



KEEPING WILDLIFE **WILD** & COMMUNITIES **SAFE**

Did you know? Port Alberni is one of 10 communities in BC to earn the BearSmart Community designation. That means we recognize the measures we all must take to address the root causes of human-bear conflicts. Black bears have emerged from their dens and they're hungry!

"Unfortunately, people can teach bears bad habits," says Dan Eichstadter, BC Conservation Officer for the Central Island Zone. "it's our responsibility to make sure they don't get any kind of reward from humans."

Last year, of 215 reports involving bear attractants, the largest number of incidents involved unsecured garbage, unpicked fruit trees, and unsecured chickens. Barbeques, freezers and unmanaged compost came next.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP:



CHECK PROPERTY FOR BEAR ATTRACTANTS: bird feeders, accessible garbage, fruit trees and barbeque grills. To learn more about managing a WildSafe Yard visit [WildSafeBC.com](https://wildsafebc.com)

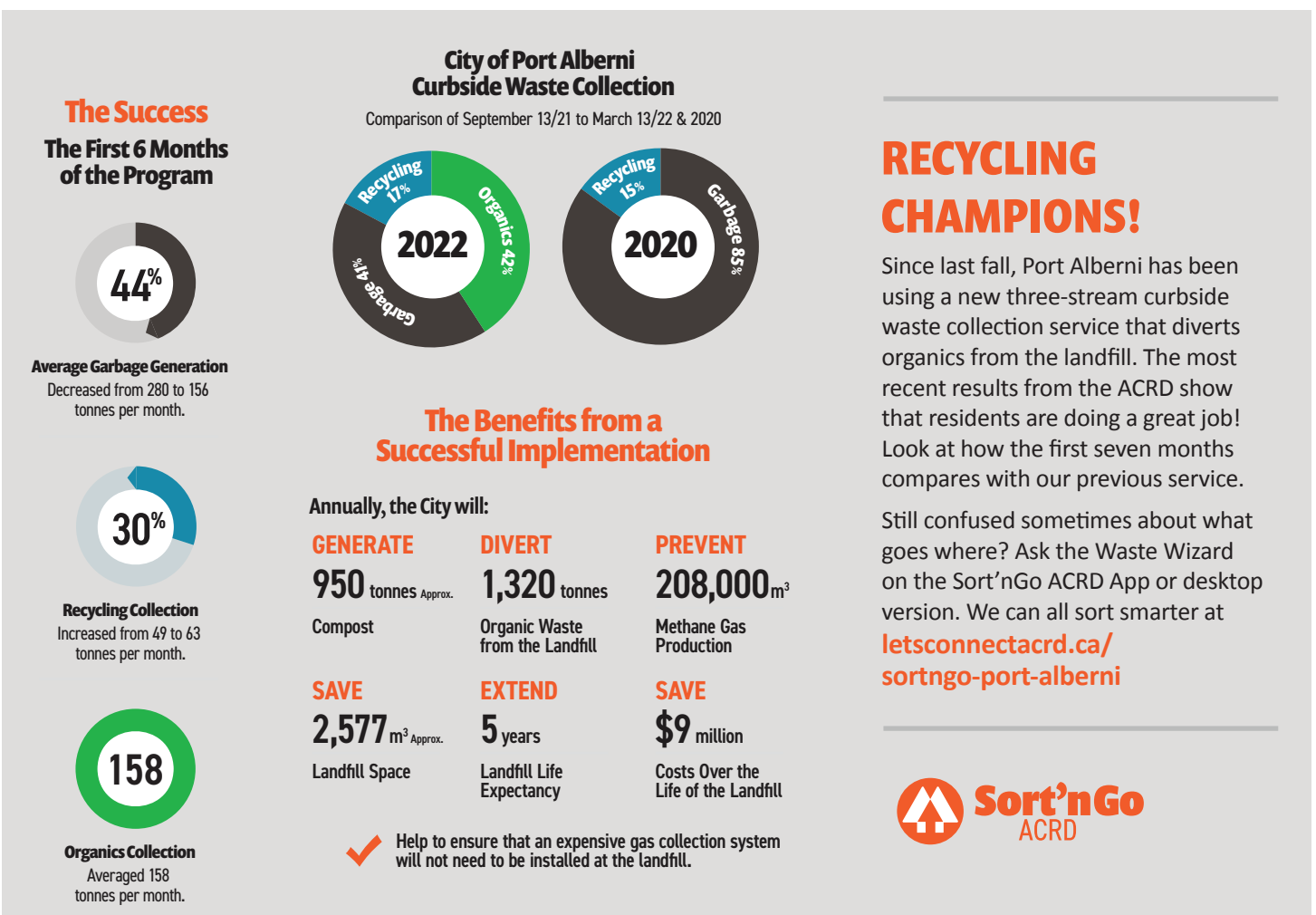


BE BEAR-WISE ABOUT YOUR GARBAGE: Keep carts stored inside if possible, or secured if outside. Reduce smell by keeping carts out of heat and direct sunlight and never set your cart out before the morning of collection.



