



PROPERTY TAXES ARE DUE JULY 2, 2021

A 2% penalty will be applied to unpaid current taxes after 4:00 p.m. **July 2, 2021**. An additional 8% penalty will be applied to unpaid current taxes after 4:00 p.m. September 15, 2021. See your tax notice for details.

PAYING YOUR PROPERTY TAXES

During COVID-19, we encourage you to make your tax payments online for your own health and that of our staff.

Visit: www.ladysmith.ca for details.

Payments are due, and Home Owner Grants must be claimed by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, July 2, 2021.

If you can't pay online, here are other options:

- 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 your mortgage lender
- By mail (must be received at City Hall by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, July 2, 2021.)

RESIDENTIAL TAX DEFERMENT

Tax deferment is a low interest loan program that helps qualified B.C. homeowners pay the annual property taxes on their principal residence.

To find out if you are eligible to defer your property taxes, please visit the Province of BC Property Tax Deferment Program <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/property-taxes/annual-property-tax/defer-taxes> or call **1.888.355.2700**.

Enclosed with this newsletter is your Property Tax Notice for 2021. We hope you find all the information you need right here. If you need more information, we encourage you to get in touch:

- ✉ Send an E-mail to 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**

2021 HOME OWNER GRANT

Starting May 2021, you must apply for your Home Owner Grant directly with the Province. Municipalities cannot accept applications.

To claim your grant, you will need this tax notice, your Jurisdiction Number (usually 445), Roll Number and Social Insurance Number.

To apply visit: www.gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant or phone 1-888-355-2700.

2021 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Ladysmith Council is continuing to prioritize projects that renew aging infrastructure, upgrade public facilities and improve the high level of service delivery that property owners have come to expect.

Each year, property taxes help to cover the ongoing costs of roadwork, water and sewer projects, other infrastructure improvements, maintaining parks, keeping our community safe, supporting many local community organizations through Grants-in-Aid, and much more.

This year, municipal taxes will increase 0.52 per cent. The Town does not control tax rates set by other jurisdictions or agencies such as the School District, Vancouver Island Regional Library, Cowichan Valley Regional District and the Hospital.

The overall budget increase was over 2 per cent, however, this was reduced with revenue from new developments as well as the use of Provincial COVID-19 relief funds that made up for the loss in recreation revenues.

Residential property owners are reminded that the Town is no longer processing Home Owner Grants (HOG) as of this year. More instructions on how to claim your HOG through the Province can be found at the top of this notice, or on your tax bill.

Property owners are encouraged to pay their property taxes and claim their Home Owner Grant by the July 2, 2021 due date to avoid a 2 per cent penalty. Please note that an additional penalty of 8 per cent will be applied to unpaid property taxes and/or unclaimed Home Owner Grant at 4:00 p.m. on September 15.

Federal and Provincial 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.

The Town also received over \$700,000 in grant funds from senior levels of government to upgrade amenities at Transfer Beach Park including a new public washroom facility, upgrades to the picnic shelters, additional concrete patio seating, bike racks and service stations, and a paved walkway increasing the overall accessibility of the waterfront.

Information about the budget is available on our website at www.ladysmith.ca, and at City Hall. We encourage you to review the details and direct comments or questions to Town 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
- Maintaining a system that supplies 1,407,000,000 litres of clean, safe drinking water
- Maintaining 67.5 kilometres of roads and 17 municipally owned buildings

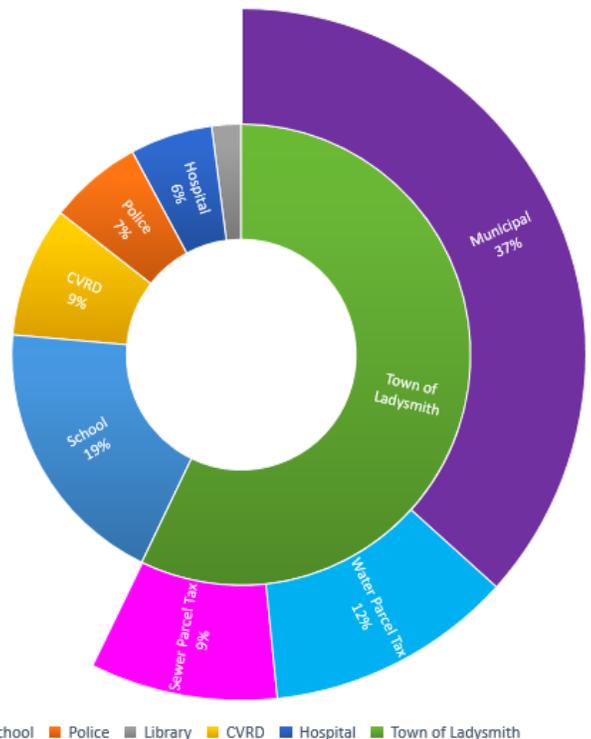
The chart below shows how one dollar of your property taxes is spent. In addition to the amounts we've listed, property owners also pay water and sewer parcel taxes to help fund upgrades to our water supply system, the award winning waste water treatment plant, the bio-solids composting facility, and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

THE IMPACT OF A MUNICIPAL TAX DOLLAR



DID YOU KNOW?

The Town of Ladysmith is only responsible for determining a portion of your overall property taxes. Altogether, 43.15 per cent of your bill is set by 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 20.31 per cent of taxes we collect and help to ensure the Town's infrastructure is properly maintained.



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
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- 📘 Follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/LadysmithBC
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- ☎ Call City Hall 250.245.6400

