



CAO Report

January-June 2023

Acknowledging with
gratitude and respect
that we live, work and
play on the traditional
territory of the Kwakiutl
people, Gilakas'la



Heather Nelson-Smith, CAO



Goal

Supporting Council's Strategic Priorities with intention while providing upstanding service to our Communities.



Vision

To be the leader in providing support that enhances the quality of life in Port Hardy and the North Island.



Values

- Emphasizing Council's strategic goals and objectives
- Prioritizing customer satisfaction and exceeding expectations
- Cultivating a supportive environment for staff, contractors and volunteers
- Being a partner and advocate for North Island communities
- Providing services that support the community as a whole
- Working collectively to deliver essential services for the betterment of all
- Respecting and recognizing the ancestral lands of the Kwakiutl people



Advancements and Initiatives in Port Hardy First Half 2023

Introduction:

This report provides an overview of the progress and ongoing initiatives within the District, highlighting the key achievements and activities across various projects and collaborations. These developments demonstrate the District's commitment to enhancing community services, infrastructure, economic development, and public engagement.



Advancement of the Situation Table:

The Situation Table implementation is on track for Fall 2023. Stakeholder engagement has been a priority, ensuring participation from local agencies, law enforcement, healthcare providers, social service organizations, and the community. A comprehensive training program has been developed to streamline the multi-agency response to social issues. Adequate funding has been secured, and training sessions have been organized to equip key participants with the necessary skills and knowledge to address acutely elevated-risk individuals with the North Island.

Port Hardy Pool Project:

Continued progress is being made on the Port Hardy Pool Project, with the opening anticipated for late summer or early fall. Final timelines are being confirmed between all contractors to ensure a smooth and successful launch. The pool project promises to be a valuable community asset, offering recreational opportunities for residents and visitors alike. As we transition to the Pool opening, focus will be placed on the success and reinvestment into this asset, with year-round operation, more opportunities to get wet (staff dependent), and a recreation shift in focus from other programming to focus on the Pool.

Safer Place to Be Pilot Project:

The Safer Place to Be pilot project has shown promising results in enhancing safety and collaboration. Agencies such as Vancouver Island Health Authority, RCMP, BCEHS, and the Salvation Army have been actively involved. The project's success demonstrates the positive impact of collective efforts in addressing social challenges and reducing conflicts in the downtown core.

Housing Supports and Land Availability:

Conversations around housing support through BC Housing have been initiated, recognizing the importance of affordable and accessible housing for Port Hardy residents. A land availability summary has been drafted, paving the way for potential land use. Further work on available land will be presented to the Council in September for recommendations on future land management. In April, I presented at the UBCM Housing Summit in Vancouver the challenges and opportunities to support housing in rural and remote communities. The housing challenges in those communities not surrounded by a significant centre are far different from those that are. Add in access to supply, cost of building and availability of developers/contractors in a market that is less significant than major centres is one of our concerns. Add in the challenge of access to affordable housing when the North Island ranks as the second highest poverty rate in BC, which means we have to work collaboratively to find solutions. We look forward to discussing these issues with the Minister of Housing in September.

Active Transportation

Completing the Active Transportation Grant for the Trustee to Granville connector is a significant milestone in promoting sustainable walkability options within the community.

Economic Development:

Economic development advisors are actively working on projects like the Digital Business Enhancement Program and the addition of Creation Station supports, fully funded through REDIP (Rural Economic Development and Innovation Program).

Healthy Communities Initiative

The upcoming Healthy Communities initiative and gap analysis, also supported by REDIP, aim to assess community health needs and develop strategies for improvement.

Thrive Project:

The Thrive project outside the Visitor Centre is progressing well; the Welcome figure was installed in May, with a kiosk installation scheduled for August. You will start to see the parking area moved to the street to allow for a safe transition to the Visitor Centre and Park and the installation of picnic benches to create a new gathering place. These initiatives reflect the council's commitment to fostering a thriving, vibrant community.

Community Engagement and Participation:

The District actively participated in various events, such as the Community Forest AGM, Job Fair, and Union of British Columbia Municipalities Ministerial Meetings. These engagements allowed for productive dialogues with stakeholders, students, and other local government representatives, promoting awareness of local government careers and strengthening interagency collaboration.

The advancements and initiatives showcased in this report demonstrate the Council's proactive approach to community development and social well-being in Port Hardy. The successful implementation of the Situation Table, progress on the Port Hardy Pool Project, and collaborations with various agencies underscore the commitment to address critical issues collectively. Further efforts in housing supports, economic development, and healthy community initiatives reaffirm the council's dedication to creating a thriving and inclusive Port Hardy for all its residents.

Upcoming Initiatives:

In addition to the ongoing projects and achievements, the Council is gearing up for several impactful initiatives in the coming months. The first is the Resident Tax Expectations Survey, which gathers valuable feedback from community members to better understand their priorities and concerns regarding taxation and public spending. This survey will play a crucial role in shaping future budget decisions that align with the needs and expectations of Port Hardy residents.

We are preparing for a Volunteer Appreciation Event to further strengthen community bonds. This event seeks to recognize and celebrate the invaluable contributions of volunteers who dedicate their time and effort to various community causes. Their commitment plays a pivotal role in enhancing the quality of life in Port Hardy, and this event serves as a gesture of gratitude for their unwavering support.

Financial planning is a top priority for the Council and staff, as we focus on ensuring responsible and sustainable fiscal management. Upcoming financial planning sessions will allow us all to collaboratively assess current budgets, identify areas for improvement, and strategize for a financially sound future that maximizes community benefits and keeps taxation sustainable.

Furthermore, directors are actively working on comprehensive business planning for the upcoming four years. These plans will outline strategic priorities, objectives, and anticipated outcomes, ensuring a focused and cohesive approach to community development and governance over the coming years. In addition, these reports will identify service gaps and opportunities. Including ensuring staff are optimized at their capacity and abilities to support the overall vision of Port Hardy. Ensuring work-life balance and workloads are manageable is essential to create a place where you want to work and serve your community.

Recognizing the importance of fostering cultural awareness and sensitivity, the Council is committed to enhancing Indigenous awareness among staff and the broader community. Indigenous awareness training sessions will promote understanding and respect and reinforce the commitment to reconciliation and inclusivity in all aspects of local governance.

These upcoming initiatives showcase the council's dedication to proactive community engagement, financial responsibility, long-term planning, and promoting a strong sense of unity and cultural understanding. The council aims to create a more inclusive, responsive, and prosperous Port Hardy for all its residents by prioritizing these initiatives.