REPORT BEAR SIGHTINGS: If you see a bear in the wild or in your neighbourhood, leave it alone and don't cut off its escape route. Call the BC Conservation Officer Service 24-hour hotline at: 1-877-952-RAPP (7277)

For more important tips to keep us all safe, go to portalberni.ca/bear-smart



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GET READY THIS SUMMER FOR A

BUSTLING CITY SCENE!



Emerging from COVID-19, Port Alberni's business community is blossoming as a new innovation economy featuring entrepreneurship, revitalized partnerships and diversity — a big step for a City built on traditional resource industries.

“People are coming here because of the outdoor lifestyle, affordability, and the supportive culture we offer,” says Pat Deakin, Economic Development Officer for Port Alberni. “We want to support small innovators, investors, and businesses in building roots and networks in our community, to help realize our vision of becoming a vibrant waterfront community.”

Collaborative leadership is also key to this new sense of optimism, adds Deakin. In April, Hupacasath First Nation, City of Port Alberni and Tseshaht First Nation became one of only eight community partnerships across Canada to receive funding for a three-year program to develop social and economic advantages for all citizens.

The summer will definitely see action in our developing waterfront and uptown. Join us on June 21, 2022 for the opening ceremonies of our new Clock Tower and keep watch as our historic Train Station seeks new life as a go-to destination. And yes, the brew-pub sidewalk patios are here for another year!

For more information about Port Alberni's exciting future, see:
chooseportalberni.ca



PARKS, RECREATION AND HERITAGE BACK IN FULL FORCE

Register today for popular activities like aquatics, fitness and yoga. Check out all the new and expanding programs in the Leisure Guide at playinpa.ca

“Once again, our doors are wide open with improved systems in place to protect both staff and guests,” says Shawn Bourgoïn, Recreation Services Manager for the City.

Masks/proof of vaccination are no longer required but are still welcome.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

May 11: Summer Leisure Guide is online

May 16: Summer registration begins

Early June: Water parks open - try the new water-conserving touch buttons!

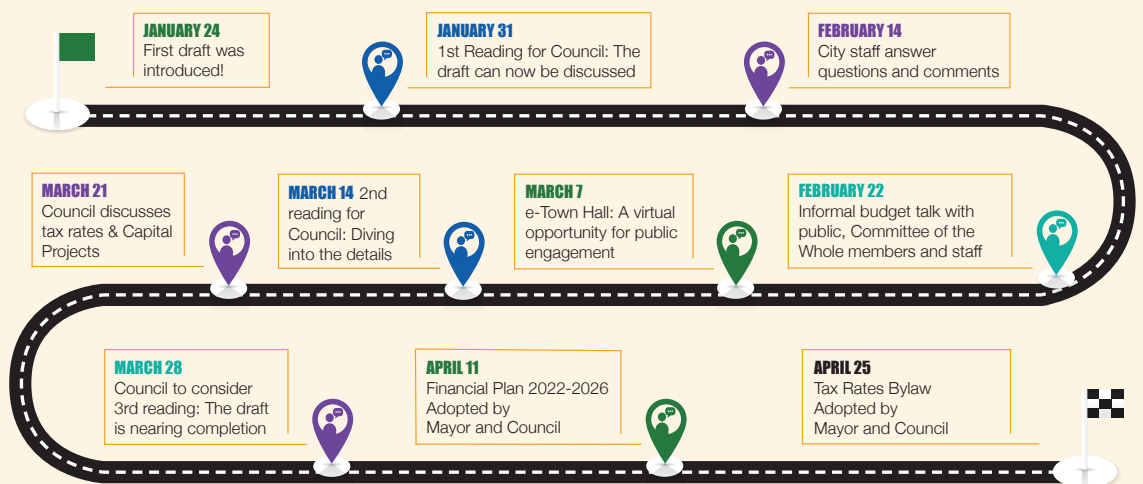
2022 - 2026 FINANCIAL PLAN

The four-month annual journey to adopt the City's Financial Plan and set tax rates is now complete.

To learn more, visit portalberni.ca/budget. Property tax notices are coming in the mail soon. Payments are due July 4, 2022.

Thank you to our citizens for their perspectives. Working together, we have shaped a financial plan that reflects Council's vision while addressing priority needs and keeping tax rates as low as possible.

—Mayor
Sharie Minions



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