Burnaby is moving forward.

As our community emerges from the two-year disruption caused by the pandemic, I’m filled with optimism and hope for the future. There is much to look forward to.

Following extensive public engagement through the Mayor’s Task Force on Community Housing in 2019 and beyond, we are making great strides in housing. Currently, almost 10,000 units of rental housing – both non-market and market – are in the works. This is unprecedented in our city’s history. These projects are enabled by new City policies, and a willingness by developers and non-profit partners to build the diverse housing our city needs.

We’re also making progress on climate action. At City Hall, we completed a massive EV charging lot for fleet vehicles. This will help us rapidly shift our City fleet to electric as we cut carbon emissions in Burnaby.

And we’re embarking on the most ambitious capital plan in Burnaby’s history. Inside this edition of City Connect, you’ll learn about some of the major projects and facilities being built to keep our residents active, engaged and thriving.

In short – we’re entering a time of renewal.

The best is yet to come for Burnaby.

− Mayor Mike Hurley
NEW FACILITIES FOR A GROWING CITY

Our city is growing fast – and it is vital to the health of our community that residents have access to top-of-the-line recreation and cultural facilities.

In early 2022, City Council approved the most ambitious capital plan in Burnaby’s history, with the adoption of a financial plan that will fundamentally transform the City’s recreation facilities by investing $504 million to complete an unprecedented number of major new facilities within the next five years.

We’re not just building ice rinks and pools – we’re designing resilient facilities which will become focal points for our neighbourhoods in our growing city.

Here’s a preview of what’s to come in Burnaby. For full details on all of these projects, visit Burnaby.ca/Projects

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE DEBT-FREE

Did you know? Despite approving the most ambitious capital plan in our City’s history, the City of Burnaby will build all of these facilities without incurring any debt. That’s because the City uses its considerable reserves to fund the construction of major new facilities.

This approach allows us to plan ahead and construct facilities to serve our community for generations to come – without saddling them with debts. That’s the made-in-Burnaby approach.
**BURNABY LAKE SPORTS COMPLEX**

**Address:** 3676 Kensington Avenue  
**Estimated completion:** 2025  
**Where we are now:** The City has developed a preliminary plan of development for the new facility, based on feedback from the public during Phase 1 and 2 consultations.  
**Features:** The new facility will replace the aging CG Brown Memorial Pool and Burnaby Lake Arena, built in the early 1960s. It will feature an NHL-sized arena pad with seats for 200 spectators, as well as an aquatic facility equipped with a 50 m pool, a 25 m pool, a leisure pool and a family-sized hot pool.

**CONFEDERATION PARK COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Address:** Willingdon Avenue and Albert Street  
**Estimated completion:** Late 2025  
**Where we are now:** The City has completed preliminary design work, and is completing detailed designs for public review later this year, with aim to break ground in late 2023.  
**Features:** The community centre will feature large multipurpose room spaces to accommodate community-based programming, serving as a link between Eileen Dailly Leisure Pool and Fitness Centre, and the Burnaby Public Library McGill Branch.

**ROSEMARY BROWN ARENA**

**Address:** 10th Avenue and 18th Street  
**Estimated completion:** 2022  
**Where we are now:** The City expects to complete the project later this year.  
**Features:** Named for politician and social justice champion Rosemary Brown, the new arena will feature two NHL-sized rinks, as well as multi-purpose rooms and viewing areas. The design of the facility also incorporates public art and sustainable features to reduce the carbon footprint of the facility.

**CAMERON COMMUNITY CENTRE AND LIBRARY**

**Address:** 9523 Cameron Street  
**Estimated completion:** 2026  
**Where we are now:** We are now beginning detailed design work with aim to begin construction in 2023.  
**Features:** The new facility will feature a new library and aquatic facility, as well as a gymnasium with two full-sized basketball courts, a weight room and cardio facilities, as well as dedicated youth and senior spaces.
BUILDING MOMENTUM
IN THE BATTLE TO CUT CARBON

Momentum is starting to build as the City of Burnaby takes action to respond to climate change.

City Council declared a climate emergency in 2019, and in 2020 City staff created a Climate Action Framework. This framework is our roadmap which lays out the Big Moves needed to ensure the City — and the community as a whole — achieve our ambitious carbon-reduction targets.

For our community, the goal is to meet the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)-backed target of achieving carbon neutrality by 2050. For the City, the goal is to reach that target 10 years earlier.

Success will require everyone — including the City, residents and businesses — to pull together.

A key focus will be on the two areas that are the most carbon intensive: buildings and transportation.

In the most recent community inventory, buildings account for approximately 40% of Burnaby’s carbon emissions, while transportation makes up about 35%.

BUILDING RETROFITS

To date, the City has been increasing Energy Step Code requirements to support new buildings being built using high-efficiency, low-carbon systems.

But reducing the carbon output of existing buildings poses a greater challenge, as many older buildings weren’t built with carbon efficiency in mind.

