

NEWS RELEASE

Distributed November 27, 2023

City budget focus of upcoming eTown Hall

Residents encouraged to participate on Dec. 4, 2023

Summary

Nanaimo residents wishing to discuss the City's 2024-2028 Financial Plan will have the opportunity to do so by participating in an upcoming eTown Hall meeting scheduled for Monday, Dec. 4.

The Dec. 4 Regular Council meeting will begin at 7 p.m. with an overview of the 2024 - 2028 Financial Plan followed by a one hour eTown Hall for residents to engage with Council on the budget. Residents are encouraged to review the 2024-2028 Draft Financial Plan on the City website at www.nanaimo.ca/goto/budget.

To participate in the eTown Hall, residents may submit their questions through the City website at www.nanaimo.ca/goto/etownhall, on X (formally known as Twitter) using the hashtag #NanaimoTH, and on the eTown Hall event page at www.facebook.com/CityofNanaimo. Residents can also call the City at 250-754-4251, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday until Dec. 4. During the meeting, they can ask their question in person or send it in online.

Everyone can follow the 2024-2028 Financial Plan approval process. Additional budget presentations and workshops will occur during Special Finance and Audit Committee meetings Nov. 29 and Dec. 1, plus an additional meeting after the eTown Hall on Dec. 6, if required. Materials and recordings from these meetings can be found at www.nanaimo.ca/meetings.

Strategic Link: Providing opportunities for public input supports the strategic focus 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 and on Shaw Cable channel 4 or BlueSky TV on 105, beginning at 7 p.m. on Dec 4. If necessary, 30 minutes will be added to the eTown Hall.
- Residents can submit their question ahead of time or during the eTown Hall through the City website at www.nanaimo.ca/goto/etownhall, on X (formally known as 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

"This innovative format has given citizens a venue to participate in the City's budgeting process for over 10 years. I encourage residents to participate wherever they are - in person, on the phone or online."

Leonard Krog
Mayor
City of Nanaimo

Quick Facts

- To date, the City of Nanaimo has held 14 eTown Hall meetings on subjects relating to the budget, core services review and strategic priorities. The first meeting, held in March 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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