Your Municipality in Motion!



Fifth EditionSeptember/October2025

Council News

Highlights from the Council Chamber September 8, 2025

- Council will provide a letter of support for Hardy Bay Senior Citizens Society's New Horizons grant application (to fund transportation services for members).
- Council approved the request from Kwala'sta Healing Centre to hold the Every Child Matters March and use Carrot Park for the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation ceremony on September 30, 2025.
- CP6.16 Code of Conduct Policy approved as amended.
- Short-term vacation Rental guidelines referred to the Community Consultative Committee (CCC) for review and recommendation.

October 14, 2025

- Staff to forward the Youth Parliament of BC Alumni Society letter to Port Hardy Secondary School, Eke Me-Xi Learning Centre, and Avalon Adventist Christian Academy for information.
- Approved Rotary Club of Port Hardy's use of Carrot Park for the Annual Pumpkin Patch Walk on November 2, 2025, 6–8 pm.
- Approved Rotary Club of Port Hardy's request to host a procession using parade routes for the Christmas Cheer Float on December 12, 2025.
- Approved \$157.50 donation for Eagle View Elementary's festive Choral Concert, funded from the grant-in-aid budget.
- Approved sending a letter to Hope Air thanking them for improving access to specialty medical care for rural and remote patients.
- Council resolved that short-term vacation rental regulations in the zoning bylaw remain unchanged; Per the recommendation from the CCC.
- Approved DVP-01-2025 to allow conversion of the existing dwelling at 5795 Goletas Way.
- Bylaw No. 1183-2025 (Official Community Plan): Read for first and second time.

October 28, 2025

- Staff directed to initiate process to reduce the speed limit on Beaver Harbour Road (entering residential area), Carlton Street, Chatham Avenue, and Scotia Street from 50 km/h to 30 km/h.
- Staff to investigate reducing residential speed limits to 30 km/h throughout Port Hardy.
- Triport Minor Baseball's request for Park Dr. Ball Diamond upgrades referred to the Finance Committee; staff to engage users for shared access to Beaver Harbour Park ball fields.
- 2026 Municipal and Regional District Tax (Hotel Tax)Tactical Plan was approved.
- Approved use of Carrot Park for Remembrance Day Ceremonies (Nov 11, 2025).
- Proclaimed November 2025 as Métis History and Culture Month; Métis flag to be raised at Municipal Hall.
- Approved \$100 Grant-in-Aid for Port Hardy Secondary School's Indoor Soccer Tournament.
- Approved Santa Claus Parade (Nov 30, 2025).
- Letters of support approved for:
 - Community Futures Mount Waddington's REDIP grant (Digital Business Enhancement Program).
 - North Island Crisis and Counselling Centre's REDIP grant (collaborative working space).
- Port Hardy Heritage Society's BC Arts Council grant (feasibility study and needs assessment).
- Bylaw No. 1181-2025 (Short-Term Vacation Rentals): Adopted.
- Bylaw No. 1182-2025 (Shipping Containers): Adopted.
- Bylaw No. 1184-2025 (Permissive Tax Exemption): Adopted.



New Date/Time November 10 at 10:00 am

Coffee with the Mayor

District

Council Connection:

Your Municipality in Motion!

Port Harry Live the Adventure

Fifth Edition September/Octobert 2025

Mayor's Statement Port Hardy Hospital

We understand how deeply frustrating and concerning the limited Emergency Department hours are for our community and for the many neighbouring communities that rely on Port Hardy Hospital.

It's important to clarify that the District of Port Hardy does not operate the hospital; hospital staffing and operations are managed by Island Health and the Province of British Columbia.

Recent social media posts suggesting that the District is "sitting silent" or can reopen the ER are simply not accurate. There is a misunderstanding about who is responsible for health care services. The District does not have the authority or capacity to hire medical staff or operate the Emergency Department.

So, what are we doing?

Your Mayor and Council continue to take direct action with those who can make decisions. We are meeting regularly with Island Health, BC Emergency Health Services, and provincial officials to push for staffing support, sustainable recruitment, and improved emergency transport options. We have been unwavering in our advocacy for accessible, reliable health care for all North Island residents.