Respectfully submitted,



Heather Nelson-Smith, CRM
CAO



District of Port Hardy Strategic Plan

Social

Housing
Poverty & Harm Reduction
Communications
Recreation

Economic

Community Forest
Downtown Revitalization
Lifestyle & Retention

Environment

Reduce Illegal Dumping
Water Conservation
Carbon Neutrality

Culture

Youth Outreach
Arts & Culture
Building Relationships

What is the plan?

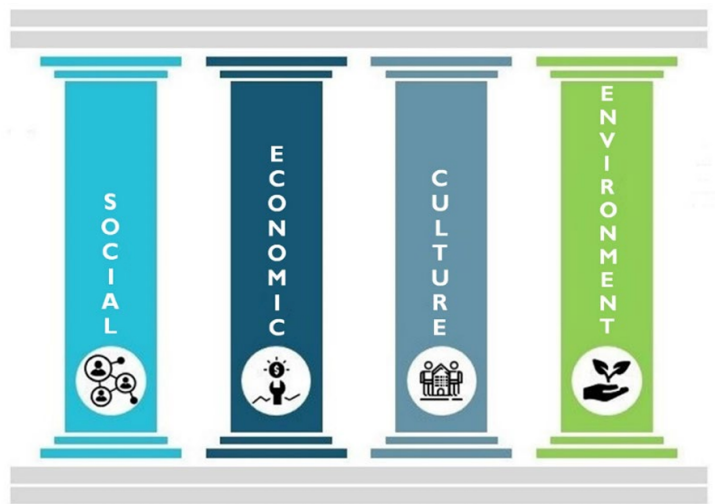
The Council 2023-2026 Strategic Plan is organized into the four pillars of sustainability: Social, Economic, Culture and Environment. The goals are set to guide staff in a corporate direction and align with each of those pillars which support the Official Community Plan.

The Council Strategic plan is divided into two parts, Council priorities and corporate strategy. The Corporate strategy is designed to optimize the District's allocation of resources and priorities. It also accounts for the organization of Council's priorities.

The Strategic Plan then forms the budget to ensure that resources are allocated to ensure success.

This is a living document and projects/initiatives may be reallocated as needs change and adapt. Council is the driver of the strategic plan, and the CAO will ensure that the plan is consistent with our staffing capabilities and financial resources to achieve success under each priority.

A report card will be created with timelines and regular check ins with Council along with a risk matrix to help guide the planning for the duration of this plan.



Opportunities for Port Hardy:

- Tourism
- Attracting investment
- Professional retention
- Increase in population
- Housing development
- Sense of community
- Great place to live
- Pool upgrade
- Downtown revitalization
- Indigenous relationships
- Volunteers
- Resource investment (mining)

Challenges facing Port Hardy:

- Housing
- Staff retention and attraction
- Poverty
- Safety
- Community pride
- Cultural support for youth
- Economic resilience
- Facilitating community events



Progress Update

District Strategic Priorities



OCP Goals

- Ensure Port Hardy remains a safe community where residents of all ages are active and healthy.
- Promote diversified housing typologies that are affordable and accommodate the current and future needs of the residents of all ages and demographics.
- Ensure residents continue to have access to both extended year round recreational and complete educational opportunities.

Council Priorities

Housing- Create housing opportunities that support the local need for affordable housing. Council to make land available for supportive housing and create policies that support development of affordable housing options.

Poverty and Harm Reduction- Create strategies that address a healthy community for all with emphasis on the vulnerable population, youth, and seniors. This includes food security, mental health and wellbeing and access to services.

Communications and Engagement- Ensure that the District is providing communications to the community through all platforms including web, social media, and paper.

Recreation - Ensure that there are facilities that support the North Island including large scale recreation facilities such as the pool and arena, outdoor recreation opportunities like trails and support recreation programming for all ages and other forms of programming that support recreation in Port Hardy.

Corporate Strategy

Project/Priority	2023-2026	Measure	First Half 2023
SOCIAL			
Housing	Prepare business case and concept plan for low-income/supportive housing residential development – Housing coalition	Adoption of a housing action plan	Providing Non Profits as they come to the District with information on available lands
Housing	Inventory available District lands for the use of non profits	Create map of lands and identify Councils intended use for each property	Currently Underway
Housing	Identify lands available for the use of a new mobile home park	Create a business case and plan for either sale or management by the District for Council's review	
Housing	Develop plans for single family dwellings and carriage homes for ease of builders in community	Creation of at least one set of plans ready for permitting	
Housing	Create business case for the District to become own developer	Business case and action plan	
Food Security	Direct the development of an agriculture capability assessment	Completion of assessment	
Poverty/ Harm Reduction	Work with agencies to address homelessness and occupation of the downtown area	Partnerships with RCMP, Island Health, Advocacy to the provincial government to support	We are currently working with agencies to administer the Safer Places Project, funding supports to Salvations Army

Project/Priority	2023-2026	Measure	First Half 2023
SOCIAL			
Poverty/Harm Reduction	Work with agencies to develop a Situation Table in Port Hardy to support Acutely Elevated Risk individuals	Completion of training and set up of the Situation Table	Underway to be implemented fall of 2023
Poverty/Harm Reduction	Ensure recreation programming supports those on limited incomes to ensure healthy lifestyle and barrier free opportunities for recreating	Free or low-cost access to recreation programs	Continuing to provide some programs at low cost or no cost. Pool opening in 2023 Council direction on fees to come
Customer Service	online options including reporting, payments, and billing	Project improved over the existing program	We offer online payments, This program can be enhanced, working on options
Livability index	Prepare an annual livability index. Consider policies and programs that can enhance the community	Report available annually	
Recreation Programming	Maintain sustainable recreational programs that support the community	Number of participants	We have many participants, evaluation of budgets to ensure sustainability in tax base is important
Outdoor recreation	Trail enhancements, maintenance, and expansion	Improved community usage	
Outdoor recreation	Work with RDMW on enhancing trails on the North Island	Improved access	
Active Transportation	Prepare plans for future projects within the capital budget	Prepare plan	Plans have been created, access to funding is being sought
Active Transportation	Ensure that traffic calming measures are considered in design of new or existing vehicle traffic areas.	Improve walkability, pedestrian, and vehicle safety	
Active Transportation	Develop a plan for improved vehicle and pedestrian safety Douglas/Granville 4 way stop to Rupert and Granville 4 way stop	Develop plan and prepare budget	
Indoor Recreation	Work with School District 85 to create enhanced opportunities for indoor recreation usage	Update reciprocal agreement	
Accessibility	Create and implement a plan to comply with the new Accessibility Act and ensure actionable solutions and feedback are reviewed	Create the plan	Fall of 2023

Advocacy (Provincial supports required)

Housing available for all
 Health Supports
 BC Housing supports for affordable and supportive housing
 Seniors Housing
 Agriculture Capability Assessment
 Crown Lands for development of housing
 Post Secondary education opportunities to support North Island
 School District 85 support for indoor recreation
 RDMW Trails

District Strategic Priorities



OCP Goals

- Create a vibrant and well linked downtown core.
- Ensure Port Hardy's economy is healthy, vibrant and continues to diversify and grow to provide the community with a solid tax base that allows residents to enjoy an overall higher quality of life.

