

ADMINISTRATION UPDATES

OCTOBER 7, 2024 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Outline of Activities for Small Business Week – October 20 to 26, 2024

Small business week is being celebrated nationally from October 20 to 26, 2024. In Vernon, there will be a number of events and activities to recognize small businesses including:

- Tuesday, October 22, 2024: Vernon Business Walks coordinated by the Economic Development and Partnerships department where volunteer walkers are expected to survey more than 100 small businesses in various industries throughout the community. The results of the survey will be presented to Council in November.
- Wednesday, October 23, 2024: Community Futures North Okanagan's 40th Anniversary event. CFNO will be celebrating their 40th anniversary with an open house, showcasing all of their small business and employment services, beginning at 1pm at their offices at 3105 33rd Street.
- Thursday, October 24, 2024: Greater Vernon Chamber of Commerce will be hosting their 40th Annual Business Excellence Awards at the Vernon and District Performing Arts Centre beginning at 6pm. Local small businesses, entrepreneurs, and business leaders will be recognized in 18 different categories. The City of Vernon is the sponsor for Employer of the Year Award again for 2024.

RECREATION SERVICES

Ice In/Out Schedule 2025-2029

Administration has a new comprehensive Ice In/Out schedule for 2025-2029 which aims to address maintenance challenges at Kal Tire Place North and the unsuitability of Priest Valley Arena for the Lacrosse Association due to low ceilings and limited spectator seating. The new schedule will help maintain facilities and equipment efficiently and allow the North Okanagan Minor Lacrosse Association to host provincials every three years.

Administration proactively met with impacted user groups and tenants to inform them of the Ice In/Out schedule for 2025-2029, providing ample opportunity to prepare for the changes.

Historically, the Ice In/Out schedule was:

- **Priest Valley Arena (PV)**
 - Ice out after Easter long weekend, ice in after Labour Day long weekend
- **Kal Tire Place North (KTPN)**
 - Ice remained in all year
- **Kal Tire Place South (KTPS)**
 - Ice out after Victoria Day long weekend or end of Vernon Vipers play-offs, whichever is later. Ice in after B.C. Day long weekend

The new schedule for Ice In/Out for 2025-2029 is as follows:

In/Out Schedule 2025-2029	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Ice remains in for the summer	KTPN	PV	KTPN	KTPN	PV
Ice Out – After Easter Monday	PV	KTPN	PV	PV	KTPN
Ice In – After Labour Day					

Kal Tire Place South is excluded from the new Ice In/Out schedule for 2025-2029 due to high operating costs and negative impacts on annual events. However, there may be increased costs to operate Kal Tire Place South and Priest Valley Arena simultaneously from during the shoulder seasons of April to May and August to September.

Under the rotational use of ice surfaces, Recreation Operations can efficiently and effectively maintain the arenas with tasks and projects that cannot be complete if the ice is kept in all year around. Additionally, Administration is currently planning to replace the Kal Tire Place Condenser Tower in 2026. The condenser serves both ice surface and the project will disable our ability to maintain and sustain refrigerated ice surfaces during the replacement.

OPERATION SERVICES

Road Rehabilitation – Eastside Road

Public works crews have completed base failure work in preparation for overlay paving on Eastside Rd between Smith Rd and Kokanee Rd. Based on the weather and contractor availability, paving may be postponed until the spring of 2025.

Pleasant Valley Road/39th Avenue Roundabout ([Project 2024-08](#))

The project has been advertised for Request for Proposals (RFP)- construction services. The RFP will close on October 22, 2024 and awarded following review of the proposals. Construction is planned to start early in 2025.

43rd Street Vernon Creek Crossing ([Project 2024-05](#))

Work continues on the road reconstruction and new bridge structure with the girders and bridge deck installation. Traffic continues to detour around the site and the contractor continues to work with the adjacent businesses and residents regarding the change in traffic and pedestrian patterns.

DND Playground Renewal ([Project 2024-03](#))

Work continues on the DND Playground Renewal project. The playground structure has been installed and is safe for families to use. The project still has work to be completed around the site including, shade trees, grass, irrigation, fencing and landscape rocks. A split rail fence will be installed on the lower and upper halves of the parking area and large rocks and trees will be placed along the corresponding sides. These features will restrict vehicle access while maintaining open accessibility for users. The construction activities may result in temporary closures of the playground from now until the end of October.



32nd Avenue and 38th Street Reconstruction: ([Project 2023-05](#))

Construction is progressing on the 32nd Avenue and 38th Street project. Road closures for utility work in the 30th Avenue and 38th Street intersection were completed the week of September 29. Letters to nearby residents will continue to be distributed for any temporary utility service outages while construction progresses. The project is on budget and planned to be complete at the end of October.

32nd Avenue – 15th Street to 18th Street Reconstruction (Phase 3) ([Project 2024-24](#))

Construction of this phase of the project continues and is planned for completion in October 2024. The project is currently on time and budget. On street parallel parking will be constructed on the north side of 32nd Avenue adjacent to Lakeview Market and on the south side of 32nd Avenue adjacent to Lakeview Park.

2024 Okanagan Landing Sewer - Longacre Drive ([Project 2024-17](#))

Construction of the sewer collector pipe in Longacre Drive area continues with completion expected later in 2024. The project is currently on time and budget.

Foothills Storm Infrastructure Improvements – Foothills Drive Pathway/Ravine ([Project 2024-04](#))

City of Vernon crews have completed construction of a new stormwater outfall below the Foothills Loop Trail from Foothills Drive to Whitecourt Place. The trail has been reconstructed around the new outfall structure and the trail has been opened back up to the public.

30th Avenue – 29 Street to 33rd Street Paving Rehabilitation

The final phase of paving on 30 Ave downtown between 32nd St and 33rd St was completed on schedule reopening to motorists on the evening of September 27th. The project also included improvements to the traffic signals at 29th Street and 30th Avenue, as well as 30th Street and 30th Avenue, upgrading from detection loops to detection cameras.