Most recently, Council met with the Minister of Health, Island Health, BC Emergency Health Services, and the Provincial Health Services Authority to continue the conversation on the restoration of full emergency services and to identify ways the District can support those efforts, This includes a request to extend ER hours to 7 p.m. nightly, which, to our understanding, is currently under review.

Our advocacy has contributed to important provincial investments, including a major financial contribution to regional health service improvements announced through former Minister of Health Adrian Dix and previous MLA Michele Babchuk. This funding supports new hirings, security enhancements, recruitment incentives, staff housing, air ambulance services, future hospital upgrades and the installation of a CT Scanner — all critical steps toward strengthening stronger local health care.

However, progress takes time. Across the region, there are currently over 40 health care vacancies, making it difficult to operate facilities safely and effectively. The national shortage of doctors, nurses, xray and lab technicians, and other health professionals continues to affect every rural community in British Columbia. We are not alone in this struggle, communities must travel as far as 90 minutes each way to access emergency care.

Here in Port Hardy, we're doing our part to make this a place where health professionals want to live and work. We continue to invest in recreation, infrastructure, and quality of life, and we're working with our partners on long-term attraction and retention strategies, including advocacy for expanded post-secondary health training opportunities.

Your Mayor and Council remain strongly committed to advocating tirelessly for 24/7 emergency care and improved access to health services for every resident of the North Island. We will continue to keep the community informed as we push for the sustainable solutions our region deserves. Updates are often shared during recorded Council meetings, through reports presented at those meetings, and at the monthly Mount Waddington Regional Hospital District meetings, ensuring our community remains informed and engaged in this ongoing work.

Have questions about what Mayor and Council are working on? Don't guess or rely on online chatter — just ask us! We're always happy to help.

Your Municipality in Motion!



Fifth Edition September/Octobert 2025

In Memory of our Friend Bobby

The District of Port Hardy mourns the passing of our friend and colleague, Robert (Bobby) King, on Friday September, 12, 2025.

For over 25 years, Bobby shared his big smile, bigger heart, and unwavering dedication with all who knew him. His love and passion for his job with the District of Port Hardy and for the family that surrounds him here at the District will always be remembered.

Bobby's presence was a constant in our workplace — including his own chair and spot in the lunchroom for more than two decades, forever known as "Bobby's Spot."

With gratitude to Bobby and his dedication to his District family





CAO update

Celebrating Long-Standing Years of Service with the District!

Brent Borg recently celebrated 30 years with Port Hardy Fire Rescue. His passion, dedication, and commitment have defined his career, and as Fire Chief, he now leads over 30 volunteer firefighters, inspiring excellence across the community.

Susan Bjarnason also marked 28 years with the District. A valued member of our administration team, she's contributed her expertise across bylaw enforcement, building, and finance helping countless community members along the way.

Congratulations to Noramay Isaac, Director of Finance and Deputy CAO

The District of Port Hardy proudly congratulates
Noramay Isaac for completing the
Government Finance
Officers of BC Strategic
Financial Leadership
Program, presented at the
2025 Boot Camp at the
University of Victoria.

This program focuses on applied learning, leadership

growth, and strategic financial management, equipping local government professionals with the skills to lead with innovation and foresight.

Noramay's achievement reflects her dedication to excellence and will strengthen the District's financial planning, accountability, and long-term sustainability. Congratulations, Noramay, on this outstanding accomplishment!

Crock It Like It's Hot! Staff Crock Pot Cook-Off

Our staff fun day turned up the heat with a Crock Pot Cook-Off full of rice, soup, pasta, pulled pork — and even cabbage rolls! Everyone was a winner with a free lunch, but our top chefs took home bragging rights (and the apron that says it all — "Crock it like it's HOT!" .

🏅 Jenna Bjarnason – Tortellini Soup

😿 Kristian Jensen – Curry & Coconut Rice

Noramay Isaac – Savoury Potatoes

Thanks to everyone who cooked, tasted, and cheered – you made it a deliciously fun day!





Honouring National Day for Truth and Reconciliation in Port Hardy

Every year on September 30, the community of Port Hardy comes together to honour the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation — a time for reflection, learning, and unity. This important day acknowledges the tragic legacy of residential schools, honours Survivors, their families, and communities, and reaffirms our shared commitment to reconciliation.