Council Priorities

Lifestyle and Retention- Promotion of the many services available in the community will enhance the livability of the area. Port Hardy and the North Island is a great place to live, work and play.

Community Forest - Direct North Island Community Forest Limited Partnership to work with the communities to support increased tenure for future revenue generation.

Downtown Revitalization- Improve the downtown core to stimulate economic growth, community use and address accessibility improvements to make the Downtown a vibrant place for residents and visitors to enjoy.

Corporate Strategy

Project/Priority	2023-2026	Measure	First Half 2023
ECONOMIC			
Lifestyle and retention	Develop an attraction package for employers to use when attracting employees to the area	Guide available in paper and web format	
Promotion	Work with other North Island agencies to support attraction campaigns including promotional videos	Data shared with other agencies- inclusion of information on website	
Community Forest expansion	Work with NICFLP through shared resources to ensure that expansion efforts are supported	Expansion of the Community Forest	
Asset Management	Develop an asset management plan and policy for reserves	Develop policy	
Downtown Revitalization	Create a Mayor's Task force to address downtown improvements that can be actioned for the betterment of the residents		Mayor's Task Force Formed
Downtown Revitalization	Research façade programs and incentives for assisting businesses with improved appearance	Find funding and establish program	EC Dev Contractors looking to collaborate with Mayor's Task Force on initiatives
Downtown Revitalization	Promotion of events to stimulate business core, night markets, festivals, special events- work with agencies to support programming	Quantity and attendance of events	
Downtown Revitalization	Waterfront enhancements and renewal around the Seagate Pier – Possible Crown acquisition to preserve walking/parking and market options	Prepare business plan and submit application to Crown Lands	
Business attraction	Implement Digital Business Enhancement program initiative to develop online presence for existing and new businesses	Perform assessments	Kick off the Digital Business Enhancement Program began June
Downtown Revitalization	Develop way-finding signage and mapping to support services in the community	Way-finding signage installed	New Kiosk ordered to be installed in August
Emergency Management	Ensure communication to the community is regular and consistent on personal preparedness	Quarterly messaging and updates on Emergency Preparedness	Emergency Preparedness week

Advocacy (Provincial supports required)

Promote Boat Weigh Feasibility for investment
Façade program funding
Vacant building enforcement opportunities
ICET Funding Supports for Economic Development
Incentives for Businesses
Housing availability

District Strategic Priorities



OCP Goals

- Continue to support community diversity and enhance the thriving cultural assets found within Port Hardy
- Foster cooperation and partnership opportunities between the District and neighboring First Nations
- Acknowledge Port Hardy's roots and the Kwakiutl, Gwa'sala-Nakwaxda'xw and Quatsino First Nations' history and heritage.
- Encourage a wide variety of opportunities for people to interact and support community diversity, arts, and culture.
- Ensure cultural elements in Port Hardy are used as focal points for policy and planning efforts to make certain cultural resources integrated as a component of Port Hardy's path towards sustainability.

Council Priorities

Youth Opportunities & Outreach- Provide Civics Education as required within the district schools where we can find champions to support. Pump the profession at Job Fairs and community events where youth are looking for future opportunities.

Arts & Culture- Create a plan to showcase in walking tours, brochures, and signage the history of the region with emphasis in First Nations Art, place names and honour.

Relationship Building- Building on the North Island Indigenous history and incorporating the culture through partnerships that support acknowledgement and foster a community that has understanding.

Corporate Strategy

Project/Priority	2023-2026	Measure	First Half 2023
CULTURE			
Youth employment	Work with high school on developing a work experience program- ensure District participates in Job Fairs annually	Youth hires/participation in Job Fairs	Successful Job Fair in March
Youth civics education	Development of a District led youth civics events	Bursaries/ Youth Council	
First Nations Signage	Inventory areas where historic place names and installed art are represented in signage project		
First Nations Signage	Create dialogue to support plans for future signage enhancements and art	Strategy in place	
Cultural Sensitivity	Develop a policy on ongoing cultural sensitivity training for Council, staff volunteers and contractors	Create Policy and schedule training	Fall/Winter 2023-2024
Diversity Equity and Inclusion	Improve policies around Diversity, equity and Inclusion and provide staff, volunteers, and contractors training	Create Policy and schedule training	
Livability index	Prepare an annual livability index. Consider policies and programs that can enhance the community	Report available annually	
Visitor Services	Enhance services to the residents and travelling public including events coordination	Minimum of four community events through the District per year	

Advocacy (Provincial supports required)

Funding supports for festivals and fairs

Signage and Arts

District Strategic Priorities



OCP Goals

- Ensure all Port Hardy residents continue to have a safe and sufficient supply of drinking water.
- Grow in a manner that respects the surrounding natural environment and is valued and viewed as an integral component of the Port Hardy community.
- Decrease the energy demands and greenhouse gas emissions from both the District and the community at large where energy is obtained with methods that minimizes and mitigates negative impacts on the environment.

Council Priorities

Reduce Illegal Dumping- Develop low cost initiatives to reduce the amount of dumping in our greenspaces throughout the region.

Water Conservation- Convert municipal facilities fixtures to reduce water usage. Promote education in water conservation with all users.

Carbon Neutrality- Support, where practicable, energy efficient conversions in existing municipal facilities, new municipal buildings, and municipal fleet.

Corporate Strategy

Project/Priority	2023-2026	Measure	First Half 2023
ENVIRONMENT			
Municipal Building efficiency	Where practicable, upgrade existing facilities to be energy efficient	Lower carbon footprint	Heat Pumps Installed in Municipal Hall
Water Conservation	Upgrade Municipal facilities with low flow fixtures through operating funds	Number of fixtures replaced	
LED Street lights	Change lighting as they need replacement with high efficiency LED lighting	Number of lights replaced	
Planning	Update plans for Storm, Water and Sewer Master Plans into the future	Review or creation of plans	
Fleet	Reduce and reuse municipal fleet vehicles to reduce environmental impact	Reuse of existing fleet plans for longer use and less turnover	
Residential Dumping	Reduce illegal dumping by creating options for tipping for residents to use year-round (not just spring clean up)	Reduce waste pick up	

Advocacy (Provincial supports required)

Fleet replacement with energy efficiency
 Incentives for residents for energy efficiency options
 Composting incentives
 Work with RDMW to create incentives to prevent illegal dumping
 Funding supports for Fire Services

