

Engagement dates set for 2022 Budget and other Hot Topics

(Penticton, BC – October 27, 2021) – Ahead of Council’s official 2022 budget deliberations, scheduled for November 22 through to November 23, the City of Penticton will again gather public feedback on next year’s budget during its annual community engagement sessions.

To create options for residents and businesses wishing to participate, a variety events and dates have been chosen.

Open houses are scheduled at the Penticton Trade and Convention Centre for Wednesday, November 17 between 4pm and 7pm and Thursday, November 18, between 11am and 2pm. Attendees will have an opportunity to speak with staff about the 2022-2026 Financial Plan, as well as the following four ‘hot topic’ projects:

- *Civic Places and Spaces* - Discuss plans to restore or replace City buildings.
- *North Gateway* - Imagine a vibrant future for the lands around the SOEC.
- *Point Intersection* - See the draft designs of the new Galt Avenue improvements, including new intersections at Skaha Lake Road and South Main Street.
- *Lake-to-Lake Bike Route* - See the draft designs of the continuation of the bike route from Fairview Road via Duncan Ave, Atkinson and Kinney Avenue to South Main Street.

Attendees are reminded that COVID-19 protocols are in place for both in-person events.

For those unable to attend the open houses, two alternative online information sessions – *focused specifically on the 2022-2026 Financial Plan* – are also available by registering at the City’s community engagement website shapeyourcitypenticton.ca for either the Business Information Session, November 9, from 7pm to 8:30pm or the Community Information Session, November 15, from 7pm to 8:30pm.

Starting November 8, residents can get a head start on reviewing next year’s budget by downloading both the 2022-2026 Financial Plan and the 2022 Corporate Business Plan documents off either the penticton.ca or shapeyourcitypenticton.ca websites or, for people without internet access, reviewing hardcopies at the Shape Your City information kiosks, located at City Hall or the Library. The official window to share feedback runs November 8 through to November 19. Residents can supply their comments online via shapeyourcitypenticton.ca or complete a hardcopy feedback form at the City Hall and Library kiosks.

“Please join the annual budget process by contributing your feedback and comments through the various opportunities and events that are available throughout the month of November,” said

Penticton Mayor, John Vassilaki. "Residents can also attend the official budget deliberations in person or watch online via the City's website, November 22 to November 23, starting at 9am each day."

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Contacts:

JoAnne Kleb
Public Engagement Program Manager
City of Penticton
250-490-2586

Philip Cooper
Communication Manager
City of Penticton
250-490-2583