In Port Hardy, we are deeply connected to our First Nations neighbours, including the Kwakiutl,

Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw, and Quatsino Nations. Their histories, languages, and cultures are woven into the heart of our community. On this day, we recognize their strength and resilience, and we renew our promise to walk together in understanding and respect.

Whether through attending local events, wearing orange to show solidarity, or taking time to learn more about Indigenous history and perspectives, each of us has a role in reconciliation. By listening, learning, and standing together, we help build a stronger, more inclusive Port Hardy for generations to come.



District Council, Staff and Contractors Commit to Indigenous-Specific Anti-Racism Training

Throughout this year, District of Port Hardy staff, Council members, and contractors participated in four Indigenous-specific anti-racism training sessions to deepen understanding and strengthen inclusion within our organization and community.

The sessions encouraged open dialogue, reflection, and learning about the impacts of systemic racism and the importance of reconciliation.

A heartfelt thank-you to Stephanie Nelson and Benedict Leonard for facilitating these powerful and insightful sessions that inspired meaningful conversations and growth.

Our continued commitment to anti-racism and reconciliation helps ensure that the District of Port Hardy remains a community rooted in respect, understanding, and collaboration with our First Nations neighbours.





UBCM 2025 Highlights Advocacy in Action for Port Hardy

Mayor and Council attended the 2025 Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Convention, engaging directly with provincial ministers and government officials on key priorities for Port Hardy and the North Island.

From health care to education, heritage, and industry, the delegation worked tirelessly to ensure the voices of remote coastal communities were heard at the provincial level.



Protecting Heritage and Improving the Archaeological Permitting Process Resolution Passes Unanimously at UBCM

A major highlight of UBCM 2025 was the unanimous passage of Port Hardy's resolution calling on the Province to fix delays in the archaeological permitting process under the Heritage Conservation Act.

Mayor Pat Corbett-Labatt introduced the resolution, noting that while protecting cultural heritage is vital, current delays often stall important projects for years — even those with Indigenous support and no archaeological findings, such as the Beaver Harbour Park project. The resolution urges the Province to add staff and streamline processes within the Heritage Conservation Branch to ensure heritage protection and community progress can advance together.



Public Safety & Policing

Meeting with the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General

- RCMP staffing is at full complement for the first time in over two council terms.
- Despite this milestone, a small group of repeat offenders continues to create challenges downtown.
- The province's Provincial Support Team (PST) was discussed as an option for surge capacity.
- Concerns were raised about virtual bail hearings, with calls for improved local knowledge among Crown counsel.
- Port Hardy continues to advocate for improved Crown prosecutor facilities and additional staffing.
- Council also discussed public health impacts of alcohol consumption and the North Island consumption as well as offences relating to bootlegging and minors.



Sustaining the Aquaculture and Blue Economy

Meeting with the Minister of Agriculture and Food

- Council underscored the importance of the aquaculture industry to local employment and Indigenous partnerships.
- Federal closures have led to layoffs and reduced production, prompting requests for provincial advocacy to support balanced, science-based policy.
- The community is exploring Blue Economy opportunities, particularly in shellfish and seaweed farming, with global interest already emerging.
- A lack of a CFIA inspector in Port Hardy continues to limit seafood exports and local sales — an area where provincial support could unlock significant economic potential.

Health Care and Emergency Services

Meeting with the Minister of Health

- Restoring 24/7 emergency room service at the Port Hardy Hospital remains the community's top priority.
- Progress has been made in recruiting doctors and housing medical staff, but nursing and technician shortages persist.
- The North Island helicopter service will continue until at least March, and a new ambulance is expected.
- Council proposed a pilot project to extend ER hours to 7 PM, providing better coverage for high-demand periods.
- The Ministry committed to working toward a regional healthcare plan and exploring a model to strengthen North Island medical services.





Mining and Economic Development

Meeting with the Minister of Mines

- Exploration by Norisle Copper and Gold near Port Hardy shows strong potential for copper, gold, and rare earth resources.
- The project has local and First Nations support and could deliver major economic and employment benefits if environmental and logistical challenges are addressed.
- The Province confirmed adequate power infrastructure remains from past mining operations, while transportation and dock options are under review.