Risk Matrix

Risk	Probability	Impact	Mitigation
Staff Burnout/ Capacity	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limitations getting projects complete due to operational needs and priorities • Customer demands including investigations alter work plans and adjust priorities • Mistakes and missed opportunities and priorities falling off the table • Risk of people leaving to find less stressful/demanding jobs • Staff currently on extended leaves 	MANAGE AND REASSESS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess workload each week to ensure that priority items are being addressed—Service level review to ensure resources are being used efficiently and with intention • Ensure that we realistically estimate how long tasks will take when addressing public concerns/ complaints • Review workplace health policies to support work life balance • Ensure that Directors manage workload to match current capacity.
Strategic Plan Targets	Medium to High	Prioritizing Council Strategic Goals with other District priorities	MANAGE AND REASSESS Ensure that prioritization and updates are provided regularly to staff and Council to ensure that missed targets and achievements are communicated
Asset Management/ Replacement	Medium to High	Not being ready for asset replacement, aging infrastructure that has outlived its useful life	ACCEPT AND MANAGE Planning for asset replacement through contributions to the reserves to fund replacement—using CityWide asset management program to assist with prioritizing and preparing budgets to fund replacement

Risk Matrix

Risk	Probability	Impact	Mitigation
Project Delays	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supply chain issues • Access to contractors, professionals is impacted by pandemic • Capacity of staff to complete projects • Increasing budgets 	ACCEPT AND MANAGE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to contractors, professionals is limited • Be realistic in assumptions for projects • Dedicate personnel to managing expectations
Grant Opportunities	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possibility that grant opportunities may be missed due to timelines and resources • Grants applied for not funded • Staff time to complete funding applications interfering with other priorities • Managing short timelines and unprepared to submit applications 	MANAGE AND REASSESS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that shovel/shelf ready applications are made available to proceed when grants are available • This requires staff capacity to complete • Contract out work to complete
Reactive planning v. Proactive	High	<p>Responding to current threats and or issues puts staff use of time at risk. More time is needed to act proactively</p>	MANAGE AND REASSESS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directors to manage staff time and capacity and schedule time to react to reactionary work. • Create triage scale to assist staff to keep on task and prioritize emerging issues accordingly • Ensure work plans are consistent with expectations of Council to provide sustainable services within budget.

January

With generous funding from BC Hydro's Re-Greening grant, the District undertook a significant initiative to enhance the aesthetics of the town's central area. The project involved strategically planting trees along Douglas Street, elevating its status as a picturesque entrance to the center of town. Council members and staff were joined by Ted Olynyc in a commemorative event, acknowledging the significance of this endeavour. Despite the challenging weather conditions typical of January, the event marked a noteworthy step towards beautifying and greening the town's core.



February

Mayor Pat Corbett-Labatt graciously hosted a special event at the Port Hardy RCMP detachment to pay tribute to the dedicated officers on the occasion of RCMP Appreciation Day, which took place on February 1st. This meaningful gathering served as an opportunity to extend heartfelt gratitude and recognition to the hardworking members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police for their unwavering commitment to ensuring the safety and security of the community. The event exemplified the town's profound appreciation for the essential services provided by the RCMP and further strengthened the bond between law enforcement and the local residents.

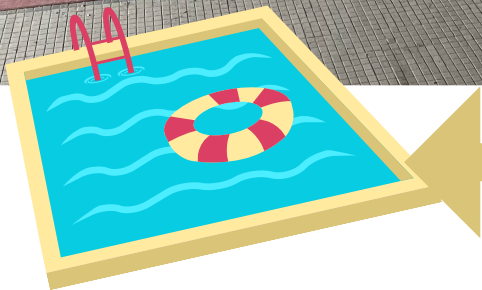


On February 22, the District staff actively participated in an important initiative to combat bullying by wearing pink shirts. This symbolic gesture was a collective effort to raise awareness and send a strong message against bullying within the community. Moreover, all staff members fully engaged in workshops focused on education and empowerment. These workshops were designed to equip them with the necessary knowledge and resources to foster a safe and respectful environment for everyone. Through these actions, the District demonstrated its commitment to creating a supportive and inclusive atmosphere, fostering positive relationships, and supporting a sense of responsibility in addressing bullying-related issues.



The pool remediation project commenced in December, marking the start of the much-anticipated renovations. As February rolled around, visible progress became evident, with the preparation of the installation of the new liner taking shape. Witnessing this advancement in the renovation process has generated excitement among the community, as everyone eagerly anticipates the eventual pool reopening. The project's steady development indicates a positive trajectory, and the efforts being made ensure that the pool will soon be fully operational, providing a renewed and improved aquatic facility for the North Island to enjoy.

Stay up to date with updates posted about the pool.



The Wounded Warrior Run kicked off in Port Hardy, marking the start of a challenging journey to raise awareness and funds for wounded veterans and first responders. Runners face physical demands but find strength in community support. The event aims to aid and honour those who sacrificed for their country.



March

The District's Administration, Operational Services, Parks, and Recreation teams actively participated in the Port Hardy Chamber of Commerce and North Island Employment Foundations Society Job Fair. This event was an excellent platform for showcasing promising career opportunities within the local government sector. We specifically emphasized the upcoming pool opening and the available parks positions for summer employment, aiming to attract potential candidates and generate interest among job seekers.



Throughout the job fair, we prioritized engaging with the youth, recognizing the importance of fostering connections with the upcoming workforce. By actively interacting with the attendees, we created a meaningful dialogue and provided valuable insights into the fulfilling and rewarding careers that the District has to offer. Our participation in this event reinforces the District's commitment to provide essential services and actively contribute to the growth and development of the local community by creating valuable employment opportunities. Not to mention we had cool swag!





MLA Michele Babchuk met with Council members and staff in Port Hardy to address various matters of interest concerning the community. The discussion encompassed significant topics such as healthcare, housing, and the welfare of vulnerable populations.

These discussions are essential to help address and find solutions at the provincial government level to address these concerns, which in many cases fall outside the Districts responsibility.

Exciting news, everyone! The District of Port Hardy received \$250,000 for the Pool Remediation Project, all thanks to BHP's awesome support!

Even though the BHP mine site isn't visibly active anymore, they're stepping up to support community assets like the pool around the community.

With this generous investment, we will revamp our pool and make Port Hardy even more amazing! Stay tuned for the splashtastic updates ahead! ☺️ THANK YOU



April

Councillor Dorward's election as Director at large to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities is a significant achievement. As a Director on the executive board, she will help shape policies, advocate for communities' interests, and build valuable connections with other leaders. Her role demands commitment, and she has the opportunity to positively impact the region's development and collaboration between communities.



