



JANUARY 2025

## LADYSMITH LINKS

### UTILITY BILL PAYMENTS DUE FEBRUARY 27, 2025

Utility Bills for October to December are due February 27, 2025. We encourage you to pay online through your financial institution. However, payments can be made in person at City Hall using debit, cash or cheque, by mail or by using our after-hours drop box. Postmarks will not be accepted as date of payment.

The Town offers a pre-authorized withdrawal program that will automatically debit your bank account in the amount of your bill on the due date.

If you have questions about your bill, please call 250.245.6400 or email: [billing@ladysmith.ca](mailto:billing@ladysmith.ca).

### 2025 By-Election Declared for March 1

The 2025 by-election for the mayoral seat on Ladysmith Town Council has officially been declared by the Chief Election Officer for Saturday, March 1.

Voting will take place on election day between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm at the Frank Jameson Community Centre. Advance voting opportunities are available to qualified electors on Wednesday, February 19 and Wednesday, February 26 from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm at City Hall.

For those interested in running, nomination packages are available on the Town's website or at City Hall, 410 Esplanade. Completed packages must be returned to City Hall between January 14 and January 24. Early or late submissions will not be accepted.

Council officially appointed Donna Smith as Chief Election Officer to oversee the upcoming by-election during a Special Meeting of Council on Wednesday, December 11. The Chief Election Officer is tasked with overseeing all aspects of the by-election, in accordance with provincial legislation.

The by-election was triggered after Mayor Aaron Stone stepped down from his role as mayor in September.

"The Town of Ladysmith would like to once again express its gratitude to former Mayor Aaron Stone for his unwavering dedication and exceptional service to our community throughout his tenure," says Acting Mayor McKay.

# TOWN OF LADYSMITH



## 2025 Dog Licenses

All dogs over the age of 6 months must be licensed in the Town of Ladysmith. Annual dog licences are available at City Hall (410 Esplanade) during regular office hours, the Frank Jameson Community Centre (810 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue) and For Pet's Sake pet store (416 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue).

The fees for dog licences are as follows: For neutered or spayed dogs, the fee is \$31 if purchased by January 31, and \$41 if purchased between February 1 and December 31. For dogs that are not neutered or spayed, the fee is \$49 until January 31, and \$59 between February 1 and December 31.

Coastal Animal Control Services provides animal control services and pound facilities to the Town of Ladysmith. Coastal Animal Control is located at 2202 Herd Road, Duncan, BC, and can be reached toll free at 1.888.754.1397. Emergency Services are available on a 24-hour basis.

## Business Licence Renewals due by February 28

The Town of Ladysmith offers inter-municipal business licences with Duncan, North Cowichan and Lake Cowichan.

Your Ladysmith business licence is valid when you offer mobile business services within these three other communities.

The cost of an annual business licence is \$100. Renew by February 28, 2025 to avoid a \$25 late payment fee.

Ladysmith business owners who carry out work in additional Central Vancouver Island municipalities can purchase an Inter-Community Business Licence for an additional \$170.00, making it \$270.00 for the pair. Following are the participating municipalities and districts: Campbell River, Parksville, Qualicum Beach, Courtenay, Port Alberni, Cumberland, Duncan, Lake Cowichan, Comox, Lantzville, Sooke, North Cowichan and Nanaimo.

## Dates to Remember

By-Election	New Utility Rates in Effect	Utility Due Dates	Dog Licences	Business Licence	Property Tax Due Dates
Mar 1, 2025	Starting Jan 1, 2025	Feb 27, 2025 May 29, 2025 Aug 28, 2025 Nov 27, 2025	Jan 31, 2025	Feb 28, 2025	July 2, 2025

## EMERGENCY AND ROUTINE NOTIFICATIONS

Have you signed up for the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) Emergency Alert Registration service to receive emergency alerts for the area, including Ladysmith? This free service provides information on Evacuation Routes, Alerts and Orders and available/open ESS Reception Centres. To register: [www.alertable.ca/signup/?site=Cowichan](http://www.alertable.ca/signup/?site=Cowichan)



## What Happens When it Snows in Ladysmith

In the event of a snowfall, the first priority for the plows is to clear access to public buildings such as the Community Health Centre, RCMP detachment, Ambulance Station and Fire/Rescue Station.

We then clear and maintain all main roads on a 24-hour basis as the snow continues to fall.

Our primary concern is keeping the main roadways—1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Dogwood Drive, Davis Road and Chemainus Road—open to traffic.

Weather permitting, we then clear snow from the main hills throughout the Town, focusing on widening the roads we have already cleared to make room for traffic. Local neighbourhood roads will be cleared after the main thoroughfares (listed above) are completed.

Through roads will be cleared first, and then cul-de-sacs. Did you know it can take about 48 hours to clear all 60 kilometres of roads in Ladysmith? Remember that it is your responsibility to shovel the sidewalks bordering your property by 10:00 am after a snowfall. This helps to ensure the safety of your neighbours and other pedestrians.

## 2025 Winter Activity Guide Available

The 2025 Winter Activity Guide is now available online!

Check out the great variety of programming offered this Winter - everything from swimming lessons to square dancing!

Registration is now open and the guide is available online at <https://www.ladysmith.ca/parks-recreation-culture/programs>.






## GARBAGE ROUTE SCHEDULE

The 2025 pick-up routes have been released. Not sure what route you are on? Find out on the “Collections Route by Street” document found on our website. Look for your road and it will show you the colour and zone of your schedule. Once you know which schedule is yours, open the corresponding document.

For more information visit: <https://www.ladysmith.ca/our-services/garbage-recycling/pick-up-routes-and-schedules>



## CONNECT WITH US. WE WANT TO HEAR WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY.

-  Follow us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/LadysmithBC](http://www.facebook.com/LadysmithBC)
-  Follow us on X [@TownOfLadysmith](https://twitter.com/TownOfLadysmith)
-  Follow us on Instagram [ladysmithbc](https://www.instagram.com/ladysmithbc)

## Town seeks artists for Community Banner Program

Have you ever wanted to show off your artwork in a way that an entire community could see it? Well, now is your chance. The Town is inviting artists of all ages from Ladysmith, Stz'uminus and the surrounding area to submit designs for the 2025 Community Banner Program. Designs must represent Ladysmith's small-town charm, community life and diverse cultural heritage, while highlighting the Community Banner Program's theme. This year's theme, "Coastal Living: Growing Our Future Together," celebrates Ladysmith's stunning seaside, which supports an abundance of life and serves as a place of growth and healing for all our residents.

"The Community Banner Program has been a source of joy and pride in Ladysmith since its inception. Over 150 banners are displayed on light standards throughout our historic downtown each year, bringing vibrancy and strengthening our sense of community during the high season for tourism and local events," says Acting Mayor McKay.

The winning designs will be displayed along 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue. An honorarium of \$1,000 will be awarded to the artist whose designs are chosen by the Selection Committee. Artists must submit a completed entry form that includes their designs to [bid@ladysmith.ca](mailto:bid@ladysmith.ca) before 4:00 pm on Friday, January 31, 2025. Entry Forms and Guidelines: <https://www.ladysmith.ca/parks-recreation-culture/culture/community-banner-program>.



**CONTACT US** 250.245.6400 / [info@ladysmith.ca](mailto:info@ladysmith.ca)

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[www.ladysmith.ca](http://www.ladysmith.ca)

GET CONNECTED   