Forestry Partnerships and Growth

Meeting with the Minister of Forests

- The Carrot Park Playground Project has entered the 30-day archeological referral stage after long administrative delays.
- Plans to expand the Community Forest partnership are nearly finalized, adding Quatsino and Kwakiutl Nations as partners and increasing total harvest volume.
- The Community Forest has contributed over \$6 million to local initiatives since its inception.
- Council also discussed the need for more consistent forestry regulations across regions to reduce administrative barriers for small tenures.

Investing in Communities and Infrastructure

Meeting with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs

- Council strongly advocated for the continuation of the Growing Communities Fund, which provides flexible support for local priorities.
- The fund has already enabled key community projects:
 - Water Reservoir Tower securing water reliability.
 - Public Pool Rehabilitation a \$5M project supporting recreation and health.
 - Port Hardy Skateboard Park completed after over a decade of advocacy.
- Council emphasized that traditional grant systems disadvantage remote communities due to higher construction costs and smaller tax bases, urging for continued flexible, needsbased funding.

Post-Secondary Education and Workforce Development

Meeting with the Minister of Post-Secondary Education

- Port Hardy continues to advocate for restored base funding for North Island College's local campus.
- The shift to a grant-based model has reduced training opportunities, forcing students to relocate and deepening local labour shortages.
- Council called for sustainable, communitybased education funding, emphasizing that local access is essential for workforce growth in health, trades, and education.
- The Ministry acknowledged these challenges and committed to further discussions with post-secondary institutions.



A Successful and Productive

Conference

This year's UBCM was not only a platform for advocacy, but also an opportunity for collaboration and service.



District of Port Hardy staff played a key role in supporting the

democratic process, stepping in to assist with scrutineering duties during the UBCM resolution and election sessions.

Staff from Port Hardy joined others from across the province to ensure that the resolution debates and election votes proceeded smoothly, transparently, and in accordance with proper procedure.



The Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM)

Convention allows local governments to connect with provincial decision-makers and share ideas. For details on UBCM operations, ministerial meetings, or participation protocols, contact Heather or Louisa at the District of Port Hardy at 250-949-6665. They are available to answer questions and help residents understand local government representation at the provincial level.



Community Voices Shape Port Hardy's Future

The District of Port Hardy is updating its Official Community Plan (OCP) to meet new provincial housing requirements and reflect the community's vision for a resilient, inclusive, and thriving future. Recent engagement activities—including the September 3 Open House—gathered valuable input from residents and stakeholders.

Key Themes from Community Feedback

Vision Statement: The draft vision received strong support for its inclusivity and ambition. Some participants asked for clearer language around "natural heritage" and emphasized the need for collaboration among all stakeholders.

Housing: There is a clear demand for more senior housing, affordable options, and diverse housing forms such as tiny homes, secondary suites, and apartments. The community stressed the urgency of addressing the housing shortage to attract and retain residents.

Land Use & Placemaking: Residents support walkability, trails, and beautification initiatives. Suggestions included more bike lanes, hiking trails, community gardens, and a vibrant downtown with street markets. Safety and enforcement in public spaces were also raised.

Environment: Protecting natural beauty and water quality is a priority. Concerns were raised about chemical spraying in forests and the feasibility of ambitious emission reduction targets. The community wants clearer implementation details for environmental policies.

Economic Development: Support for small businesses and the marine economy is strong. Residents want more training and apprenticeship opportunities for youth, improved harbour access, and spaces for local retail. Tourism is valued but seen as only part of a diversified economy.

Social & Cultural: Healthcare access, especially reopening the Emergency Room for 24-hour service, is a major concern. There's a desire for more community gathering spaces, public art, and supportive housing for vulnerable populations.

Administration & Implementation: Achieving OCP goals will require financial resources and transparency. Some skepticism exists around climate policies and affordability. Residents want greater community involvement in municipal decisions.