Pitch In is an incredible community initiative led by the Mayor and Council, bringing people together to clean up parks and open spaces. This year, the weather held up; we had over 300 students from Eagleview Elementary join in, along with many other community members. It was a heartwarming display of unity and pride in our town. Together, we made a positive impact and look forward to future Pitch In events. Join us in keeping our town beautiful and vibrant!

May



The CAO and her family finally enjoyed a long-awaited vacation to Mexico, their first since before Covid. They savoured the sun, sand, and sea, creating cherished memories. The trip was a rejuvenating escape, bringing a renewed sense of happiness and togetherness and some great ideas for community initiatives we can do here at home.



On May 5th, we remember and honour the lives of the Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls. It is a day to raise awareness, demand justice, and stand in solidarity with Indigenous communities to create a safer and more equitable world for all. Let us unite in the fight against violence and injustice, supporting each other in our pursuit of healing and change.



Congratulations to Fire Chief Borg and Lieutenant Gunson of Port Hardy Fire Rescue on receiving the 25-year Long Service Award from British Columbia and the 30-year Municipal Long Service Award from the Canadian Volunteer Fire Services Association. We are proud and grateful for your outstanding dedication to providing fire protective services to our community. Well done!

With great excitement , the District proudly unveiled the new welcome figure at the Visitor Centre in Carrot Park. The figure was carved by Chief Calvin Hunt, renowned as the Copper Maker, who masterfully ensured that the celebration brought forth the rich tapestry of history, and heartfelt connection to the land, embracing the community.

Through Caleb and Tom Hunt's eloquent storytelling, the legacy of the Kwakwak'wakw peoples, their deep-rooted history, and enduring traditions came to life, forging an everlasting bond between past and present.

The welcome pole standing tall serves as a poignant symbol of commemoration and a testament to the enduring commitment to the lands that have held generations of wisdom and culture.

The spirit of unity and respect permeated the event, leaving an indelible mark on all present. The shared understanding and appreciation of the Kwakwak'wakw heritage bind the community together, fostering a sense of pride and cultural heritage that will continue to thrive for future generations.

Chief Calvin Hunt presented Mayor Corbett-Labatt with the Kwakwak'wakw flag, now we can honour our communities properly by flying the flag high and commemorating special events.



The Operational Services Department marked the occasion of Public Works Week with a series of informative events. Among the highlights was the visitation of local schools, where students could tour the Public Works yard and explore the various equipment used in the department's operations. Public Works Week is an annual observance dedicated to raising awareness about the critical role of public works in maintaining and enhancing communities' infrastructures and services.

Annual Spring Clean Up! Thank you to our volunteers who came out to make sure that the Seniors and those with disabilities could participate in this year's Spring Clean Up. It was a little touch and go to see if we would have volunteers to provide this service. If you are looking for a volunteer opportunity, come assist once per year to get that clutter to the dump.



June

Port Hardy hosted its very first Half Marathon, the Hardy Hustle! This a fantastic opportunity to kick off June as Parks and Recreation Month! Thanks to the incredible support of volunteers, sponsors, travellers, locals, staff, and businesses, the event was a resounding success!



The Van Isle 360 returned this year, bringing three days of excitement to our community. Over 300 sailors and their supporters enjoyed a much-needed rest and recovery before continuing their journey around the island's top. Our Chamber of Commerce hosted the event in the Civic Centre, which welcomed them warmly, and the Legion ensured they got enough food. The Wagalus school kept everyone entertained with dancing. Thanks to all who made this event possible! While we've been told this might be the last time around the island, we're hopeful we can welcome them back in 2025.



Huntsville, ON (May 31, 2023) – The District of Port Hardy, BC has received national recognition for its Systems Based Corporate Planning effort from the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators (CAMA). The municipality was presented with the 2023 CAMA Willis Award for Innovation, in the under 20,000-population category, during an Awards of Excellence Ceremony held today.

“CAMA is pleased to recognize The District of Port Hardy for the municipal excellence demonstrated by their Systems Based Corporate Planning effort,” said Bev Hendry, CAMA President and CAMA Member-At-Large (For Municipalities with Populations Under 100,000) and CAO for the Township of West Lincoln, ON. “The District’s approach to municipal administration is innovative, creative, and will ensure consistency across departments.”



June is Pride Month across the globe. The Port Hardy Council has declared that the last Saturday of June is Pride Day Port Hardy!

Miriam Webster Dictionary defines Pride as: The quality or state of being proud: such as reasonable self-esteem: confidence, and satisfaction in oneself: self-respect.

Every person deserves the right to respect themselves and be respected. Today, take the opportunity to learn about Pride and find ways where you can support those around you with positive influence.

Follow Port Hardy Pride Society to learn how to get involved, feel supported and celebrate.



A Powerful ceremony was held in Carrot Park, which signified the start of the tour of Chief Stanley Hunt's IRS Pole to Vancouver. The monument, while it has not been permanently placed, is meant to:

- Ensure that we uplift the history of the residential school survivors
- Honor the spirit of the children who went missing or were murdered
- Honour the families and acknowledge the journey of losing a child and the pain and suffering that this trauma has inflicted.
- To raise awareness of the true history of Canada, the Northwest Mounted Police, the RCMP and the Church's
- To provide awareness and history to Canadians and those who participate in this journey, visit the monument on-site or are a part of this journey in any way.
- Record the many survivors, families, Canadians, and participants in a historical record through video, media, and the opportunity to sign or send a message in a guest book along the journey of the Monument.



The District provided a donation to the Pack the Pantry initiative in collaboration with KEDC to help gather non-perishable food items for those in need in our community.

Small contributions can make a big difference. Let's come together and lend a helping hand to those who may need it most.



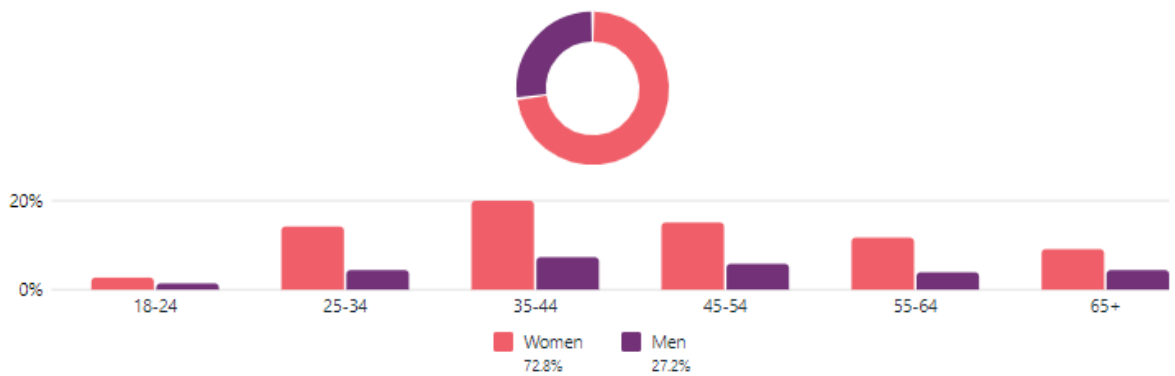
Communications

The District of Port Hardy effectively manages multiple online platforms, including a website, five Facebook accounts, two Instagram accounts, and two Twitter accounts, all achieved without the support of a dedicated communications staff. Our primary goal is to deliver informative content on behalf of the District and ensure people stay well-informed. In this report, we will focus on three prominent Facebook accounts: District of Port Hardy, Port Hardy Emergency, and Port Hardy Recreation. These accounts serve as key channels for engaging with the community and providing valuable updates.

