

## NEWS RELEASE

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### City budget focus of upcoming eTown Hall

*Residents encouraged to participate on November 15, 2021*

#### Summary

Nanaimo residents wishing to discuss the City's 2022-2026 Financial Plan process will have the opportunity to do so by participating in an upcoming eTown Hall meeting scheduled for Monday, November 15.

The eTown Hall will start under the *Reports* section of the Regular Council Meeting and will run for one hour. The Regular Council Meeting starts at 7:00pm. If necessary, an additional 30 minutes will be allocated towards the eTown Hall. Residents are encouraged to review available information prior to the start of the meeting. The 2022-2026 Draft Financial Plan is available for review on the City website. Leading up to the eTown Hall, residents can share their priorities for the 2022-2026 Financial Plan on the City's Get Involved site at [www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca/budget](http://www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca/budget).

To participate in the eTown Hall, residents may submit their questions through the City website at [www.nanaimo.ca/goto/etownhall](http://www.nanaimo.ca/goto/etownhall), on Twitter using the hashtag #NanaimoTH and on the eTown Hall event page at [www.facebook.com/CityofNanaimo](https://www.facebook.com/CityofNanaimo). Residents can also call the City at 250-754-4251 from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday until November 15, send in or ask their question in person during the meeting.

Opportunities to follow the 2022-2026 Financial Plan approval process have been made available with budget presentations and workshops taking place during Special Finance and Audit Committee meetings held on October 29 and November 3, 5 and 10 and an additional one after the eTown Hall on November 19. Materials and recordings from these meetings can be found at [www.nanaimo.ca/meetings](http://www.nanaimo.ca/meetings).

*Strategic Link:* Providing opportunities for public input supports the strategic priority of Governance Excellence.

#### Key Points

- The eTown Hall will be streamed live on the City website, as part of the Regular Council Meeting at [www.nanaimo.ca/meetings](http://www.nanaimo.ca/meetings) and on Shaw Cable channel 4 or BlueSky TV on 105, which starts at 7 p.m. on Nov 15.
- Residents can submit their question ahead of time or during the eTown Hall through the City website at [www.nanaimo.ca/goto/etownhall](http://www.nanaimo.ca/goto/etownhall), on Twitter using #NanaimoTH and on the eTown Hall event page on [Facebook.com/CityofNanaimo](https://www.facebook.com/CityofNanaimo). Questions can also be submitted ahead of the eTown Hall by calling the City at 250-754-4251 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.
- Residents are encouraged to review all related materials before participating in the eTown Hall. Links to recordings of budget discussions are available on the eTown Hall page on the City website.
- To ensure all trending topics are covered, questions that are similar in nature will be compiled into one or two questions so that there are none remaining by the end of the e-Town Hall.

## Quotes

"In its eighth year, the eTown Hall format continues to be an excellent way for residents and Council to converse over an important topic such as the budget. Whether in person, over the phone or online, there are so many ways to participate. So, Nanaimo, tweet your questions away!"

Leonard Krog  
Mayor  
City of Nanaimo

## Quick Facts

- To date, the City of Nanaimo has held 12 eTown Hall meetings on subjects relating to the budget, core services review and strategic priorities. The first meeting, held in March of 2013, was awarded Bronze for Innovation Management by the Institute of Public Administration of Canada (IPAC).
- Unlike conventional town hall meetings, Nanaimo's eTown Hall format allows for greater community involvement and convenience. Participants are able to watch the meeting live on the City website and submit their questions online as well as in person.

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### Contact:

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