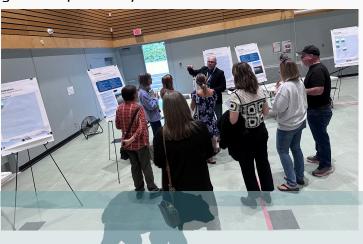
Update

The feedback collected is guiding refinements to the OCP, with a focus on housing choice, community vibrancy, small business resilience, and environmental protection.

We are pleased to announce that the public hearing for the Official Community Plan update was held on October 23. Thank you to everyone who participated and shared their perspectives—your input is helping shape the future of Port Hardy.

Next Steps

We will incorporate all of the feedback and bring the final Official Community Plan to the regular Council Meeting for 3rd reading on November 25, 2025. Council is not taking any more feedback at this time, but if you have questions or concerns, please reach out to CAO Heather Nelson-Smith at general@porthardy.ca or call 250-949-6665



Your Municipality in Motion!



Fifth Edition September/Octobert 2025

Did You Know? Your Local Government Is Here for You!

Did you know that your local government, the District of Port Hardy, is the level of government closest to you? We're the ones you see every day working to keep our community running smoothly; maintaining roads and sidewalks, collecting garbage and recycling, providing clean water, supporting our parks and recreation programs, and helping plan for the future of Port Hardy.

But here's something many people don't realize: some of the questions we get most often about hospitals, crime, homelessness, or social support services aren't actually under local government control. Those are handled by the provincial or federal governments.

That doesn't mean your local Council stays silent! We advocate on your behalf to ensure your concerns are heard by decision-makers at other levels of government.

How Can You Get Involved?

Your voice matters!

If you have ideas or concerns about things like health care, housing, or public safety, reach out to:

Your MLA (Member of the Legislative Assembly)
 Anna Kindy for provincial issues
 Anna.Kindy.MLA@leg.bc.ca

Phone:778-902-8544

 Your MP (Member of Parliament) Aaron Gunn for federal matters.

aaron.gunn@parl.gc.ca Phone: 250-434-0300

Together, we can make sure every level of government hears what matters most to Port Hardy!

What do the different levels of government do?









District

Council **Connection:**

Your Municipality in Motion!



Fifth Edition September/Octobert 2025

Water Conservation Heroes

It is time to celebrate! What are we celebrating, you ask? A success story, one of water conservation! Residents, business owners, and the District have been working hard this year to conserve water. Here's how we got it done:



Conserving water, Level 1...

Watering Restrictions were implemented early in the year. In anticipation of a seasonal drought, with summer just around the corner and the replacement of one of the town's water reservoirs set to begin, early community action to conserve water was a must!

Sleeves up!

Residents and businesses stepped up to the challenge. Spreading the word, fixing leaks, and reducing use both at home and in the workplace helped lower demand on the existing water supply. Out with the old, in with the new! Thanks to the hard work and sheer determination of District crews and contractors, the old tower was replaced and filled by the end of spring. The new reservoir now holds an impressive 2.7 MILLION LITRES of water, increasing the town's storage capacity to a total 5.4 MILLION LITRES of water!

Inspector Gadget or an Easter Egg Hunt?

Identifying, locating, and repairing water Leaks are an ongoing job. With the help of residents and businesses, investigating reports of low pressure and the unusual presence of water in places or at times when it wouldn't otherwise be expected allowed crews to identify leaks. Efforts to repair the damaged infrastructure on both public and private property have significantly reduced water waste!

WE DID IT - Gold star!

Thanks to the community's collective efforts, we've managed to conserve water through the summer and the water reservoir replacement, AND managed to do it without escalating watering restrictions! Hard work ensured there was enough water available for all users - not just for households and commercial use, but also for the environment and emergency response.

Keep it up!

It's important we continue to work together to conserve water, even as we head into the rainy season. Whether at home or at work, being mindful of water consumption on an ongoing basis improves our preparedness and readiness for water conservation. Remember, teamwork makes for dreamwork!







ShakeOut, DROP! COVER! HOLD ON! Don't Freak Out!

On Thursday, October 16 at 10:16 am District staff dropped, covered, and held on! No they weren't on an amusement park ride, it was for the Great British Columbia ShakeOut event. By participating in the annual ShakeOut event, staff were able to brush up on their earthquake preparedness to ensure that when the ground starts to shake they are ready.