This spring, as part of a partnership with Simon Fraser University’s Wosk Centre for Dialogue and Vancity called Urban Resilient Futures, a Building Retrofit Task Force started work to develop building retrofit recommendations for City Council. These recommendations will inform a new City strategy to support building owners, managers and occupants in making a rapid transition of existing buildings to low carbon and zero carbon energy systems.

The task force includes experts from housing and homeowners associations, sustainability organizations, post-secondary institutions, as well as the construction industry and non-profit housing providers. As we bring people to a common table, we are striving to include as wide a range of voices as possible. For a successful transition to a carbon neutral world, we must include and understand the views and needs of our diverse community.

TRANSFORMING TRAVEL IN OUR CITY

Much work is also being done to support a transition to sustainable forms of transportation like walking, cycling and taking transit.

In December of last year, City Council approved a new Burnaby Transportation Plan, called Connecting Burnaby, which envisions a sustainable, safe and accessible transportation system that supports a vibrant economy and responds to climate change.

Already, the City has been pursuing an accelerated construction program to build new sidewalks to encourage safe, convenient walking in our neighbourhoods. We are also quickly building a core cycling network to provide residents with the ability to cycle between key destinations right across our city on paths separated from vehicle traffic.

We are also supporting ways to make it easier to switch to electric vehicles. Today, all new residential developments in our city must be EV-ready, with all new single and multi-family parking spaces equipped with an energized outlet for level 2 charging.

The City has also installed public EV charging at major City facilities in all four quadrants of Burnaby, including at community centres, libraries and parks, to make it more convenient for people to go electric.

Another big step was this spring, when we completed a massive electric vehicle charging lot at City Hall. This will help accelerate our fleet’s transition to clean energy.

Climate Action is happening in Burnaby. We know that residents are seeking ways to reduce carbon in their own lives, and the City looks forward to engaging more with residents in the near future to work together to achieve a carbon neutral future.

Learn more: Burnaby.ca/ClimateAction

DID YOU KNOW?

» Buildings represent 40% of carbon emissions, and Transportation represents 35% of carbon emissions in Burnaby.
The City of Burnaby is home to world-leading businesses in biotech, gaming and film. And the City is acting to build on its reputation as a hub for next-generation business, bringing more high-paying, family supporting jobs to Burnaby.

Two major Burnaby businesses are undergoing major expansions to their campuses in our city. These two projects alone will add thousands of high-paying jobs in the technology and film sector.

Electronic Arts expects to complete construction on a massive expansion to their Canadian headquarters in Burnaby in 2024. The project will add more than 100,000 square feet of office space and amenities for staff.

Last year, the City announced it sold a parcel of land to Larco Investments to develop a state-of-the-art, 300,000-square foot film studio on Marine Way.

Burnaby is already home to more than 60% of B.C.’s purpose-built sound stages, and Larco has deep roots here as the owner and operator of Bridge Studios. This new project will support more than 1,000 well-paying jobs in our city. It also solidifies our reputation as the premiere destination for film production in Metro Vancouver.

**MAKING IT EASIER TO DO BUSINESS**

These leading high tech companies continue to recognize the value in being a part of the Burnaby community. For its part, it’s important that the City find ways to help businesses of all types to flourish.

In 2021, the City launched a Development Approvals Review Process (DARP). The goal of DARP is to modernize and streamline our development approval processes. We want to reduce approval times, and remove uncertainties for property owners, renters, home buyers and developers.

Earlier this year, City Council approved the establishment of Temporary Use Permits in Burnaby.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- 60% of B.C.’s purpose-built sound stages are in Burnaby.
- The film and television industry adds $2.41 billion in total GDP to B.C.’s economy each year.

These new permits allow land owners to apply for a permit to construct a building, or temporarily use their land in a way that does not conform to the zoning bylaws for a specific property for up to three years.

These programs are important – when businesses are helped to grow and flourish, our community grows.

Helping business helps all Burnaby residents to thrive, by supporting job creation and our local economy.

Learn more: Burnaby.ca/Business
The City of Burnaby is partnering with Simon Fraser University on a new initiative that combines their expertise and resources to address the biggest challenges facing today’s cities.

Through the new Civic Innovation Lab, SFU will share its leading-edge research and strengths in innovation and sustainability to advance practical solutions for the City’s most pressing urban issues. This could include everything from diversity and housing to sustainable growth and environmental challenges caused by climate change.

The initiative will provide the City with a permanent research base. Students and researchers will apply their education and knowledge to develop real-world solutions. This innovation lab will solidify the City’s role as a leader in solving urban issues.

The City approved the formal research partnership earlier this year. We have also created a non-profit society that will provide a path to seek federal and provincial grants.

Tapping into SFU’s academic expertise is a great opportunity for the City to improve its efficiency and effectiveness, and serve residents better.

The university and the City will each provide a full-time staff member to the lab. The lab is based at Burnaby’s Christine Sinclair Community Centre, but events and projects will take place across Burnaby.

The collaboration is the latest to combine the strengths of the university and the City.

