

Community Report

What's happening

Spring brings renewal and growth, and our community is no exception. In this Community Report, we share how we're actively working toward your vision of a more vibrant, inclusive and sustainable community.

You will read about our efforts to add more diverse and affordable housing for those who need it most and our work to achieve the new provincially mandated density targets while balancing the existing character of our neighbourhoods.

In these pages, we also describe how we continue our efforts to protect our community from wildfires, maintain and improve our well-used trail infrastructure in our forested areas, and add EV charging stations to encourage more people to switch to electric mobility. Additionally, you will learn about some new places and spaces to gather and stay active as the weather warms up.

Residential zoning changes coming

In April, we hosted a series of public information sessions for residents to learn more about the new provincial housing legislation that mandates increased housing density in all B.C. municipalities. Thank you to all residents who took time to attend the in-person or virtual sessions, which were very well attended.

These new rules require increased density in neighbourhoods traditionally zoned for detached single-family homes and duplexes. This increase in density also requires updates to strategic, long-term visioning for our community and the municipality's zoning bylaws.

"We will continue to work towards balancing the goals of the legislation, our Official Community Plan (OCP) and community goals, and varying resident perspectives that were shared with us about where growth and various housing types

make sense in our community," says Dan Milburn, GM, Planning, Properties and Permits.



The province requires municipalities to update relevant bylaws by June 30, 2024. To meet this deadline, staff are preparing bylaws for Council to consider at the first regular meeting in June.

We appreciate your interest in the new housing rules and thank those who attended the information sessions and shared their feedback. We will reach out again in the coming months to ask for your thoughts on our Official Community Plan, which we must update by December 31, 2025.

Learn more:
**DNV.org/housing-
legislation**



New affordable homes for those who need them most



If you've driven along West Queens Road at Delbrook Avenue, you likely noticed a new apartment complex taking shape.

We're excited to see the progress of this long-awaited project. After the closure of the old recreation centre in 2017, the community provided their wishes about the future of the land,

and it was clear that the preference was for affordable housing for seniors, individuals and families.

The new four-storey building located at the former Delbrook Recreation Centre site will feature 86 below-market units. The rest of the municipal land will be used for a neighbourhood park.

"I am pleased to see this project moving ahead," says Mayor Mike Little. "With the Province as a partner, we can deliver some genuinely affordable housing for people in our community who have low and moderate incomes."

The District provided the land valued at \$15.6 million while the Province is funding the construction of this apartment, which is expected to be completed in 2025. North Vancouver-based Hollyburn Community Housing Society will own and operate the new housing units.

Housing for different needs

Addressing the community's diverse housing needs is a Council priority. In February, Council voted unanimously in favour of a six-storey building on East Keith Road that will provide 65 studio homes, including five complex care units for North Shore community members who are unhoused or at risk of becoming unhoused.

Additionally, in March, the Province announced funding for 166 social housing units for low- to moderate-income households, which will be built on a District-owned site at Lillooet and Old Lillooet Roads.

Watering restrictions

Metro Vancouver's Stage 1 watering restrictions are in effect to help manage drinking water during the high-demand summer months. Water conservation is as important as ever this year, with a hot, dry summer in the forecast and a low snowpack.

[DNV.org/lawn-watering](https://dnv.org/lawn-watering)



Possible impact of North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant increased cost

We understand you may have concerns about how the cost of the new wastewater treatment plant may impact your property taxes and utility rates now and in the future. We don't have all the information at the time this newsletter has gone to print, but we do know that cost increases for residents are scheduled to begin next year in 2025.

We continue to advocate for a fair and transparent solution for our residents. We are also encouraging Metro Vancouver to re-engage with senior levels of government for additional project funding.

At a Metro Vancouver budget meeting in April, Mayor Mike Little appealed for all member municipalities—not just North Shore residents—to share the burden of the wastewater plant's skyrocketing costs, as the cost increase is too much for North Shore residents to bear alone.

Metro Vancouver's board is expected to resume discussions at its meeting in late May.

Provincial housing targets

In September, B.C. set provincial housing targets for 10 municipalities, including the District. The District's target is to add 2,838 net new housing units, comprised of a mix of social, affordable and market units, within five years.



The target for the first year is 499 completed housing units by September 30, 2024. During the first six months of this period, 388 net units were completed in the District, positioning us well to meet our first-year target.

View the Housing Needs Report: [DNV.org/housing-targets](https://dnv.org/housing-targets)



New fire chief leads DNVFRS as they prep for wildfire season, celebrate 70

One of Mike Danks's first significant training exercises as the new chief of the District of North Vancouver Fire & Rescue Services was a mock multi-agency response to a wildfire threatening Camp Jubilee and the nearby Indian Arm area.



More than 15 different first responder agencies from across southwestern B.C. joined in the wildfire fighting exercise.