Port Hardy Emergency also encouraged residents to hone in on their earthquake readiness. Valuable resources and information were shared out including how to get ready for the "big one."





District

Council Connection:

Your Municipality in Motion!



Fifth Edition September/Octobert 2025

Human Trafficking Isn't What You Think — It Could Be Closer to Home Than You Realize They work excessive hours are unpaid or underpaid.

What is human trafficking?

Many assume human trafficking means crossing international borders or being whisked away to a far-off place. But according to Public Safety Canada, that is a misconception — trafficking can happen in communities across Canada, without border crossings or dramatic film-style abductions.

Human trafficking involves the recruitment, movement or holding of a person for the purpose of exploitation — this may include sexual exploitation or forced labour. Traffickers may use force, threats, emotional abuse or manipulation to exercise control.

Why it matters & who is at risk

- Of police-reported human trafficking incidents in Canada, 93% of victims were women and girls.
- 42% of victims were aged 18-24, and 23% were children or youth under 18.
- Shockingly, 91% of victims knew their trafficker in some way.
- These statistics highlight two important points:
 - a. Trafficking doesn't always look like a stranger pulling someone into a van — often the victim knows, trusts or is manipulated by someone they know.
 - b. Everyone is potentially affected—not just those seen as "vulnerable" in the usual sense—and the risk can be close to home.

Recognizing the signs – what to look for

Since trafficking can happen behind a façade of normalcy — maybe in a neighbour's home, a workplace, or via online lure — it's important to know some of the warning signs:

- A person seems isolated or under someone else's control (e.g., not free to leave, very guarded or monitored).
- The individual has limited access to money, identification, or their movements are restricted.

- They work excessive hours, are unpaid or underpaid, or have conditions that suggest forced labour.
- They show signs of fear, anxiety, depression, or appear intimidated by someone else who is always present.
- They are marketed or commodified online or in workplaces under suspicious terms.
- By being alert to these, community members can play a role in identifying someone in danger.

What to do if you suspect trafficking

If you have reason to suspect someone is being trafficked:

- Don't confront the trafficking situation alone if it might put someone (or you) at risk.
- Contact professionals: In Canada, you can access help via the national hotline run by the Canadian Centre to End Human Trafficking.
 - o Call: 1-833-900-1010
 - Website/Chat:
 - https://www.canadianhumantraffickinghotline.ca
- Report your concerns to local authorities or designated agencies. Time is often critical; early intervention can make a real difference.
- Protect your own safety and the privacy of the person at risk: record concerns, note patterns, but avoid putting yourself in dangerous or uncertain situations.

Realizing it can happen around you

It's easy to think trafficking is something that happens "somewhere else", but the statistics and descriptions from Public Safety Canada underline a harsher reality: it can and does happen in our communities.

Whether it shows up as forced labour in a local business, a young person being manipulated into exploitative relationships, or someone being trafficked via online recruitment — the key is awareness.

When we remain vigilant, informed and ready to act, we make our communities safer.

Your Municipality in Motion!



Fifth Edition September/Octobert 2025

Operational Services Update Aug/Sept

Utilities Department

- Achieved zero permit violations and maintained full regulatory compliance for both water and wastewater services.
- Installed new PLC and controls at Bear Cove Reservoir; completed emergency repairs and leak detection in key areas.
- Collected water quality samples and completed outfall dive inspections with positive results.
- Smoke testing identified and began planning to correct reversed stormwater/sewer pipes at two properties.

Capital Projects

- Completed Seagate Water Line Repair, resolving a long-standing infrastructure need.
- Installed a new streaming current meter for improved water system monitoring.

Public Works

- Supported community events (Night Market) with road closures, vendor assistance, and cleanup.
- Removed stream blockages and danger trees, improving safety and environmental health.
- Conducted monthly park/playground inspections and regular street sweeping, grading, and repairs.

Fleet Services

Serviced multiple fleet vehicles and heavy equipment internally; passed CVI audit and shop hoist inspection.

Building Maintenance

Repaired municipal hall roof leak, arena wall, and Bear Cove ramp grating; maintained civic facilities and fire hall gutters.

