




MAY 2018

# LADYSMITH PROPERTY TAXES

Enclosed with this newsletter is your Property Tax Notice for 2018. We hope you find all the information you need right here. If you do need more information, we encourage you to get in touch:

-  Send an E-mail to [info@ladysmith.ca](mailto:info@ladysmith.ca)
-  Mail a Note to Town of Ladysmith City Hall,  
410 Esplanade, Box 220, Ladysmith, B.C. V9G 1A2
-  Call 250.245.6400

## PAYING PROPERTY TAXES: TWO SIMPLE STEPS

**FIRST:** Claim your Homeowner Grant at City Hall or online by clicking the **Property Taxes** logo on our home page at [www.ladysmith.ca](http://www.ladysmith.ca)

**SECOND:** Pay your Property Taxes by 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 3, 2018.

## YOU CHOOSE HOW TO PAY:

- In person at City Hall (cash, cheque or debit card)
- In the after-hours drop box at City Hall (beside the front doors)
- At your bank, with your tax notice
- Through online banking
- Through your mortgage lender
- By mail (must be received at City Hall by 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 3 2018. A postmark does not count)

## RESIDENTIAL TAX DEFERMENT

There are two different provincial government loan programs that allow eligible Home Owners to defer (postpone) payment of your property taxes:

- Property Tax Deferral Program
- Families with Dependent Children Under 18

For information and application forms, contact the Government of BC – [1.888.355.2700](tel:1.888.355.2700), or go online at: [www.gov.bc.ca](http://www.gov.bc.ca) (search “defer your taxes”).

## LADYSMITH'S 2018 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

In 2018, Ladysmith residents will experience a slight increase in property taxes as we continue to make significant, long-term investments that set a solid foundation for the future of our community.

This year, taxes will increase by just over 2 per cent based on the assessed value of your property as determined by BC Assessment. For an average single family dwelling, the municipal share of property tax you pay will rise slightly compared to last year. For example, a single family residential property with an assessed value of \$373,500 in 2018, up approximately 16.6 per cent in market value over 2017, will pay \$32.59 more in 2018 in assessment based municipal property taxes.

Ladysmith's total municipal taxation for 2018 is \$7.961 million. This helps to pay for the ongoing costs of maintaining parks, roads and other infrastructure, keeping our community safe, running the Frank Jameson Community Centre, supporting many local community organizations, and more. There are a number of additional projects underway or planned for our community in 2018 including:

- Working to move the Waterfront Area Plan forward
- Building the Town's water filtration plant
- Carrying out upgrades to 4th Avenue
- Completing the review of Development Cost Charges (DCCs)
- Begin work feasibility of increasing water storage capacity
- Continuing to remove derelict vessels from Ladysmith Harbour

Grants help to offset some of our capital costs and reduce the burden on our taxpayers and we will continue to apply for various opportunities. In 2018 we have already received \$1.8 million in grant funds to help upgrade the historic Machine Shop that will feature as a Heritage and Culture hub in our Waterfront Area Plan. Construction costs of the new Water Filtration plant are offset by an \$8.8 million grant we received in 2017.

Slide presentations from the budget deliberations are available on our website at [www.ladysmith.ca](http://www.ladysmith.ca), and at City Hall. We encourage you to review them and direct comments or questions to Council or staff.



