



A Message from Saanich Council

Property taxes & Home Owner Grant applications are due on **Tuesday, July 3, 2018**



Greetings from Mayor Richard Atwell and Saanich Council.

This newsletter accompanies your 2018 property tax notice to provide you with background information about your property taxes and how your tax dollars are spent on Saanich services.

Each year, we rely upon your input during budget deliberations to help prioritize spending and to guide decision making in order to keep increases to a minimum while planning and investing to pay for future expenses.

If you have any questions about your 2018 taxes please contact us via email at mayor@saanich.ca and council@saanich.ca.

Mayor Atwell and Council



Standing: Councillors Vicki Sanders, Leif Wergeland, Colin Plant, Dean Murdock, Judy Brownoff, and Fred Haynes

Seated: Councillor Susan Brice, Mayor Richard Atwell, and Councillor Karen Harper

Your 2018 property tax notice is enclosed.

Council has approved Saanich's 2018 budget in accordance with the 2015-2018 Strategic Plan and their budget guidelines.

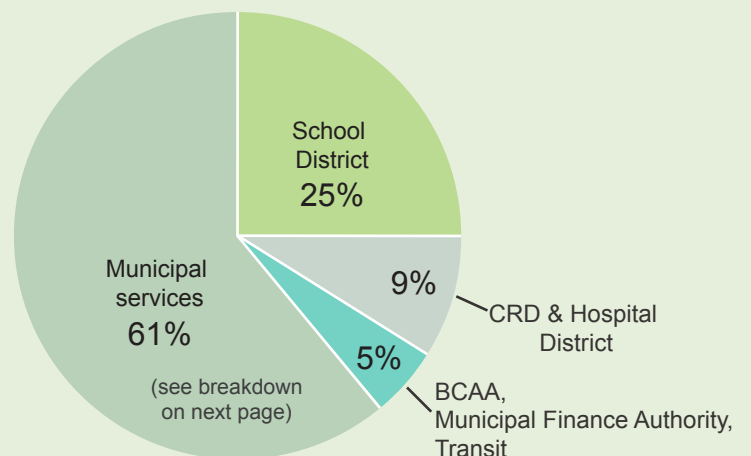
Council's decisions continue to maintain the service levels for the broad range of services provided by Saanich. The budget decisions improve the ability to manage and maintain assets such as roads, underground systems, buildings and trails as well as the vehicles, machinery and equipment that support their repair and maintenance. The budget also supports the systems that enable provision of secure services in the information age.

The Strategic Plan themes are all represented in the budget with numerous projects, including:

- Safe community – Safe Routes to School program.
- Healthy community – Park, playground and trail infrastructure projects to support active living.
- Sustainable environment – Replacement program for essential water and sewer systems.
- Balanced transportation – Improvements to sidewalks, bikeways, bus stops, signals and lighting.

More information is available in the 2018-2022 Financial Plan on saanich.ca.

Where your tax dollars go



Pay monthly for 2019!

Sign up at saanich.ca/tax for Saanich's prepayment plan to pre-pay your 2019 property tax in easy monthly installments.

For more information and ways to pay, visit saanich.ca/tax.

How are your taxes calculated?

$$\text{Assessed value}/1000 \times \text{tax rate} = \text{tax owing}$$

Please visit saanich.ca/tax or the back of your tax notice for ways to pay your property tax.

Pay your taxes at: Property Tax, 770 Vernon Ave., Victoria, BC V8X 2W7

If you have any questions or require assistance, please call 250-475-5454 or visit saanich.ca/tax.

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Online services are described below, or go to saanich.ca/tax for a list of ways to pay.

Home owner grants:

- Claim your home owner grant online at saanich.ca/grant – do not claim your grant at your financial institution.
- You will need your folio number and your access code from your tax notice to claim online.
- You must submit a grant application each year you are eligible and it must be submitted by July 3, 2018 to avoid penalty.
- Unclaimed grants constitute unpaid taxes and will be subject to a 10% penalty if not claimed by July 3, 2018.

Property tax payments:

- Please ensure when paying online that you check your financial institution's local cut-off time to ensure payment is received by the due date.
- Any payments with a payment date after July 3, 2018 will be considered late and will be subject to a 10% penalty.

Deferment application or renewals:

- All deferment applications and renewals must be received at the District of Saanich by July 3, 2018. Applications and renewals received after July 3, 2018 are subject to a 10% penalty.
- You must submit a renewal application every year you intend to defer your property taxes.
- Applications that are not approved by the Provincial Deferment Office will be subject to a 10% penalty.

How your assessment affects your taxes

The average increase for residential property assessments is 16% for 2018. The average tax increase is 3.07% or \$77 per household.

	Property value change	Property tax change
	LOWER than average assessment change	LOWER than average tax increase
	SIMILAR TO average assessment change	Tax increase IN LINE WITH AVERAGE
	HIGHER than average assessment change	HIGHER than average tax increase

Achieving the Saanich Vision - your municipal tax dollars at work



Where your municipal tax dollars will be spent in 2018

	Monthly cost (rounded)	Percentage of municipal tax based on average home value
Police services	\$57	26%
Fire & emergency programs	\$32	15%
Parks & recreation	\$28	13%
General government	\$24	11%
Capital projects	\$24	11%
Engineering & public works	\$22	10%
Debt & reserves	\$13	6%
Cultural (including libraries)	\$12	6%
Planning & development	\$4	2%

The example is for the municipal portion of a 2018 property tax bill assessed at Saanich's average value of \$878,400 and totals \$2,594.