



MOUNTAINS OF OPPORTUNITY
CRANBROOK

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Council Highlights

April 27, 2020



Council Reviews Extension Of 2020 Property Tax Penalty Deadline for Business to October 1st

Commercial properties (light industrial, business, and recreation/non-profit) in Cranbrook will have an extra three months to pay their 2020 property tax to the City without penalty up to October 1, 2020.



The due date for all property owners remains July 2. Late payment penalties will be applied to unpaid balances on July 3rd for residential, utility and farm properties. The later penalty date of October 1 enacted by the Province, applies to commercial properties only.

In a communique issued on April 16, 2020, the Province announced temporary changes to the property tax framework including measures to provide financial support for businesses. The Province has postponed the application of late payment penalties for property tax on commercial properties to October 1, 2020. The Province has also reduced the school tax rate for commercial properties resulting in a tax savings of approximately 11% for commercial properties in Cranbrook.

Council reviewed the temporary changes to the Provincial property tax framework at

The City is strongly encouraging all property owners, including businesses, who can pay, to pay their taxes by the July 2 due date.

[See More](#)

Council Endorses Plan to Defer Nearly \$7.3 Million In Projects In 2020

In an effort to help reduce costs in the municipality during the COVID-19 pandemic, Council endorsed a plan Monday night which defers more than \$7.3 million dollars in projects. Most of these projects will be carried forward to 2021.



The Industrial Land Development (ILD) projects, which included construction of deep and shallow utilities, and gravel road installation, have been removed from the 2020 budget, for the time being, due to the uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 situation. Approximately \$566,000 of that budget will be reallocated back to the 2020 Capital Works Program. The City is diligently working to complete the subdivision and environmental assessment processes of this project. The ILD project will come back for discussion during the 2021 - 2025 budget deliberations.

[Learn More](#)

Council Approves Waiving of Some Monthly Downtown Parking Fees Until End of June

Customers who lease parking spaces downtown Cranbrook will have their monthly fees suspended retroactive from April 1 until June 30, 2020, after a decision of Council at their regular meeting Monday.



The decision was made in response to the current COVID-19 pandemic and is to help reduce the financial burden on residents who work downtown and may have had their work hours reduced or have been laid off. The City will also be suspending the need for payment at all metered parking spots through the downtown for the same period.

Council Accepts Draft 2019 Financial Statements



The [City of Cranbrook's financial statements](#) have been prepared by City staff in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles for governments in the Province of British Columbia and are comprised of the [following statements and their accompanying notes](#).

See More

Council Reviews 2020 Municipal Tax Rates

Council directed staff Monday night to bring back a tax rate bylaw for 3 readings and adoption at the May 11, 2020 regular meeting resulting in a general municipal tax burden distribution of roughly 61% residential property class and 36% business property class with a general municipal tax increase to the residential class of 2.88%.

Staff proposed the municipal tax rates be developed with the objective that the tax burden ratio of the residential and business classes be maintained roughly at 61/36. The overall increase for the residential class will be 2.88%. This is the same as the City's overall tax levy increase for 2020 communicated through the City of Cranbrook 2020 - 2024 Five Year Financial Plan Summary circulated to the public in December 2019 prior to the adoption of the budget in January.

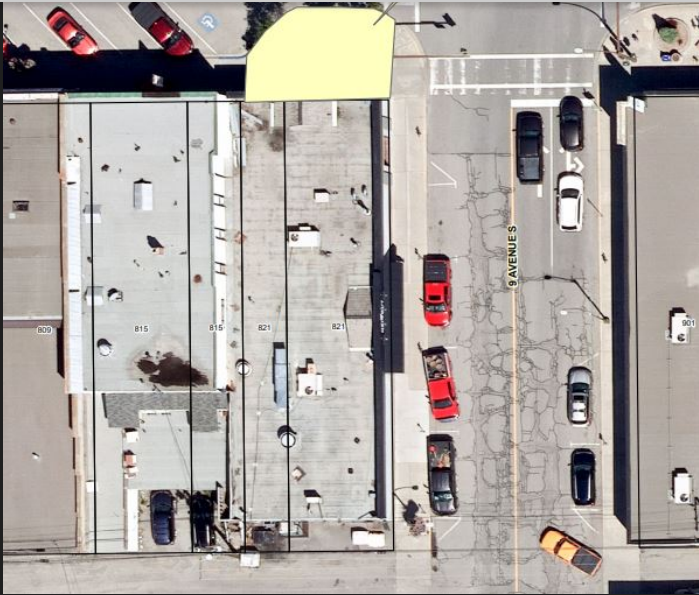
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City's Business Development Officer Darren Brewer [provided an update on economic response and resiliency](#) around COVID-19 Monday.

