



## Mayor's 2018 Year-End Report

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As 2018 draws to a close, it is a fitting time to share information and updates about Council and Administration's progress since inauguration on November 5. So, without further ado...

- We are very happy to report that the Metro Vancouver regional committee appointments have been announced and Belcarra has been appointed to the four committees listed below. Inclusion in these committees empower Belcarra to help lead the planning for policy and finance in these essential areas. It was a surprise and an honour to receive these high-profile appointments so relevant to our Village.
  - Regional Parks
  - Water
  - Electoral Area
  - Mayor's Committee
- We are also very happy to report that the TransLink Mayor's Council committee appointments have been formalized and Belcarra has been appointed to the New Mobility committee. This is an important committee for Belcarra because the traditional transit service model does not service small communities effectively; low ridership equals limited service. Inclusion in the New Mobility committee will enable Belcarra to help lead the development of innovative services that will be more relevant for our residents and visitors.
- Belcarra received some great news from Hon. Selina Robinson, our Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Selina confirmed that Belcarra would receive 100% of required funding to install lights at our bus stops and mailboxes. Our goal in this regard, based on resident feedback, was to improve safety for children and adults using transit outside of daylight hours. Lighting strategically directed over the mailboxes will also help prevent mail theft.
- The process to build Belcarra's new website is well underway. The request for proposal (RFP) process for selection of the web service provider has been completed and the website development work will begin in the new year. The new website will become the primary source of information for residents including news, calendar of events, community bulletin board, access to all financial data, consultant's reports, Village information, emergency info, and more. We encourage residents to also sign up for our email distribution list by calling the Village office at 604-937-4100.





- Supporting our goal for Village Services to be a hotel concierge-like experience, all staff one-on-ones have been completed. Roles and responsibilities are being evolved and the foundations are being built to support feedback and development for both Administration and Council.
- As Mayor, I have met one-on-one with each neighboring Mayor. Discovering shared areas of focus and concern, opportunities to share resources, strategizing for regional initiatives and learning from other's experiences are immensely valuable as we plan for these next four years.
- Feedback from residents is that the first two Town Halls were a great success. Residents asked questions of Council, identified areas of concern/opportunity /interest, and prioritized areas for Council's attention. Based on feedback from these Town Halls, an announcement will be made in early January soliciting involvement in the following committees and groups:
  - Village Revenue Generating Opportunities
  - Water System and Fire Protection
  - Farrer Cove Roads and Support
  - Tree Trimming and Dangerous Trees
  - Belcarra Day
- Beginning in January the Village Hall will open up for social resident use. Evening and weekend access to free coffee and tea will be available. Council and Administration continue to assess the opportunity to secure a liquor license so that a small amount of beer/wine can also be available. The Hall will also be available for residents to book private events and activities. A calendar function in the new website will communicate up to date Village Hall usage information.
- The installation of cameras, microphones and recording equipment is in the final stages of installation in the Village Hall. The goal is to provide online access to videos and audio of Council Meetings and relevant events.
- The 2019 budget process is well underway. Council and Administration will meet for a third time in January to continue working through our financial plan. We remain focused on being fiscally responsible while ensuring resident safety and infrastructure support. An audit of Belcarra's assets and liabilities is underway to support our budget allocation process and we continue to focus heavily on grants and other regional initiatives for small municipality support.





- Coffee / Tea with the Mayor will begin January 4<sup>th</sup>. Every Friday afternoon between 1-4pm, I will be available to discuss any topic of interest. Drop in visitors are always welcome but I encourage residents to reserve dedicated time for conversations requiring privacy. Please email me directly to reserve a convenient time to connect. [nbelenkie@belcarra.ca](mailto:nbelenkie@belcarra.ca)
- In response to resident interest regarding Bedwell Bay management and the moratorium on applications for new docks, we have proposed a major initiative with the Port Authority. Our next meeting is expected to be mid-January and we will update with any news available.
- In the interest of resident safety, the decision was made to provide Farrer Cove with a large load of road mulch for the winter season. This is the optimal material to spread wherever snow and ice create risk of transit.
- Belcarra Councilor local appointments have been made in the following areas:
  - Bruce Drake – Sasamat Volunteer Fire Department Fire Trustee
  - Liisa Wilder – Sasamat Volunteer Fire Department Fire Trustee
  - Carolina Clark – Alternate Director, Metro Vancouver Regional Council
  - Rob Begg – Public Works Portfolio

Please note that this update does not capture all of the work being managed by Council and Administration, it is intended as a summary of key areas of resident interest.

On behalf of Belcarra's Council and Administration, we sincerely wish everyone a wonderful holiday season and New Year celebration.

We are excited to continue our work in 2019 and look forward to another year in the most beautiful Village in the world.

Happy Holidays

Neil Belenkie  
Mayor