Safety & Training

- Provided Citywide GIS training and ergonomic workstation demos; conducted hearing tests for staff.
- Held monthly safety meetings and risk management sessions for front-line staff.

Leadership & Planning

- Advanced the 2026 Operations Strategic Plan and participated in senior staff meetings for high-level decision-making.
- Submitted final report for intersection study, Vision Zero Grant, and coordinated security camera upgrades for key locations.



Click or call BC 1 Call before you dig applies to outdoor improvement projects, big or small, such as:

- Installing posts for fences, mailboxes, realtor signs, welcome signs, etc.
- Building decks, retaining walls, patios, and installing fire pits
- Residential construction
- Tree planting and digging a garden
- · Anchoring playground equipment
- Installing In-driveway heating systems
- Unblocking a sewage line

Request a locate <u>online</u> 24/7/365..
Or call our toll-free number: 1-800-474-6886
during Call Centre hours

Your Municipality in Motion!



Fifth Edition September/Octobert 2025

Recreational Services Update Aug/Sept

Facility Improvements & Upgrades

- Early ice season launched with a successful "Too Cool for Summer" public skate party; ice was built and painted to high standards.
- Men's pool changeroom upgraded with a baby seat and changing stall, now available in all change facilities.
- Arena west wall repairs completed for two of seven panels, improving efficiency and climate control
- New vending machine installed in the main lobby, offering expanded snack and drink options.
- Three new recycling bins added through the On-The-Go bin program, enhancing sustainability and facility appearance.

Program Growth & Community Engagement

- Swimming lessons and summer camps continued throughout August; fall season planning underway.
- After School Club and Pro D Camps expanded, supported by a \$9,000 BC Alliance for Healthy Living grant; registration increased from 14 to 23 kids for after-school club, and 83 kids attended barrier-free recreation camps. Pathways Youth Collective soccer event hosted in partnership with North Island Crisis and Counselling Centre, drawing 30 youth for a successful community game.
- Bushido Shotokan Karate-do Club became a Districtaffiliated program, with improved registration and facility support.
- Yoga and karate classes relocated to Eagle View gym, freeing up Civic Centre space for additional pickleball sessions and reducing cancellations.

Staffing & Leadership

 Three new staff members hired: MJ Tholl (Lifeguard/Instructor 2), Kayden Heith, and Marcus Russell (Skate Patrol/Program Assistants). Melanie McRann hired as temporary Community
 Outreach Coordinator, bringing strong skills in multitasking, creativity, and community engagement

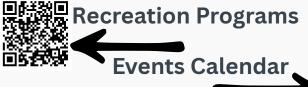
Challenges & Planning

- Civic Centre scheduling challenges due to high demand for programs and rentals, highlighting the need for additional facilities.
- Proposal to extend ice season discussed, weighing benefits for youth and hockey programs against operational costs and staff availability.









Your Municipality in Motion!



Fire department Update July-Sept

Capital Projects

- urchased and upgraded a used duty truck from Colwood Fire Department; truck delivered and now in service.
- Secured UBCM NG911 grant funding for Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) systems for dispatch centers and vehicles; supplier quotes requested.

Operations

- Implemented new operational guidelines and maintenance checklists for equipment and truck checks.
- Weekly meetings held to discuss operational changes, training, and recruitment.

Membership & Recruitment

Maintained a roster of 28 members: 7 officers, 1 senior firefighter, 16 firefighters, 4 recruits, and 3 admin staff.

Emergency Responses

- Responded to 64 calls, totalling 392 member hours; average of six members per incident.
- Zero structure fires reported this quarter.
- Significant reduction in false alarms at Providence
 Place (from 5 in July to 0 in August and September).

Fleet & Hall Maintenance

Completed CVIs, annual pump and ladder testing, air compressor service, and truck waxing/polishing Received CHIEF 1 (2013 Chevrolet Tahoe) to replace Command 16.

Safety & Training

- Held 13 practice nights, three weekend hall duties, two OHS meetings, and three officer meetings.
- Training included wildland fire, ladders, SCBA, search drills, rope rescue, and fire evolutions.

