

# Electoral Area A Community Update

October 2021  
Issue 6

## WELCOME - BAYNES SOUND - DENMAN/ HORNBY ISLANDS

Thank you for reading our sixth Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) Electoral Area A Community Update. This is our final issue for 2021.

JOIN US for an online update Wednesday, Oct. 13 (12-1 PM) to hear more about these initiatives and ask questions of your Directors.

Reserve your spot at [www.connectcvr.ca/electoralareas](http://www.connectcvr.ca/electoralareas)



## Union Bay Improvement District (UBID) services transferred to CVRD

On July 1, 2021, all UBID services were successfully transferred to the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD). Thanks to everyone who supported this transition to ensure a smooth process.

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

Methods of bill payment are spelled out on our website at [www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/about/finance/utilities-accounts](http://www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/about/finance/utilities-accounts) and include:

- Credit card by phone at 250-334-6000
- Through financial institutions either in-person or via online banking.
- Mail to the CVRD main office at 770 Harmston Ave., Courtenay, BC V9N 0G8.
- Drop box at the Union Bay Market.

There will be no more pre-authorized payments – and new account numbers were issued in July 2021. If you have any questions – please contact 250-334-6000.



## Comox Valley Water Treatment Project Celebrates Completion

Fresh, filtered and fully disinfected drinking water is now flowing to 50,000 residents in the Comox Valley. The new treatment plant meets Provincial water treatment standards, removing the need for turbidity-related boil water notices. This project was the CVRD's largest infrastructure project to date. The \$126-million system includes a new water intake in Comox Lake, lakeshore pump station, transmission lines and treatment plant. The project was funded by a combination of reserves, Federal and Provincial grants and loans. The project contractor, AECON Water Infrastructure, created many new job opportunities and apprenticeships for the duration of this project which began in 2019. The completion ceremony was held on September 21 and the facility is now fully operational. Area A is not connected to the new infrastructure and therefore does not contribute to paying for the installation or operation of the new facilities.

Visit the website for more information about this project:

[www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/watertreatment](http://www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/watertreatment)

## Fanny Bay Playground Open

This summer saw completion of the new playground at Fanny Bay Community Hall. This project was put into action by the Fanny Bay Community Association, volunteers, and the support of the CVRD. Funding was provided provided by way of a contribution of Community Works Funds through the Canada Community - Building Fund (formerly Federal Gas Tax).



## Get Prepared this Fall

While the heat and dryness of the summer season is now passed, there's always more to know when it comes to emergency preparedness year-round!



Now that fall is upon us, residents should prepare for potential disruptions to phone, sewer, gas, or power service during the upcoming severe weather season (intense rain, wind and/or snow events). It's important to have an easy-to-follow home emergency plan and make sure you have supplies on hand for members of your household and pets too! Visit [www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/getprepared](http://www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/getprepared) for more information about what to stock in your emergency kits.



Fire season isn't over. Emergency volunteer firefighters need your help- homeowners are advised to review the tips from the FireSmart program to keep homes and properties safe. Help our local firefighters reduce the risk of fires in our communities by following simple fire safety tips. Visit [www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/firesmart](http://www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/firesmart) to learn more.



Thank you to our local firefighters who volunteered to support wildfire management elsewhere in the province this summer. Your commitment is truly remarkable.

### Did you know?

You can sign up to receive local emergency notifications at [www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/getnotified](http://www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/getnotified) or call the CVRD at 250-334-6000 to register to receive local emergency notifications by text message and voice calls.

## Hornby and Denman Islands High Speed Internet Referendum November 27.

Residents on Denman and Hornby Islands are invited to weigh on a proposed new service that will enable high-speed internet service in their communities. The CVRD is seeking to borrow \$767,677 to complete the installation of 'last mile' infrastructure to connect homes and businesses. This would cost ratepayers an estimated \$40/year for 10 years (based on average house value).

To learn more about this proposal, which builds on research and support from the Denman/Hornby Island Internet Committee and Connected Coast Project, join us for a virtual Open House on Oct 6, 12:00 noon -1:00 pm or Oct 7, 5:00 pm -6:00 pm.

Registration links and more information is available at [www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/islandsinternet](http://www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/islandsinternet)

**General Voting will be held: November 27, 2021 8:00 am – 8:00 pm**

Seniors Center, 1111 NW Road, Denman Island, BC

New Horizons Seniors Hall, 1765 Sollans Road, Hornby Island, BC.



### Questions?

Phone: 250-650-8480

Email: [reachme@danielarbour.ca](mailto:reachme@danielarbour.ca)

## AREA A BRIEFS

### Essential services planning in Union Bay and Royston

The communities of Royston and Union Bay are facing multiple essential services needs and the CVRD continues to assess options for addressing these. In the summer of 2021, a new comprehensive approach to analyze future requirements for the area was launched. Reports on a Water Master Plan for the Union Bay system; on the moving over of Royston water from Cumberland to Comox Lake; on the need for a new Union Bay firehall; and on opportunities for community sewage will be presented. The goal is to develop a plan for these large infrastructure projects in a holistic way. Watch for more updates in the months to come.

### 2022 Budget Planning: How to Get Involved

A new year means a new start to the annual budget process for the CVRD. In January 2022, we will begin the next annual public presentation phase and encourage everyone to get involved.

Learn more at

[www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/finance](http://www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/finance).

#### HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE?

- Watch CVRD meetings live at [www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/livestream](http://www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/livestream) or watch recorded sessions at [www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/minutes](http://www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/minutes)
- Submit comments or questions to [www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/budgetinquiries](http://www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/budgetinquiries)
- Present to the Board or local committees through a formal delegation
- Directly contact a CVRD board member
- Call 250-334-6000 to share comments/questions.