



DISTRICT OF PORT EDWARD NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2025

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

I hope this message sees you all well.

March is here and we have just gone through a long period of below zero weather and sunny days in Port Edward. The long spell of cold weather is unusual. The lack of precipitation has, especially snow has brought a lower than usual snow removal costs and brought favorable road conditions.

We continue our search for a new CAO and our temporary town manager is hard at work to find a permanent replacement. I am positive that a candidate will be found soon. Northern communities have difficulties attracting talent for senior positions in municipal government. We are not alone.

The council is working on the 2025 budget and a strategic plan meeting in late March with a consultant who we have used for previous strategic planning has been hired. Updating the strategic plan is important in that it can refocus Port Edward on changes that affect our growth and prosperity. When complete it will be posted on our website.

It is important that we receive public feedback on our financial plans and the budget. This is not just the council's plan but what matters or is important to all residents. Your input can be emailed to the office or routed through our Facebook page.

UPCOMING DATES

- Council Meeting - 03/11, 7PM
- Council Meeting - 03/25, 7PM
- Zoom ID: 792 144 4026



Quote of the month: Life is 10% what happens to you and 90% how you react to it.

OPT IN TO UPDATE CONTACT DETAILS



Ensure you receive important updates on property taxes, utilities, and other municipal matters by keeping your profile up to date with the District of Port Edward.

- Scan the QR code with your phone and fill out your details to stay informed! For any questions, contact us at info@portedward.ca

COMMUNITY UPDATES



PORT EDWARD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT'S NEW TRUCK

The Port Edward Volunteer Fire Department (PEVFD) is finally proud to announce the arrival of their new fire truck! The truck arrived on January 26, 2025, and the volunteer firefighters received an orientation on all of the truck's features. On January 28, 2025, the volunteer firefighters performed a fire truck 'wet down ceremony' where the new truck was sprayed with water from a fire hose marking the official start of the new truck being put into service. This tradition is a way to dedicate the truck to the community and to honour the firefighter's commitment to protecting it. The plan for the old truck is to remain as part PEVFD's fleet.

TRANSPARENCY IN MUNICIPAL RECORDS – OIPC REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

The Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for BC (OIPC) recently released Investigation Report 25-01, examining how municipalities across BC manage public access to records. The report highlights inconsistencies in Freedom of Information (FOI) processes, proactive disclosure, and records available for purchase, impacting transparency and accessibility for residents.

Key findings include:

- ✓ Variability in FOI request processing and application fees across municipalities
- ✓ The need for more proactive disclosure to reduce unnecessary FOI requests
- ✓ Inconsistencies in which records are available for purchase and at what cost
- ✓ A call for municipalities to improve staff training on public access to records

The District of Port Edward is reviewing these findings to enhance its records management and public accessibility practices. To learn more about municipal transparency and access to information, visit oipc.bc.ca.

BOAT LAUNCH PROJECT UNDERWAY!

The District of Port Edward is excited to announce that the Boat Launch Project is officially in progress! This long-awaited improvement will provide better access to the water for residents and visitors. Our goal is to have the new boat launch ready for summer 2025, just in time for another great season on the water. Stay tuned for updates as the project moves forward!



The District of Port Edward offers a safe and secure pre-authorized payment option for utilities and property taxes. Enjoy hassle-free payments by setting up a plan today. See our website: <https://www.portedward.ca/services/utilities>

The Trap, Neuter, and Return program will resume this spring, and we need community support for tracking stray cats, maintaining feeding stations, assisting with program management, and fundraising—contact Alice Kruta on Facebook or email dlallama@hotmail.com to help.

BUS SCHEDULE

Did you know...

Port Edward Transit provides service to Prince Rupert Monday to Saturday

Port Edward Transit Service

Port Edward Transit offers scheduled service between Prince Rupert and Port Edward.

The Port Edward bus is fully accessible and can carry up to two passengers using wheelchairs or scooters at a time.



60 Port Edward To Port Edward

Monday to Saturday						
A	L	T	U	U	U	V
Prince Rupert (at Port Centre)	Prince Rupert (at Port Centre)	Prince Rupert (at Port Centre)	Port Edward (at Port Centre)	Port Edward (at Port Centre)	Port Edward (at Port Centre)	Port Edward (at Port Centre)
** 7:10	7:13	7:15	7:27	7:32	7:35	
9:10	9:13	9:15	9:27	9:32	9:35	
12:10	12:13	12:15	12:27	12:32	12:35	
4:10	4:13	4:15	4:27	4:32	4:35	
5:10	5:13	5:15	5:27	5:32	5:35	

60 Port Edward To Prince Rupert

Monday to Saturday						
V	U	L	A	A	A	A
Port Edward (at Port Centre)	Port Edward (at Port Centre)	Port Edward (at Port Centre)	Prince Rupert (at Port Centre)	Prince Rupert (at Port Centre)	Prince Rupert (at Port Centre)	Prince Rupert (at Port Centre)
** 7:35	7:37	7:32	7:50	7:55	7:58	
9:30	9:32	9:27	9:45	9:50	9:53	
12:30	12:32	12:27	12:45	12:50	12:53	
4:30	4:32	4:27	4:45	4:50	4:53	
5:30	5:32	5:27	5:45	5:50	5:53	