Covid 19 Response / Resiliency

April 27th, 2020
Darren Brewer
Business Development Officer

Patio Approved For
Heid Out Restaurant



Council [approved an application for a downtown seasonal patio](#)

from The Heid Out for a new proposed sidewalk patio on Baker Street in front of the restaurant located at 821 Baker Street.

Council Approves Projects & Funds For 2020/2021 CBT Community Initiatives and Affected Areas Program

The Columbia Basin Trust Community Initiatives and Affected Areas Program are funding programs designed to help address the needs of Basin communities.



The proposed allocation of funds for Cranbrook in 2020 is \$290,532.13.

Council's recommendation will be forwarded to the RDEK Board for review. The RDEK Board will review recommendations at its meeting on May 29, 2020 and approved Applicants will be contacted by a representative from the RDEK on June 5.

[Inquire](#)

Council Directs Staff To Apply For Wildlife Permit in 2020

Council directed staff to apply to the Province for a wildlife permit for the

Council Considers Amendment To Council Procedure Bylaw To Allow For Electronic Meetings

Council directed staff to amend the City's Council Procedure Bylaw to allow for electronic Council meetings as permitted under Section 128 of the

all of 2020 to manage the urban deer population.

However, Council wish it be made clear to the Province that the current method of culling does not work and the City will be proposing alternatives as part of the permit application process.

[Inquire](#)

Community Charter. In order for Council to participate in electronic meetings, the procedure

bylaw must authorize the use of electronic meetings, the local government must also provide notice of electronic meetings, and provide the appropriate facilities and equipment to give the public the opportunity to hear, or watch and hear, the participation of Council.

City staff have been working to equip the City's chamber to meet these requirements.

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Administration Update

- [1st Quarter Building Statistics \(January – March 2020\)](#)
- [Cranbrook Transit](#)
- [COVID-19 Financial Update](#)
- [City 2020 Insurance Renewals](#)
- [2020 Capital Works Program Update](#)
- [Sam Steele Days 2020 Postponed](#)
- [Confederation Park Update](#)
- [KEYSA Sports Dome/ BMX Relocation](#)

[Inquire](#)

Correspondence

- [Correspondence from Carol Hatala, received April 23, 2020 re: Cranbrook Stay at Home Gala.](#)
- [Correspondence from G. Santucci et. al, Cranbrook History Centre received April 20, 2020 re: Economic Recovery - Projects.](#)

Important Dates

Regular Council Meeting
May 11 @ 6pm

[Subscribe](#)

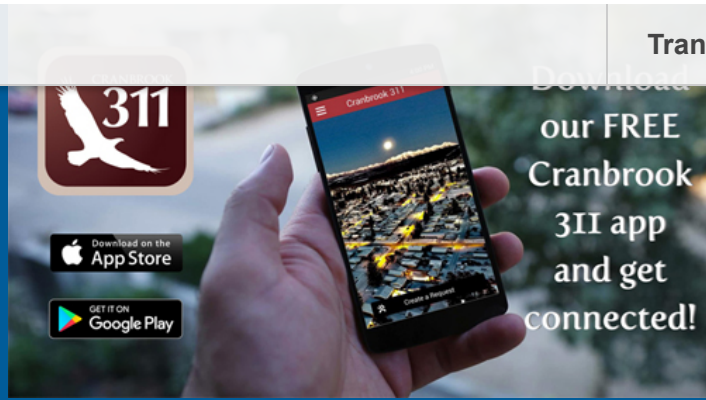
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[Regular Council Meeting](#)

May 25 @ 6pm



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