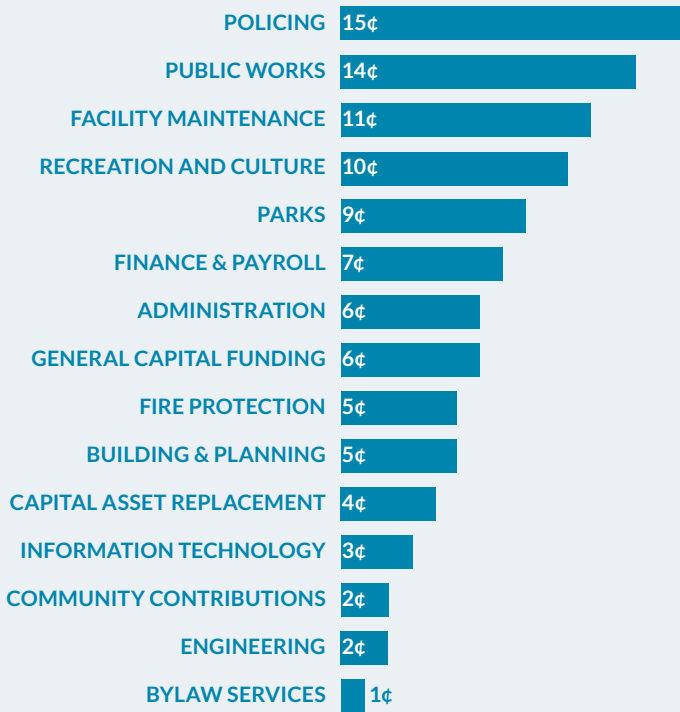


## WHAT SERVICES DO YOUR PROPERTY TAXES PAY FOR?

Each dollar that you pay in property taxes funds a variety of programs and services. These include:

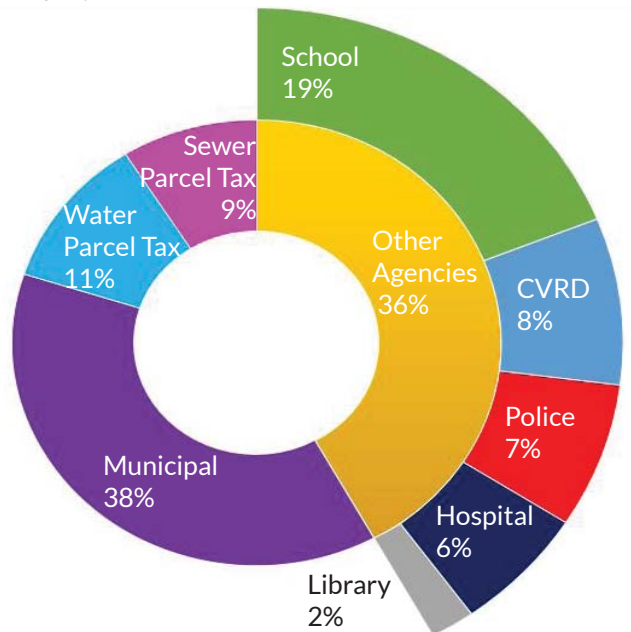
- Maintaining 900,000 square metres of park land and 26 kilometres of trails
- Caring for 38 kilometres of Ladysmith sidewalks
- Filling 50-100 potholes per year
- Placing approximately 250-300 tons of salt and 200 tons of sand on roads each winter
- Cleaning and repairing 68 kilometres of sanitary sewer lines
- Supplying 1,407,000,000 litres of clean, safe drinking water to residents in Ladysmith, the Diamond, Saltair and Stz'uminus First Nation
- Maintaining 67.5 kilometres of roads and 17 municipally owned buildings

The chart below shows how one dollar of your property taxes is spent. In addition to the amounts we've listed, property owners also pay water and sewer parcel taxes to help fund upgrades to our water supply system, the award winning waste water treatment plant, the new bio-solids composting facility, and our soon-to-be constructed water filtration plant.



## DID YOU KNOW?

36% of all property taxes collected by the Town of Ladysmith go directly to other agencies to pay for services like schools, the Vancouver Island Regional Library, the Cowichan Valley Regional District and the Cowichan Regional Hospital fund. Sewer and water parcel taxes make up 20 per cent of taxes collected.



## WE VALUE YOUR FEEDBACK

If you have comments, questions or suggestions, or you just want to know what's going on, there are many ways to get in touch.

WE WANT TO HEAR WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY. CONNECT WITH US:

- ✉ Send an E-mail to [info@ladysmith.ca](mailto:info@ladysmith.ca)
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