participate in the next review process by attending the Age Friendly Transportation Public Forum on **November 15, 6 pm**, in the Council Chambers - 660 Primrose Street.

For more information visit [qualicumbeach.com/transport](https://qualicumbeach.com/transport)

# Qualicum Beach

## Safe Sidewalks

The Town of Qualicum Beach maintains over 15 kms of sidewalks within the Town. Our goal is to ensure a safe network of sidewalks for the use of all pedestrians. We welcome you to report the location of any tripping hazards at 250-752-6921 or email [qbtown@qualicumbeach.com](mailto:qbtown@qualicumbeach.com).

## Dog Tags 2024

Dog tags for 2024 will be available at Town Hall in December. Until January 31, 2024, a discounted rate of \$20 applies for spayed/neutered dogs and \$40 for unspayed/un-neutered dogs (a partial rebate is available after spaying or neutering.)



It is a requirement of Bylaw No. 649 that owners licence every dog over the age of eight weeks in the Town of Qualicum Beach.

## Waste Collection Changes

RDN Curbside collection service pick-up schedule is shifting forward by one business day starting in October.

To get an updated October to December schedule:

- Download the free RDN Curbside app.
- Go to [rdn.bc.ca/curbside](https://rdn.bc.ca/curbside) to download or print a copy.
- Get a copy from Town Hall at 660 Primrose Street
- Get a copy mailed to you by making a request through:
  - The [rdn.bc.ca/curbside](https://rdn.bc.ca/curbside) website.
  - Phoning the RDN Curbside team at 250-390-6501.

## Upcoming Events

Oct 11 - Regular Council Meeting - 10:00 am  
Oct 11 - Public Hearing - 5:30 pm  
Oct 23 - Public Open House - 10:00 am  
Nov 14 - Public Open House - 10:00 am  
Nov 15 - Age-Friendly Transportation Review  
& Committee of the Whole - 6:00 pm  
Nov 23 - Regular Council Meeting - 10:00 am  
Nov 27 - Public Open House - 10:00 am  
Dec 11 - Public Open House - 10:00 am  
Dec 6 - Regular Council Meeting - 10:00 am  
Dec 13 - Committee of the Whole - 10:00 am

## Town Hall Holiday Closures

Remembrance Day – Monday, Nov 13  
Christmas Day – Monday, Dec 25  
Boxing Day – Tuesday, Dec 26  
New Years Day – Monday, Jan 1, 2024

## Council Meeting Schedule

Below is the schedule for 2024. The agenda for each meeting is posted at [qualicumbeach.com/council-live-streaming](https://qualicumbeach.com/council-live-streaming). Meetings are held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall (unless otherwise indicated), located at 660 Primrose Street, Qualicum Beach, and live streamed.

### Regular Council Meetings - Wednesdays at 10 am

Jan 18, 2024	May 8, 2024	Oct 2, 2024
Feb 7, 2024	May 29, 2024	Oct 23, 2024
Feb 28, 2024	Jun 26, 2024	Nov 20, 2024
Mar 13, 2024	Jul 17, 2024	Dec 11, 2024
Apr 10, 2024	Sept 11, 2024	

### Committee of the Whole Wednesdays at 10 am & 6pm\* (if required)

Jan 31, 2024	May 22, 2024	Oct 16, 2024
Feb 14, 2024	June 19, 2024*	Nov 6, 2024
Mar 20, 2024	July 24, 2024	Dec 4, 2024
Apr 17, 2024*	Sept 25, 2024*	

### Public Open House

Held at 10am on the first Monday of the month in the Council Chamber, with two members of Council in attendance, to discuss matters relating to the Town.

## Business Licences 2024



Business license renewal notices for 2024 will be mailed in late December/early January. The fee for the majority of businesses is \$110 for the calendar year. It is a requirement of Bylaw No. 506.07 that every person and/or company conducting business within the boundaries of the Town of Qualicum Beach has a valid business licence.

## Connect with Council

Mayor Teunis Westbroek - [mayor@qualicumbeach.com](mailto:mayor@qualicumbeach.com)  
Coun. Scott Harrison - [sharrison@qualicumbeach.com](mailto:sharrison@qualicumbeach.com)  
Coun. Anne Skipsey - [askipsey@qualicumbeach.com](mailto:askipsey@qualicumbeach.com)  
Coun. Petronella Vander Valk - [pvandervalk@qualicumbeach.com](mailto:pvandervalk@qualicumbeach.com)  
Coun. Jean Young - [jyoung@qualicumbeach.com](mailto:jyoung@qualicumbeach.com)