

BUSINESS NEWSLETTER

December 2022



We acknowledge and thank the WSÁNEĆ people on whose traditional territory we live, play, learn and grow.

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Trouble finding staff? New WorkBC office in Brentwood can help

Beacon Community Services is now offering WorkBC Employment Services in Central Saanich. WorkBC assists employers with recruitment needs by posting job ads, coordinating job fairs and hosting employer forums (virtual and in person) at no cost. WorkBC placement services and wage subsidy programs can even help you offset the cost of recruiting and training a new employee.

To learn more, sign up for WorkBC's quarterly employer newsletter by emailing clc@beaconcs.ca; stop by the Central Saanich office or give them a call at 778-351-0310.

Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 8:30 am-4:30 pm
Location: 7060 West Saanich Road

NOW OPEN: Grant for businesses to install electric vehicle chargers

Do you want to add a public charging station to your commercial property? Central Saanich's new *Business Electric Vehicle (EV) Charger Grant* offers up to 50 per cent of the overall cost of a Level 2 charging station (to a maximum of \$5,000 rebate per station).

Businesses in the communities of Central Saanich, Tsartlip and Tsawout First Nations, as well as not-for-profit organizations that provide a public service within the District are encouraged to apply.

The District of Central Saanich will publicize the location of businesses with charging stations.

Participants are encouraged to combine this grant with other rebates that may be available. Participating businesses may also choose to charge drivers for the time they spend hooked up to the charger.

To learn more about EV chargers, whether your site is suitable and how to seek pre-approval for a grant, visit CSaanich.ca/EVchargergrant.



Shop Local

Promote your business to local customers on Central Saanich's business directory.

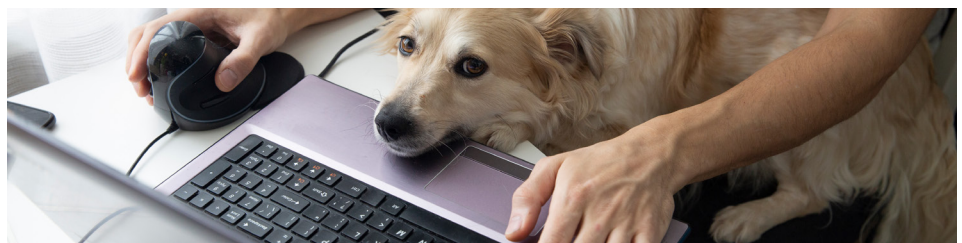
If you are a Central Saanich-based business with a valid business licence and would like to be included on the list, please visit CSaanich.ca/BusinessDirectory.



Coming 2023: Apply online for permits

In early 2023, we will launch an online portal to enable electronic submission and processing for plumbing, tree and building permits and development applications.

This will improve customer service by reducing printing costs, eliminating travel and time spent in person at Municipal Hall, and make the process easier, clearer and faster overall.



Keating parking study

The District recently conducted a study on the parking demand in the Keating Business District; this included forecasting the required parking in the next 20 years.

The study was recently presented to Council along with recommendations to address parking challenges and support future growth.

All project reports are available in the Documents section at LetsTalkCentralSaanich.ca/KeatingParking

Keating Flyover update

The Highway 17 Keating Cross Overpass Project is almost ready to begin. A contractor will be selected soon with construction expected to be complete in 2025.

The District and Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure are developing a plan to safely and effectively move traffic during construction to help limit disruptions.

For more information, visit the project website at: gov.bc.ca/keatingoverpass.

Community explores creating a Food Hub

Did you know Central Saanich has approximately 28 food processing businesses and more than 200 farms? To support these businesses and their future growth, the community is exploring the idea of establishing a food processing facility. Also known as a 'food hub', the facility would provide the needed facilities and equipment of the users.

Thanks to funding from the Ministry of Agriculture, the District hired a specialist to assess the viability of a local food hub. The work included assessing the needs of local food producers, potential locations and much more. The study concluded there is strong merit in establishing a food hub in Central Saanich. The next step will be to determine what individual or group would lead the creation and or operation.

Food hubs are emerging across BC and enabling local food businesses to grow, collaborate and reach new markets.

Review the findings and get involved at LetsTalkCentralSaanich.ca/FoodHub

DID YOU KNOW?

Central Saanich has the **lowest business property tax rates in the CRD.**

Have your say: 2023 budget and service plan

What does the municipality have in store for the year ahead? It will be presented in the District's Draft 2023 Financial Plan, to be published late December 2022. This important plan lays out the projects ahead as well as the budget.

Read the plan highlights at: LetsTalkCentralSaanich.ca/Budget2023 and then share your thoughts by completing a survey.



Tune in for a brief presentation and Q&A Thursday, January 19, 7:00-7:45 pm online. Register at LetsTalkCentralSaanich.ca/Budget2023



Or, join staff for coffee and a chance to ask questions one on one Thursday, January 19, 10-11 am at The Empourium (7103 West Saanich Road). Coffee is on us!

Public input will be summarized and presented to Council along with the Draft 2023 Financial Plan.

CONNECT WITH US



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