

Photo credit: Julian Giordano

## Council receives findings of alcohol in designated places pilot

Council received a report on the pilot project to allow the responsible consumption of alcohol in designated public places during their meeting on July 7. Based on the findings of the pilot which ran from June 3 to July 4, the report recommended continuing the bylaw until the fall while undertaking further consultation with key stakeholder groups.

“The pilot received enough support from the community to recommend continuing the implementation of this bylaw,” said Director of Development Services, Blake Laven.

The City monitored a number of factors over the course of the pilot to gauge its effectiveness. RCMP and Bylaw reported a few incidents but indicated the types of calls received are not uncommon and may or may not be associated with the pilot project. Parks staff monitored the parks for changes in waste and damage to amenities. No additional need for maintenance or care in the pilot locations or changes to waste



and recycling were observed.

“We’re pleased with the attention the survey received and the information people took the time to share,” said Engagement Strategist, JoAnne Kleb. “We will continue to explore the wealth of information in the comments to inform any additional adjustments to the bylaw.”

A copy of the [findings](#) of the pilot project, a summary of the [survey results](#), the complete survey responses, as well as copies of correspondence received, are all available for the public to view at [shapeyourcitypenticton.ca](http://shapeyourcitypenticton.ca).

Consumption of alcohol in designated public spaces will now continue until October 15.

## Community Centre to reopen in stages

On March 16, 2020, the City of Penticton closed down its recreational and cultural facilities due to the emerging COVID-19 pandemic. Since the initial closure of facilities, progress has been made in the fight against COVID-19.



Reopening indoor facilities will take time and will vary from site to site. The delivery of City services will also require new and evolving practices and operations that will impact how residents use City facilities moving forward.

Working towards a goal of reopening the Community Centre sometime in August, City staff have created staged plans to safely welcome patrons back.

As community safety is always the top priority, a number of operational changes will be made to ensure the protection of all patrons and staff when visiting the Community Centre. Some changes that visitors can expect in the early stages of reopening include reduced hours of operation, a limit on the number of patrons admitted into the centre, as well as pool and fitness room access being reserved and paid for in advance, with a required booking of a timeslot.

Full details about the phased reopening of the Community Centre and other indoor recreational and cultural facilities can be found at [www.penticton.ca/restartrec](http://www.penticton.ca/restartrec).

## Lake-to-Lake Cycling Route: what's next?

Work continues on a plan for a lake-to-lake cycling route. The need for a safe and convenient cycling route through the city and connecting Okanagan and Skaha lakes was first identified in the 2012 Cycling Plan Update and reaffirmed in the draft of the 2019 Official Community Plan.

Residents and businesses in affected areas along the



route have had opportunities to get involved as well as the community at large. The City provided mailouts, surveys and open houses to involve the community in the development of the plan. Information has also been shared through [shapeyourcitypenticton.ca](https://shapeyourcitypenticton.ca) and anyone still wanting to participate is encouraged to register on shapeyourcity to receive information about the process directly.

The route has been divided into four sections and each section has a few different options.

The City of Penticton took extra steps to involve residents and businesses in the identification of the preferred option for the downtown section, which residents had the opportunity to share feedback on from June 23 to July 12.

Once the City lands on the preferred option for the downtown, the entire lake-to-lake route will be introduced for more discussion.

## Address changes and Backflow Protection

One of the ways our water system is protected in Penticton is by our Cross Connection Control program (CCC/Backflow). This system prevents backflow of non-potable water (not for human consumption) and other fluids from getting into the main treated water supply and the water systems within our buildings.

The majority of the devices that protect against backflow need to be tested annually. To ensure that testing is done regularly, the owner or tenant of a building with backflow protection is sent a letter. This notice is sometimes sent to the building where the device is.

With potential changes in management or a change in address, testing of the system may be missed. A missed testing could result in the main treated water service and water system in the building to be at risk of cross contamination due to backflow.

If you are a property owner with a backflow device in the building, and have a change in where these notice of testing letters are sent, please inform us. We can then



have the records updated and the letters will go to the right individual and they will arrange for the backflow device to be tested.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our water system safe and healthy! If you have any questions, please contact the Cross Connection Control Coordinator at 250-490-2416.

## Council Highlights

Council highlights are intended to provide a brief summary of recent Council meetings. To view the official meeting minutes and other council related information, visit [penticton.ca/council](https://penticton.ca/council).

### 2019 Annual Report

Council received into the record the 2019 Annual Report.

### Travel Penticton Society and Penticton and Wine Country Chamber of Commerce Licence to Use Agreement for the Jubilee Pavilion located at 185 Lakeshore Drive Penticton

Council approved an 18-month Licence to Use agreement for the Jubilee Pavilion building located at 185 Lakeshore Drive to Travel Penticton and the Penticton and Wine Country Chamber of Commerce at a licence rate of \$7,200 per year plus annual CPI adjustments.

### Drought Management Plan

Drew Lejback and Paul Hague, Associated Environmental Council approved the "City of Penticton Management Plan" dated June 26, 2020 as a guiding document.

### Economic Recovery Task Force

Council supported the recommendation from the Economic Recovery Task Force to continue the COVID recovery work within the existing Council Advisory.