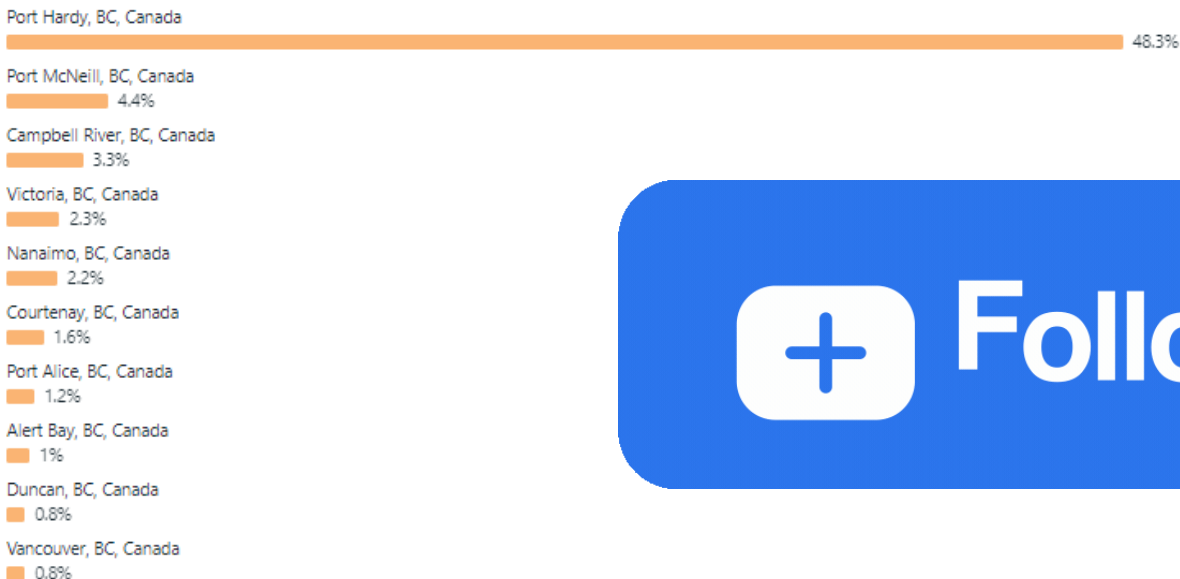
@District of Port Hardy

1,914

Age & gender ①



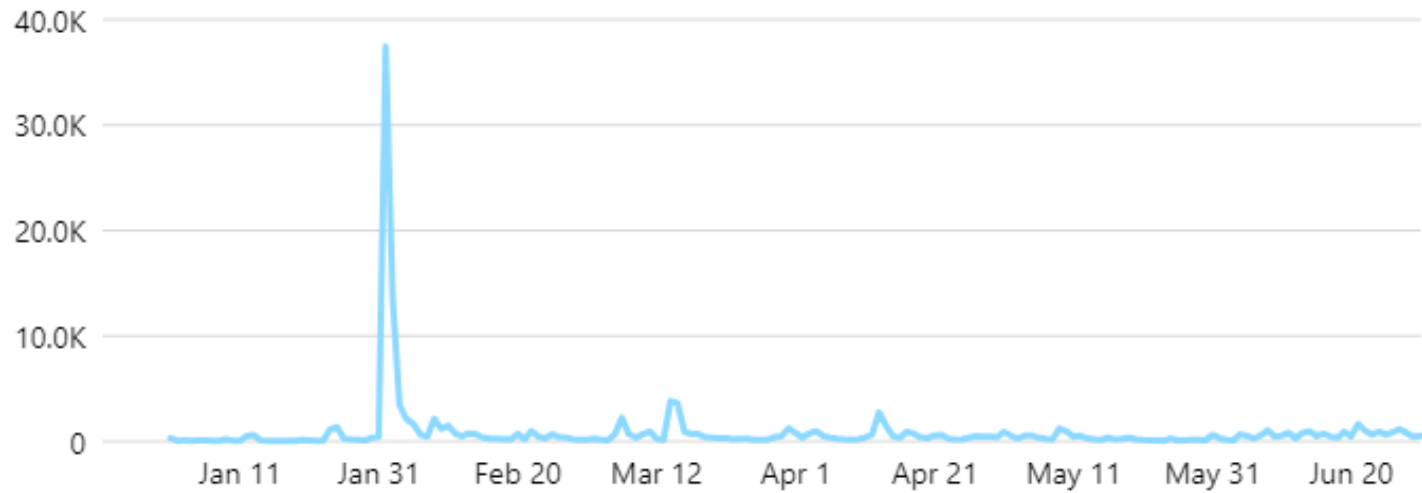
Top cities



Reach

Facebook reach ⓘ

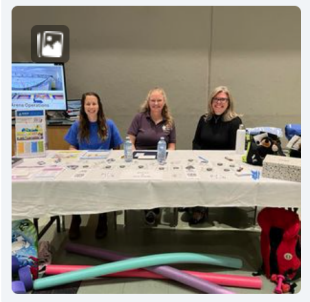
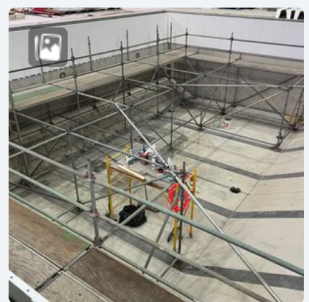
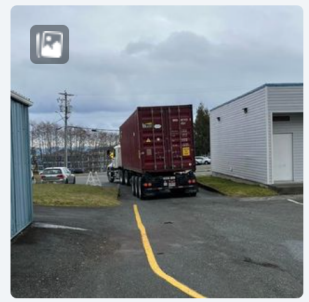
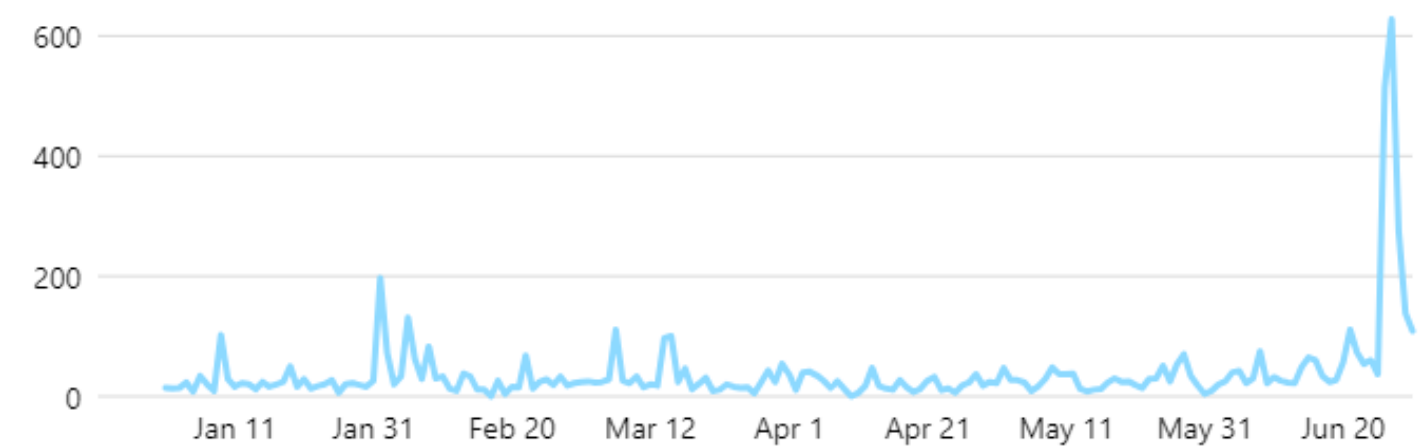
79,415 ↑ 400.7%