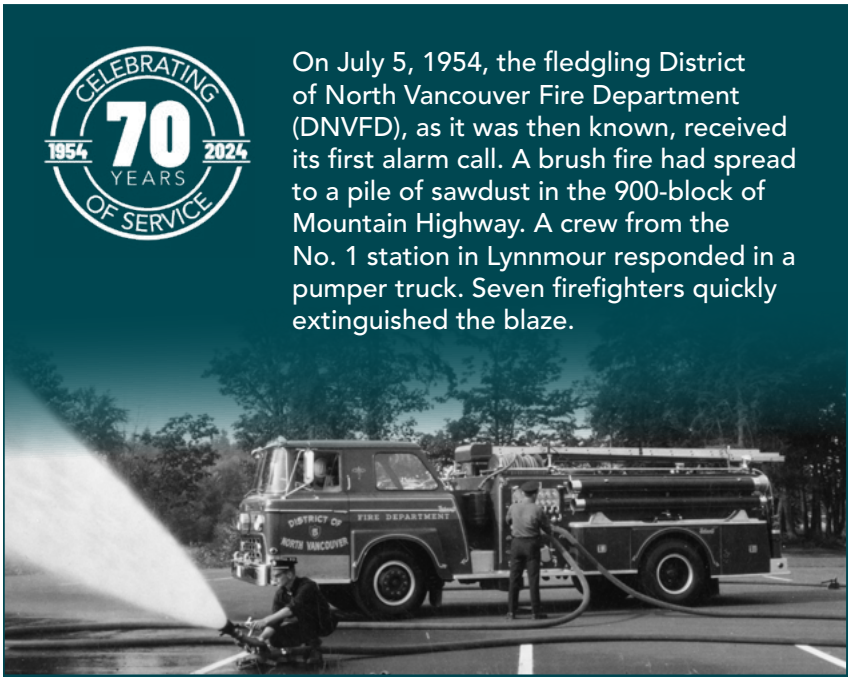
"Last year's wildfire season was the most destructive in our province's history. And we're anticipating another very tough,

likely record-breaking season given the lack of precipitation and lower-than-average snowpack levels this year," says Chief Danks. "Exercises like Operation Jubilee help ensure we're as ready as possible for whatever the season brings."

Chief Danks assumes leadership during a momentous year for the department, which is proudly celebrating its 70th anniversary this year and eagerly preparing to open its new Maplewood Fire and Rescue Training Centre.

The energy-efficient 45,000-sq.-ft. facility will improve protective services and response times in our community and consolidate and replace the aging Fire Hall #2 on Mountain Highway, the training centre on St. Denis Avenue, and the administrative offices at Fire Hall #1 on Lynn Valley Road.

Learn how DNVFRS stays wildfire-ready:
[DNV.org/wildfire-preparedness](https://dnv.org/wildfire-preparedness)



Get prepared for wildfires and other emergencies

Climate change is causing longer, hotter, and drier summers, increasing the threat of wildfires. Residents need to prepare themselves and their properties for this threat and other emergencies.

Here's what you can do:

- 1 If you live near the forest, get a free personalized fire assessment for your property:

[DNV.org/wildfire-assessment](https://dnv.org/wildfire-assessment)



- 2 Sign up to get the latest emergency notifications in case of extreme weather, natural disasters and other emergencies:

nsem.ca/alertable



Be part of shaping the DNV's future!

Join an advisory committee and share your voice and unique experiences as we build for tomorrow.

[DNV.org/committees](https://dnv.org/committees)



Rebuilding Lynn Canyon's iconic staircase



We have a talented team of carpenters who build and maintain the extensive network of staircases, bridges and boardwalks in our forested areas so residents and visitors can enjoy the outdoors safely and comfortably.

Crews are now focused on the popular and well-trodden wooden staircase that provides access to the 30-foot pool in Lynn Canyon Park. They are replicating the existing staircase to help preserve the landmark structure's connection to the park's history for future generations. The staircase is currently closed but will be reopened in June to accommodate the busy summer season. It will be closed again in September through December to complete construction.

Get updates on the 30-foot pool project: [DNV.org/Staircase](https://dnv.org/Staircase)

We want to hear from you

Did you find this Report informative? Scan the QR code to take a short survey and share your thoughts.



New public amenities to keep you active and charged up!

Delbrook Park field house is open

The new energy-efficient facility features four fully accessible washrooms, a small concession space and storage for sports organizations.



William Griffin turf renewal

In addition to replacing the aging playing surface, the field drainage was also upgraded, which will improve playability during the rainy season.



More charging stations

We've recently added four new Level 2 charging stations at Lynn Valley Village, and additional public charging infrastructure is planned for other locations.



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NORTH VANCOUVER

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We respectfully acknowledge the original peoples of these lands and waters, specifically the *səlilwətał* (Tsleil-Waututh), *Skwxwú7mesh* (Squamish), and *xʷməθkʷəy̓əm* (Musqueam), on whose unceded ancestral lands the District of North Vancouver is located. We value the opportunity to learn, share, and serve our community on these unceded lands.