

CITYnews

Pow Wow delivers meaningful and historic weekend



Hundreds of dancers and drummers descended on SnPink'tn for the 2023 Pow Wow Between the Lakes, held for the first time at the South Okanagan Events Centre between June 23-25, 2023. Sponsored by the City, event organizers aimed to bring together the eight bands of the Okanagan Nation Alliance to 'Heal the Nation through Reconciliation'.

"From the moment the City came on board to let us use the South Okanagan Events Centre, the support we received was nothing short of amazing," said Four Seasons Cultural Society Executive Director Kristine Jack. "We can't thank the local governments and businesses in the area enough for stepping up to support the pow wow. It achieved everything we hoped for and more."



Executive Director Kristine Jack and Society member Grace Greyeyes at the pow wow.

Visit the City's Facebook account to view photo galleries from the event.

Final section of Lake-to-Lake

The City kicked off the review of the draft design for the final section of the Lake-to-Lake Route. This section runs along South Main St. and Skaha Lake Park. Changes are planned to make the existing lanes safer but also to enhance the street with trees and rain gardens. To see the draft design and how you can participate, go to shapeyourcitypenticton.ca. Feedback will be collected through to July 30, 2023.



Access to South Main Market preserved

The Market owners and the City reached agreement on a design for the section of the Lake-to-Lake route that fronts their store – preserving access and parking while making it safer for drivers and pedestrians.

Tax deadline coming

Property taxes for the City of Penticton are due Monday, July 31 at 4 p.m. This is also the deadline to apply for the provincial Homeowner Grant. For more information including payment options, go to penticton.ca/taxes.

Annual pool closure extended through to October

The regularly scheduled annual pool maintenance break will be extended by four weeks as staff carry out repairs that will extend the life of the facility.

The purpose of the extended closure is to get as much of the needed work done in one session to minimize further disruptions.

Infrastructure upgrades include HVAC, plumbing and pipe modifications and electrical repairs. At the same time, a structural review of the three pools will also be conducted.

The pool will be closed August 12 and is scheduled to re-open on October 2. Other areas of the Community Centre will not be impacted, though the fitness room is scheduled for regular maintenance from August 9 to 11.



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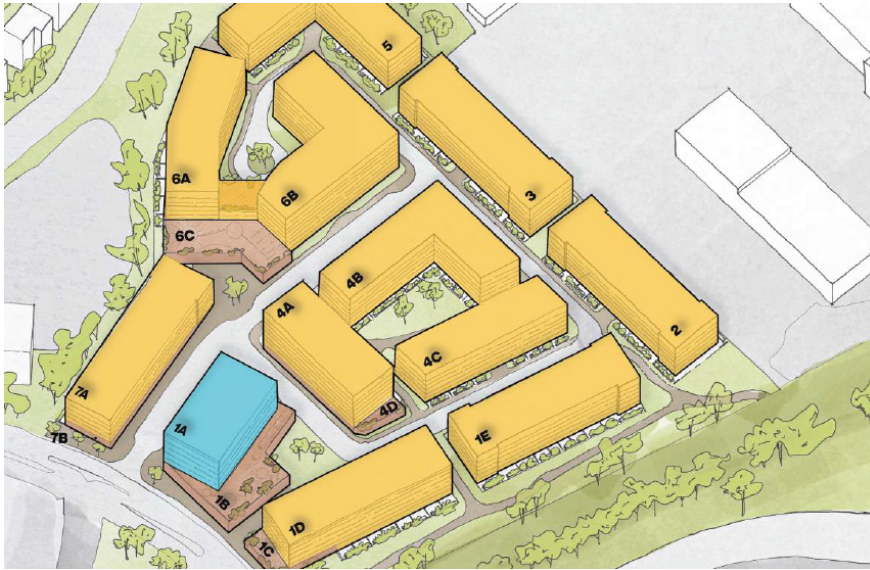
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'Significant' housing, medical development proposed



Resident feedback is being sought on an amendment to the Official Community Plan for one of the most significant developments proposed in Penticton to date.

Located at 1704 Government Street, across the street from Penticton Regional Hospital, the draft plan proposes high-density residential development, with the potential for 1,200-1,500 apartments, along with retail and office space. A site-specific policy would be required to allow 12 storeys in that designation. Given the scale of the development it would be built in phases over several years.

Feedback on the proposed amendment will be collected until July 30, 2023. Learn more at shapeyourcitypentiction.ca.

Upcoming events



Okanagan Granfondo (July 8-9): An estimated 3,000 cyclists will ride from Gyro Park in this mass cycling event, which loops throughout the South Okanagan and ends in Penticton. Anticipate road closures. pentiction.ca/granfondo



Photo Credit: Brad Crowfoot

Peach Fest (Aug. 9-13): One of the largest free festivals in Canada returns with live music and entertainment, a parade and so much more. Avoid the road closures and parking congestion by trying park 'n' ride or transit to the events. pentiction.ca/peachfest



IRONMAN Canada (Aug. 26-27): Soak in the energy of this iconic event by joining the 10,000+ people lining the streets to cheer on the athletes. Pick up your free fan kit, draw chalk messages on the streets, volunteer, or sign up your kids in the IRONKids fun run. pentiction.ca/ironman

Safe Public Places Bylaw now in effect



Following public consultations that revealed broad support, Council approved the Safe Public Places bylaw.

The bylaw is designed to ensure a safer Penticton by clearly laying out expected behaviours in public places, ranging from disorderly conduct and public nuisances to public substance use.

As well, the bylaw provides Community Safety Officers with more authority to enforce the provisions and allows the RCMP to deal with higher level criminality.

The bylaw provides exemptions for substance use in designated areas in order to direct individuals to use in safe spaces. For more info about the City's action on safety, visit pentiction.ca/public-safety

Work resumes on Penticton Creek restoration

Penticton Creek restoration project has resumed, starting with construction upgrades to improve traffic safety in the neighbourhood along the north end of Ellis St. The goal of this ongoing project is to mitigate flood risk and restore the creek's natural habitat for wildlife, including native fish species.

The pedestrian footbridge at Norton Street and Wade Avenue East will be temporarily removed from July 3 to Sept. 4 to make it possible for crews to access the creek and side embankment areas. Work inside the creek will be conducted during the fish window (no fish in the creek), starting July 15. Learn more about this project at pentiction.ca/restore-penticton-creek.



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