Page and profile visits

Facebook visits ⓘ

6,906 ↑ 18.6%



Performance

Reach ⓘ

Total 59,832

Worst Best

Performance

Reach ⓘ

Total 7,102

Worst Best

Performance

Reach ⓘ

Total 4,837

Worst Best

Performance

Reach ⓘ

Total 2,634

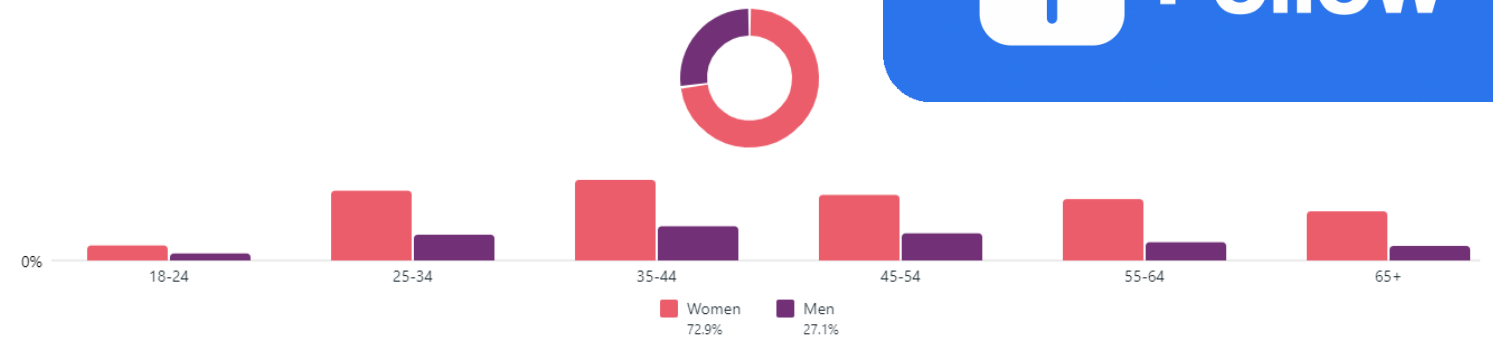
Worst Best

@Port Hardy Emergency

Facebook followers ⓘ

2,859

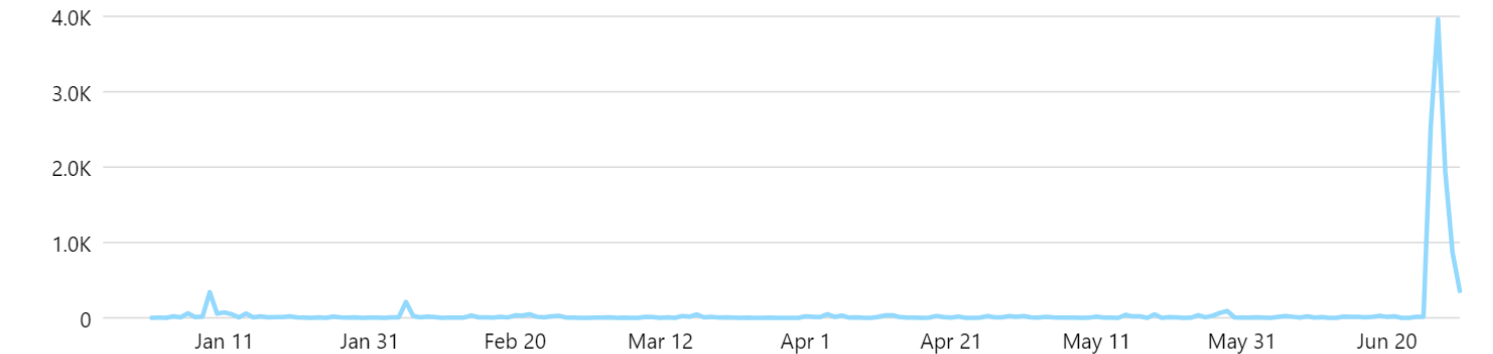
Age & gender ⓘ



+

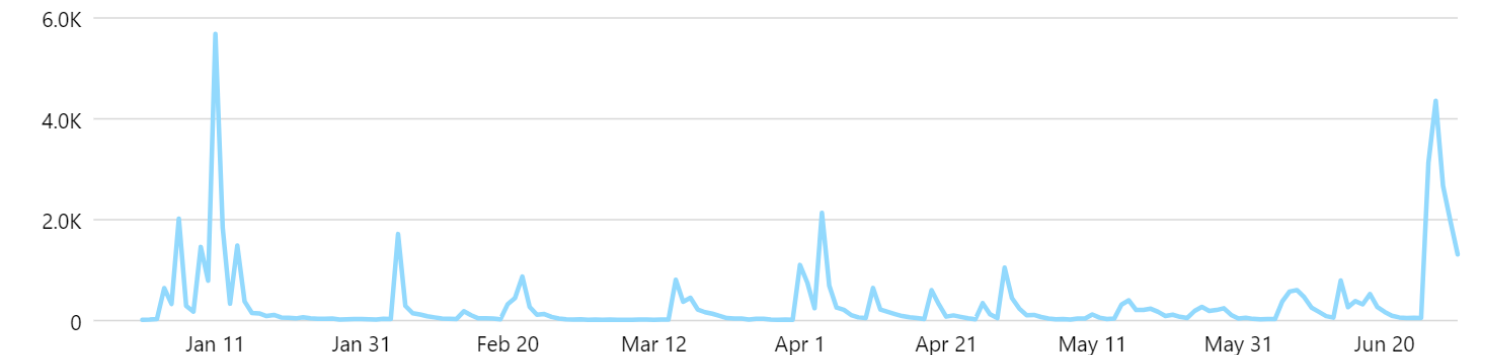
Follow

12,311 ↑ 440.7%



Facebook reach ⓘ

20,699 ↑ 181.6%

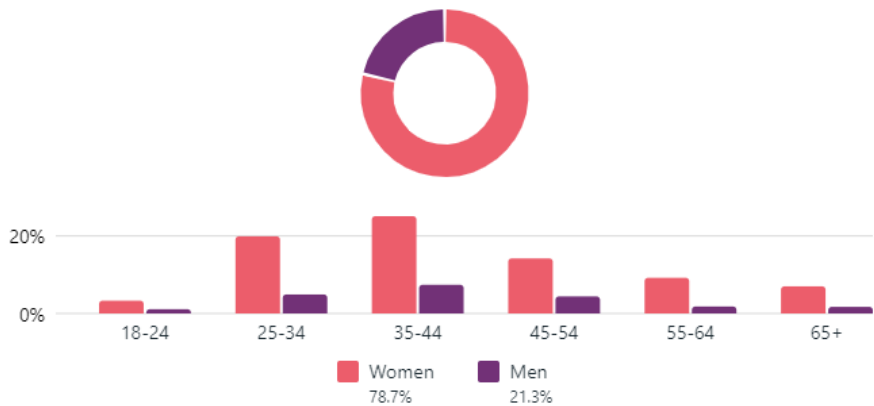


@Port Hardy Recreation

Facebook followers ⓘ

1,969

Age & gender ⓘ

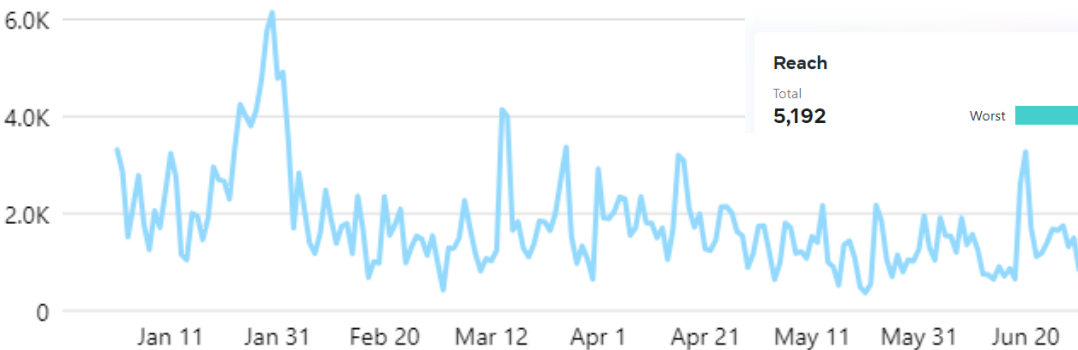


Top cities



Facebook reach ⓘ

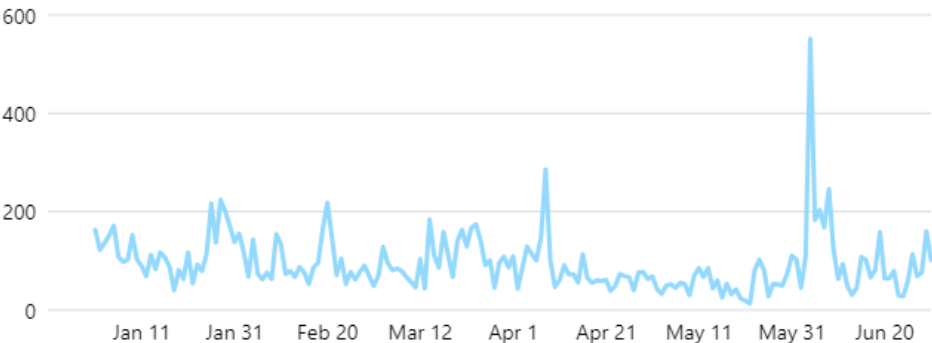
60,803 ↑ 134.4%



Page and profile visits

Facebook visits ⓘ

17,075 ↑ 78.7%



Mon - Wed | Jun 26 - 28
9:00 am - 4:00 pm

