



## Important property tax information including changes for 2020

- **We are NOT taking cash or credit cards** as tax payment.
- **Deferments are no longer paid or processed through municipalities.** BC residential property owners can apply for property tax deferment on their principal residence online, quickly and easily. For the first time, owners can choose to auto-renew their application.
- For more information or to apply, visit [gov.bc.ca/propertytaxdeferment](http://gov.bc.ca/propertytaxdeferment). Note a 10 per cent penalty will apply if your application or renewal is not approved or if you sell your property or cancel your application before the taxes are paid on your behalf.
- **We have extended the penalty deadline to September 30, 2020.** Taxes are still due July 2, 2020 and we appreciate timely payments from those who are able. A penalty of 10 per cent is applied to any unpaid current year taxes, including unclaimed home owner grants, at the close of business on the due date.

### Home owner grants

Applications can be submitted online, by mail or at the municipal hall. The application must be received **on or before September 30, 2020.**

### Ways to pay your property taxes

Any payments received at Esquimalt Municipal Hall, whether via mail, drop box, bank payment, etc., after September 30, 2020 will be subject to penalty. **Cash and credit cards are not accepted.**

### By online or telephone banking

Pay your property tax bill at your bank or credit union using your folio number (numbers only, do not include the decimals) as the account number.

Bill payee name: Esquimalt – TAX. This may vary among financial institutions, ie "Esquimalt (Township) – Property Taxes" or "Esquimalt Prop Tax."

### At your bank

You can pay your property taxes at most financial institutions. For your payment to be considered on time, you must have a receipt from your bank with a date

stamped on or before September 30, 2020. Receipts date stamped after the penalty date will be subject to a 10 per cent penalty.

Please check with your financial institution regarding bank local transaction cut off times to avoid penalty. Remember to complete and sign your home owner grant application and submit it online or to the Township of Esquimalt. Do not claim your grant at your financial institution.

### 24-hour mail slot

There is a secure mail slot located at the entrance to the municipal hall that is accessible seven days a week. Do not place cash in the mail slot. Please practice safe physical distancing when using the mail drop box.

### By mail

Send your payment to:  
Township of Esquimalt  
1229 Esquimalt Rd  
Esquimalt BC V9A 3P1

**Note: cash is not accepted.**

### Pay in person

**\*\* Due to COVID-19, there will be limited public access to the Esquimalt Municipal Hall.**

For information on days and times that the hall will be open, please check our website or call 250-414-7107.

Bring your tax notice and payment to the municipal hall. Acceptable payment methods include:

- Personal cheques (and post-dated personal cheques) – payable to Township of Esquimalt \*
- Money orders, bank drafts or cheques issued by your credit card provider
- Interac – please ensure your debit card daily transaction limit is sufficient before presenting the card for use

Ask us about prepayments, pre-authorized payment plans and paying with your mortgage payment.

**Visit [esquimalt.ca/tax](http://esquimalt.ca/tax) for more information or to claim your Home Owner Grant**

**Property tax penalty deadline is September 30, 2020.**

Township of  
**ESQUIMALT**



## The COVID-19 crisis has brought about large changes for everyone, including Township of Esquimalt residents, businesses and staff.

There have been changes to Esquimalt operations in all areas as the organization works to continue services to residents and businesses while observing the Provincial Health Officer's rules and recommendations to keep people safe.

Everyone's efforts to "be kind, be calm and be safe" are helping the community work together and keep spirits up during these challenging times.

### COVID and enforcement

The township has produced a list of common questions and answers to help clarify the roles and responsibilities of residents, bylaw officers and police when it comes to observing and enforcing the rules and recommendations during the pandemic. Find it at [Esquimalt.ca/covid19](https://www.esquimalt.ca/covid19).

### Parks and recreation activities

#### Community events

Unfortunately many well-loved Esquimalt events have been cancelled in recent days. Some, like our annual Earth Week celebrations, received a digital makeover and are presented online. One advantage is that if you miss the event, you can always look it up after the fact! Keep an eye on [Esquimalt.ca](https://www.esquimalt.ca) for event updates.

### Recreation services

Thank you for your continued patience as we work with authorities to prepare for reopening. We understand our programs and services are important to the community.

Please also know that as we re-open

our facilities, things will look different. Our re-opening will be a gradual process and it will take time to implement new protocols to ensure the health and safety of our staff and customers. Check for updates at [Esquimalt.ca/recreation](https://www.esquimalt.ca/recreation).

Find themed activities and information in areas of fitness, children's play, arts and the environment at [Esquimalt.ca/virtualrec](https://www.esquimalt.ca/virtualrec).

### Park and trail use

Esquimalt residents and visitors are doing a tremendous job of physically distancing in parks. For those who need a reminder, staff have placed signage in strategic park locations and have worked with the City of Victoria near municipal borders.

**Your Greater Victoria Public Library is always open**—anytime, anywhere, on any device with Internet access.

Go to [gvpl.ca](https://www.gvpl.ca) to find digital movies, music, ebooks, audiobooks and Lynda.com courses.

Need a free library card? Get one at [gvpl.ca](https://www.gvpl.ca) in two minutes or less!

### Doing business

Most township services are available online or can be taken care of over the phone.

#### Common services & council business:

- Engineering applications, including requests for traffic calming, parking restrictions or boulevard alterations

can be submitted by email to [engineering@esquimalt.ca](mailto:engineering@esquimalt.ca).

- For building or development permits, find information online or contact the Development Services Department with questions at 250-414-7103.
- Tree permits are being processed over the phone. Residents can call 250-412-8513. Permits can also be sent in electronically at [trees@esquimalt.ca](mailto:trees@esquimalt.ca).
- Some services will be available by appointment only. Residents may call or email the department directly for arrangements or contact general reception at 250-414-7100.
- Council meetings are proceeding as scheduled with updated processes to allow the public to participate from home. Contact us at 250-414-7100 or [corporate.services@esquimalt.ca](mailto:corporate.services@esquimalt.ca) for details. As usual, feedback may be submitted by mail or email for council's consideration at any time.
- All committee meetings are tentatively scheduled until further notice and are available online on Esquimalt's Legistar meeting tool.
- The Esquimalt Archives are available online at [Esquimalt.ca/archives](https://www.esquimalt.ca/archives).
- The yard and garden waste transfer station is open for Esquimalt and View Royal residents.

### Staying informed

Residents are strongly encouraged to **sign up to Esquimalt Alert** to be notified of critical information by phone call, text or app. Users can also choose garbage notifications and other useful information updates as well. Go to [esquimalt.ca/alert](https://www.esquimalt.ca/alert).

### Township updates for COVID information are posted on [Esquimalt.ca/covid19](https://www.esquimalt.ca/covid19) and shared on social media accounts.

This includes frequently asked questions around business resources, services and enforcement.