In 2019, the City partnered with SFU for the Mayor’s Task Force on Community Housing, an initiative involving SFU’s Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue. And last fall, the Urban Resilient Futures Initiative was launched, together with the Centre for Dialogue and Vancity. This three-year project will help the City accelerate its climate action plan and further its work toward a resilient and low-carbon future.

On Saturday, October 15, 2022, Burnaby residents will vote to elect 1 mayor, 8 councillors and 7 school trustees (School District 41), who will serve a four-year term from November 2022 to November 2026.

**VOTING DATES**
Advance voting available from 8 am-8 pm on:
» Saturday, October 1
» Wednesday, October 5
» Saturday, October 8
General voting: Saturday, October 15 from 8 am-8 pm

**NEW! VOTE BY MAIL**
For the first time, you can also apply to vote by mail ballot starting September 1 from 8 am until October 6 at noon.

Learn more: Burnaby.ca/Elections
STAYING SAFE IN EXTREME HEAT

Last year, our province experienced an unprecedented heat dome event, as well as subsequent heat waves. The City of Burnaby wants to help ensure our residents take the steps needed to be safe during times of extreme heat. In the event of extreme heat, the City will open four Cooling Centres for anyone seeking relief.

These Cooling Centres will operate from **10 am to 10 pm** daily until extreme heat has ended, at the following locations:

**NORTH BURNABY**
- Cameron Community Centre (9523 Cameron St)
- Eileen Dailly Leisure Pool & Fitness Centre (240 Willingdon Ave)

**SOUTH BURNABY**
- Bonsor Recreation Complex (6550 Bonsor Ave)
- Edmonds Community Centre (7433 Edmonds St)

All Cooling Centres are air-conditioned and will be equipped with seating, drinking water, washrooms and free public Wi-Fi.

WAYS TO STAY COOL AT HOME

When extreme heat is expected, Fraser Health recommends that people develop and practice a cooling plan, which includes the following steps:

1. Identify cool spaces and prepare to use them at night
2. Make ice, ready jugs for water, check that you have a working fan
3. Contact friends, family or neighbours if you will be checking on them or vice versa
4. Review signs of heat stress

MORE WAYS TO STAY COOL

The City also provides several ways to cool off in our local parks. Many parks have shaded areas or shade structures, and most have drinking fountains and washrooms.

Several City parks also have push-button spray parks that are open daily, and wading pools. For a full list of locations, as well as wading pool schedules, visit [Burnaby.ca/SprayParks](http://Burnaby.ca/SprayParks)

An interactive map on our website also shows cooling features in parks, including outdoor pools, spray pads, water fountains, misting stations and shade structures.

Burnaby residents take care of each other. During times of extreme heat, regularly check in with vulnerable family, friends and neighbours in case they need help.

Learn More: [Burnaby.ca/ExtremeHeat](http://Burnaby.ca/ExtremeHeat)
The following are just a few of the events coming to Burnaby in the months ahead.

For more details visit Burnaby.ca/Events

**HATS OFF DAY**
**What:** Street party hosted by Burnaby Heights Merchants on Hastings Street, featuring entertainers and free activities.
**When:** Saturday, June 18, 10:30 am-3:30 pm
**Where:** Hastings Street between Boundary and Gamma

**NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY**
**What:** Enjoy music, dance, storytelling and more.
**When:** Tuesday, June 21, 11 am-5 pm
**Where:** Civic Square (outside the Bob Prittie Metrotown Library Branch)

**CANADA DAY**
**What:** Celebrate Canada’s 155th birthday at one of three locations.
**When:** Friday, July 1
**Where:** Burnaby Village Museum, Edmonds, Central Boulevard

**SYMPHONY IN THE PARK**
**What:** Free performance by the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra.
**When:** Saturday, July 16, 7:30 pm
**Where:** Deer Lake Park

**OPERA IN THE PARK**
**What:** Free performance by the Vancouver Opera.
**When:** Sunday, July 17, 7:30 pm
**Where:** Deer Lake Park

**EDMONDS CITY FAIR**
**What:** Come enjoy some country fun in the city.
**When:** Saturday, July 23, 11 am-3 pm
**Where:** Edmonds Plaza & Park

**BURNABY PRIDE**
**What:** Live performances, info booths, food trucks, and activities.
**When:** Saturday, July 23, Noon-6 pm
**Where:** Civic Square (outside the Bob Prittie Metrotown Library Branch)

**BURNABY BLUES + ROOTS**
**What:** One of the region’s premier outdoor music festivals.
**When:** Saturday, August 6, 1-10 pm
**Where:** Deer Lake Park

**REMINDERS**
- Property Tax due Tuesday, July 5, 2022.
- Dog Licence renewals. You can now pay online at Burnaby.ca/MyProperty

**YOUR MAYOR & COUNCILLORS**

From left to right: Mayor Mike Hurley, Councillor Pietro Calendino, Councillor Sav Dhaliwal, Councillor Alison Gu, Councillor Mike Hillman, Councillor Dan Johnston, Councillor Colleen Jordan, Councillor Joe Keithley and Councillor James Wang

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