This course teaches an understanding of the lifesaving principles and is included in the four components of water rescue education: judgment, knowledge, skill, and fitness. This is a prerequisite for the Bronze Cross.

Cost: \$230
Must register by Jun 12
Location: Port McNeill Pool

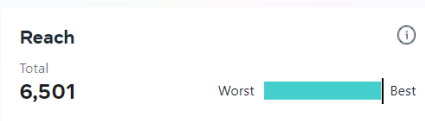
Bronze Cross

Ages 13+
Wed - Fri | Jun 28 - 30
9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Bronze Cross emphasizes the importance of teamwork and communication in preventing and responding to aquatic emergencies. This is a prerequisite for advanced training for the National Lifeguard.

Cost: \$250
Must register by Jun 14
Location: Port McNeill Pool

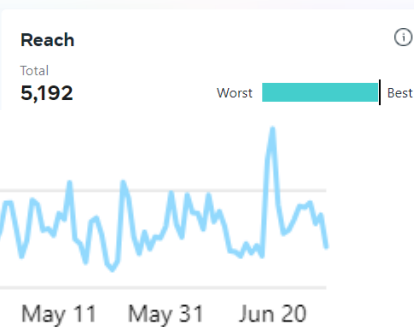
Performance



HALF MARATHON
Sunday, June 4
Location: Port Hardy

Register by April 15 to receive
Early Bird Discount and
guaranteed shirt and medal!

Performance



LEARN HOW TO CEDAR WEAVE
with Lucille Brothie

PORT HARDY CREATION STATION

SUNDAY, JUNE 25TH, FROM 11 AM TO 2 PM

Performance

