



HIGHLIGHTS

of the 2003 Saanich Citizen Survey

Quality of Life

	Average Score (out of 100)	% of respondents answering...					Total	No opinion	Valid Responses
		(Score = 0) Very Poor	(Score = 25) Poor	(Score = 50) Neutral	(Score = 75) Good	(Score = 100) Very Good			
a. How would you describe the quality of life in Saanich?	82	0%	0%	12%	45%	42%	100%	6	507
b. How would you rate Saanich as a place to raise children?	82	0%	0%	13%	44%	43%	100%	67	447
c. How would you rate Saanich as a place to retire?	81	0%	4%	16%	34%	46%	100%	34	480
d. How would you rate Saanich as a place to work?	73	1%	6%	23%	42%	28%	100%	140	372

Safety & Security

	Average Score	% of respondents answering...					Total	No opinion	Valid Responses
		Very Unsafe	Unsafe	Neutral	Safe	Very Safe			
a. How safe do you feel in your neighbourhood <u>in daytime</u> ?	88	0%	1%	7%	33%	60%	100%	4	510
b. How safe do you feel in your neighbourhood <u>at night</u> ?	71	1%	6%	25%	43%	24%	100%	8	506
c. How safe do you feel your home is from burglary?	66	2%	7%	33%	43%	15%	100%	14	499

Preferences: “List up to three things that you like and dislike most about living in Saanich”

LIKES	%	DISLIKES	%
Amenities (shopping, central location, etc.)	22%	Transportation (congestion, etc.)	28%
Quiet, comfortable, friendly	15%	Municipal Services (poor)	10%
Parks and trails	14%	Land-use planning (growth, density, etc.)	8%
Municipal services, staff and Council	10%	Sidewalks (lack of)	7%
Climate and landscape	9%	Bylaw enforcement	7%
Recreation facilities	7%	Taxes (too high)	6%
Green space	6%	<i>Other</i>	6%
Rural-urban mix	5%	Animal control	4%
Safety	5%	Garbage & Yard Waste schedule	4%
<i>Other</i>	2%	Transit (poor)	4%
Transit services	2%	Crime	3%
Affordability	0.8%	Environmental/rural area protection	3%
Low taxes	0.8%	"Downtown"-like amenities (lack of)	2%
Total	100%	Bicycle infrastructure	1.5%
Valid responses	406	Community/public spaces (lack)	1.5%
Did not respond	108	Interest groups (too powerful)	1.3%
		Water quality or restrictions	1.1%
		Affordability	0.9%
		Climate	0.1%
		Total	100%
		Valid responses	406
		Did not respond	108

Property taxation: “If faced with the following realistic choices, what would you advise Council to do?”

	%
a. Higher taxes with improved municipal services (Score: 1)	18%
b. Same taxes with same/reduced level of municipal services (2)	62%
c. Lower taxes with reduced level of municipal service (3)	11%
d. No opinion	8%
Total	100%
Average Score (out of 3)	2.1
Valid responses	509

Capital spending: “Imagine that you have \$100 to spend on the following capital projects. How would you spend it?”

Capital projects	Average \$ allotted
Roads and traffic control	\$14.34
Municipal water system	\$13.74
Municipal sewer and drainage system	\$12.64
Environment protection and enhancement	\$10.88
Parks and trails	\$10.60
Pedestrian infrastructure (paths, sidewalks)	\$9.91
Bicycle infrastructure (bike lanes, etc.)	\$9.35
Recreation facilities	\$9.17
Arts and cultural facilities	\$5.23
Municipal buildings	\$4.32
Total	\$100
Valid Responses	493
Did not respond	21
Responses >\$100	15

Overall perception of local government

	Average Score	% of respondents answering...						Total	Valid Responses
		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	No opinion		
a. I receive good value for the municipal taxes I pay	62	2%	10%	33%	35%	12%	9%	100%	511
b. The District of Saanich government welcomes citizen involvement	63	1%	9%	25%	29%	11%	26%	100%	511
c. The District of Saanich government listens to citizens	55	3%	14%	28%	23%	6%	26%	100%	511
d. I am pleased with the overall direction that the District of Saanich is taking	64	2%	7%	33%	37%	12%	9%	100%	511
e. In general, I believe the District of Saanich government is doing a good job	67	1%	5%	32%	40%	17%	4%	100%	511

Future challenges: “What do you think are the three biggest challenges that Saanich will face in the next five years?”

Challenges	%
Growth pressures	21%
Transportation: planning, congestion, maintenance	18%
Financial issues: maintain tax levels; do more with less	13%
Environmental protection: green spaces, agricultural lands, pollution	8%
Crime	5%
Water quality	5%
Sewage treatment	4%
Infrastructure maintenance (non-transportation)	4%
<i>Other</i>	4%
Improve municipal services	3%
Amalgamation/integration of municipalities and/or services	3%
Economic development	3%
Education funding/quality	2%
Provincial downloading / declining financial support	2%
Affordability	2%
Aging population: services, housing, health care, etc.	2%
Declining citizen/neighbourhood values	1%
Totals	100%
Valid Responses	414
<i>Did not respond</i>	100

For full summary of survey results, please go to
www.gov.saanich.bc.ca/government/citizensurvey.htm

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