Three members attended low-slope rope rescue training in Port Alice.

Community Involvement

- Hosted a pop-up water park for Canada Day celebrations.
- Participated in FILOMI Days parade and hosted salmon BBQ with MOWI.
- · Loaded and launched FILOMI Days fireworks
- Provided Fire Hall tours for Numata visitors and attended Gwa'sala-Nakwaxada'xw Big House ceremonial fire pit test burn.

Continuous Improvement

Continued streamlining processes and updating Standard Operating Guidelines based on recommendations from Tim Pley & Associates.









Tell us how YOU

want to celebrate



Nominate a volunteer



We were thrilled to see approximately 75 attendees come together to celebrate at our third Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast on October 26, 2025 to showcase the incredible efforts of those who make Port Hardy a wonderful community to live, work, and play. To keep this spirit of appreciation alive, we are now accepting nominations for outstanding individuals or organizations year-round. Simply scan the QR code to submit your nominations at any time. Additionally, we value your input and want to ensure our celebrations reflect your preferences. Please take a moment to complete our short 5question survey to let us know how you would like to be honoured in the future. Your feedback is crucial in helping us recognize and celebrate your invaluable contributions.

COACH WINNERS



ENVIRONMENTAL HERO WINNERS



COMMUNITY SPIRIT WINNERS



COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER WINNERS











YOUTH VOLUNTEER WINNERS



EMERGENCY RESPONSE HERO WINNERS



OUTSTANDING SENIOR WINNERS



*

OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION WINNERS



OUR VOLUNTEERS
MAKE
PORT HARDY
TRULY
BEAUTIFUL!



DISTRICT OF PORT HARDY NEWS & EVENTS





Reminder!

Biweekly curbside residential garbage pick-up now in effect.

Port Hardy

Visit porthardy.ca for the 2025 Garbage & Recycling Calendar.

IT'S BUDGET TIME!

The District of Port Hardy is gearing up the 2026 financial planning process. Tune in to the upcoming Finance Committee meetings to learn more about how Council and staff are working together to plan for a bright future for Port Hardy. Check out the District's online meeting portal to view meeting agendas and register to attend virtually. Visit porthardy.ca for more information or contact staff at 250.949.6665.

2025 Volunteer Appreciation Awards

On October 26th the District of Port Hardy proudly celebrated with some of our community's cherished volunteers with a delicious appreciation breakfast and award ceremony.



This year's nominees and recipients have been shining stars in the community. Each has gone above and beyond, selflessly giving time to help others, sharing their knowledge, passion, and kindness.



Read up on the 2025 nominees & recipients Congratulations to our 2025 nominees and recipients.
Your contributions truly make Port Hardy a wonderful place to live, work and play. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS YEAR ROUND FOR OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS

Volunteerism is alive and strong in Port Hardy throughout the year. If you know an outstanding volunteer deserving of recognition, nominate them today!





E-BILLING NOW AVAILABLE!

Tired of waiting for your bill to arrive in the mail? Property owners can now sign up to receive property tax notices and utility bills from the District electronically as soon as the bill is issued! An email address is required to register for this service. Learn more at www.porthardy.ca or call 250.949.6665.

WHAT'S IN YOUR EMERGENCY BAG?

Emergencies can happen at any time. With winter storm season fast approaching, the likelihood of power outages due to severe weather events increases. Having an emergency kit stocked with supplies to last a minimum of 72 hours can help keep yourself and loved ones safe when the time comes. Visit Port Hardy Emergency at porthardy.ca for preparedness tips including what to pack in your emergency kit or grab-and-go bag.

ALL OUR LINKS IN ONE SPOT!





FALL 2025

PORT HARDY RECREATION GUIDE



Early Bird Discount
Aug 25 - Sept 15
25% off Yoga, Aquafit & Lengths
Register for our programs online or in person
The pool will be closed for scheduled maintenance Oct 29 - Nov 15

7400 Columbia St. | Port Hardy, BC V0N 2P0
Register online: https://app.univerusrec.com/porthardyrecreationpub/index.asp
For more information: 250.949.6686 | recreation@porthardy.ca
All programs may be subject to change or cancellation