Fares: 60 Port Edward subject to change

Cash and paper tickets and passes will continue to be accepted on board. Umo is currently not applicable to handyDART

Local Fares	Adult	Concession*
Children 12 and under	Free	Free
Single Ride**	\$ 3.00	\$2.50
10 Rides	27.00	22.50
30-Day Pass	72.00	60.00
Seniors Annual Pass	-	30.00

*Concession fare valid for youth aged 13-18 and persons 65 and over.
**Includes one local transfer within 60 minutes. If paying with cash, request a paper transfer from the driver at the start of your very first trip.

Umo Fares and Passes Outlets

BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARD

Title Sponsor: **PRINCE RUPERT** Port Authority
CANADA'S LEADING SIDES

The Business Excellence Awards are Back!

AWARDS

Full descriptions and criteria available online and at the Chamber of Commerce office

- Home-Based Business Excellence
- Individual Customer Service Excellence
- Rookie Business of the Year
- Tourism and Accommodation Excellence
- Professional Excellence
- Young Entrepreneur of the Year
- Industry and Manufacturing Excellence
- Retail Excellence
- Not-for-Profit of the Year
- Community Involvement
- Indigenous Peoples Entrepreneurship
- Dining Distinction

VOTING
Voting is open March 1 - 8
Vote at the Chamber of Commerce office
515 3rd Ave

CHAMBER HOURS
M 14:00-18:00 TR 14:00-18:00
T 8:30-17:00 F 14:00-18:00
W 8:30-17:00 S/S CLOSED

VOTE ONLINE
linktr.ee/prdec

AWARDS GALA

WHEN
Friday, March 14, 2025
Doors open at 6:30 pm
Cocktails and Appetizers at 6:30 pm
Gala Event begins at 7:30

WHERE
The Lester Center for the Arts
\$30 tickets available at the door
Advanced Tickets available online and in person at Cooks Jewellers and the Lester Center
purchase your ticket online at: rupetchamber.ca/events

WHAT
Celebrating our business community
Red carpet with professional photographer, cash bar, appetizers provided by your Dining
Distinction award nominees, entertainment from local dance troupes, singers, musicians and actors.

WEAR
Dress Code: Black Tie
Tuxedos, formal suits, cocktail dresses, floor length dresses, formal jumpsuits, gowns.

PORT EDWARD RECOGNIZED AS A RAIL SAFETY AMBASSADOR

The District of Port Edward is proud to have been awarded a Rail Safety Ambassador Certificate by CN and Operation Lifesaver Canada (OL Canada) for officially proclaiming Rail Safety Week 2024 and promoting rail safety awareness. This recognition highlights the District's commitment to preventing railway crossing and trespassing incidents while working with partners like CN and OL Canada to support community safety and education. For more rail safety resources, visit CN's rail safety webpage or Operation Lifesaver Canada's website, or contact CN's Public Inquiry Line at 1-888-888-5909.

Did you know? We only have three staff members in the office currently! Small but mighty!

REEF CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

REEF Project Construction Progress: Feb. 20, 2025

- Uplands:
 - Continue with overburden removal and fill placement
 - Continuing with rock drilling and blasting in work areas
- Rail Road and Utilities Corridor (RRUC)
 - Continue with overburden removal in North, East and South RRUC
 - Continue with fill placement East RRUC
 - Continue rock crushing and aggregate production
 - Rail offloading pedestals - Complete
 - Start 69 kV relocation scope
- Permanent Concrete Works:
 - Continue with Balance of Plant (BOP) foundations work.

- Marine Updates
 - 3 Derricks are fully mobilized and operational.
 - Continued with falsework frame & pile installation on Piers 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8
- Night shift activities
-

To mitigate weather conditions and unforeseen challenges, the REEF project will begin night shift activities

- Start date: Feb. 12, 2025
- Duration: 3-6 weeks
- Activity: Onshore civil construction

Questions? ALTAGAS

UTILITY ACCOUNT CREDIT REFUNDS

Any credits on utility accounts will be issued as cheques on March 15, 2025. Please note, credits cannot be transferred to property tax accounts. For more information, contact the District office.

COMPLAINT PROCEDURES

The District of Port Edward is committed to accountability and transparency. To ensure complaints are properly documented and addressed, all concerns must be submitted through our official complaint form on the district website. This process helps us track issues, respond efficiently, and maintain staff accountability. Visit our website to submit a complaint and help us improve our services.



PORT ED PLAY GROUP

Port Ed Play Groups will happen throughout March! Join us Wednesday mornings from 9:30am - 11:00am for some fun!



CONTACTS

DISTRICT OF PORT EDWARD: 250-628-3667

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:

@DISTRICT_PORT_EDWARD

