

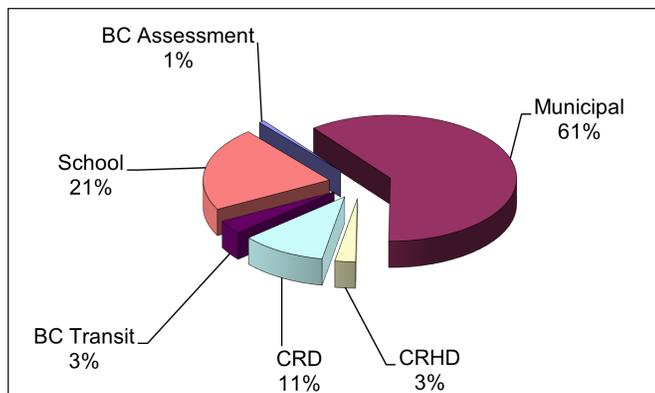
## A message from Mayor Barbara Desjardins

On behalf of Council- Councillors Meagan Brame, Lynda Hundleby, Jacob Helliwell, Ken Armour, Jane Vermeulen, Tim Morrison and myself, I invite you to review the township's 2022 budget information.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been challenging to municipal governments, requiring us to be nimble on ever-changing provincial health guidelines for the safety of our residents and staff. These changes included varying ways to seek community consultation (for example with this budget process), hold public meetings and maintain staffing hours of our facilities.

2022 was a challenging budget deliberation year, with an allocation of \$50.2 million for capital projects. Inflationary pressures toward the end of 2021 and into the first quarter of 2022 were within council discussion and budget deliberation as well. Esquimalt Council has approved a 2022 budget of \$91.2 million which includes a 4.92 per cent increase in municipal tax revenue needs over 2021.

### 2022 total taxation



*In addition to municipal levies, taxes are collected on behalf of other taxing authorities.*

Amenity funds are allocated with \$4.6 million to be spent on the new public safety building. We have \$35 million borrowed for our new public safety building and part of the repayment is a driver for this year's tax increase. We heard strongly that the public wanted us to significantly invest in our active transportation network plan and we allocated \$2.3 million to ensure we move this forward in an accelerated way.

Council has ensured funding to continue the work on deer management, provided funds to review our parking bylaw as well as a development capacity assessment to help us understand how community growth may impact our capacity for services.

Our policing core budget is another contributing expense for Esquimalt and council is examining all ways to reduce this as per the LePard and VicPD reports showing our costs being greater than our usage.

We will see the benefits of the Gorge Pavilion and the new Esquimalt (sx<sup>w</sup>imé<sup>t</sup>ə<sup>t</sup> tənəx<sup>w</sup> means "Esquimalt land") library branch move from capital costs to our operating budget.

Budget has also been allocated to meet federal and provincial standards of flows for McLoughlin and tackling the inflow and infiltration challenges we have. This will be an ongoing program to 2030 to get us there. While not very visible, this is important infrastructure management.

This budget is moving forward on some significant community projects and balances achieving our strategic objectives while funding our day to day needs and infrastructure.

*Barbara Desjardins*

**See 2022 tax & budget information on reverse**

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# 2022 tax and budget information

## NEW for 2022

### Access your tax account online with MyEsquimalt!

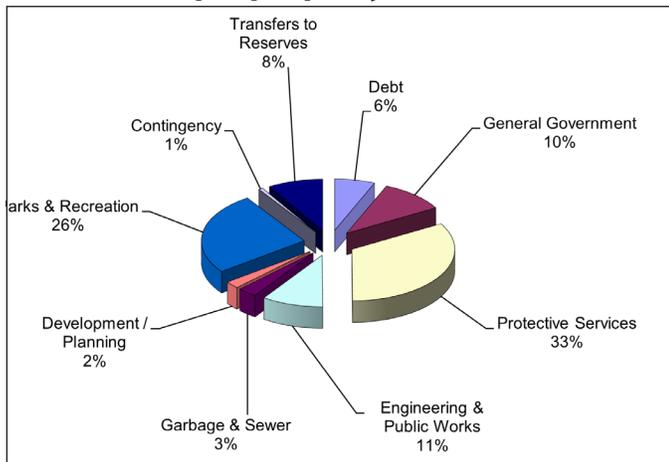
- Visit [Esquimalt.ca](http://Esquimalt.ca) to set up your online account to access your tax balance.
- You can also choose to receive future tax notices and reminders by email.

You may qualify for provincial tax deferment programs. Visit [gov.bc.ca/propertytaxdeferment](http://gov.bc.ca/propertytaxdeferment) or contact the Provincial Tax Deferment Office at 250-387-0555 for information.

### You can pay your taxes:

- By post-dated cheque (post-dated no later than July 4, 2022).
- Via the 24-hour secure municipal hall mailbox outside the front entrance (no cash please).
- In person at Esquimalt Municipal Hall, M–F, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- At most financial institutions either in person, online, or via telebanking.
- By mail. To avoid a late penalty, your mailed payment must be received by the township on or before July 4.

## 2022 municipal property taxes



The above graph is based on the 2022 approved operating budget and demonstrates where your municipal tax dollars will be spent.

**Your 2022 property tax notice covers the tax year from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022.** To balance the operating budget, Council must collect revenue through property taxes. The amount required is converted to a rate, which is then applied to the taxable assessment of each property to determine the taxes payable.

**If you are eligible for a Home Owner Grant, you must apply through the Province.** The grant needs to be applied for every year. If you miss the due date, you may apply for the home owner grant until December 31; however penalties may apply.

You can claim your 2022 grant online at [gov.bc.ca/HomeOwnerGrant](http://gov.bc.ca/HomeOwnerGrant) as soon as you receive your property tax notice. Call 1-888-355-2700 (toll free) to speak to a live agent.

Visit our website at [esquimalt.ca/tax](http://esquimalt.ca/tax) for more options and information on how you can apply for grants, deferments and pay your taxes.

## Schedule of upcoming council meetings

Public input is invited at all Council and Committee of the Whole Meetings.

June 13	Council, 7 p.m.
June 20	Committee of the Whole, 6 p.m.
June 27	Council, 7 p.m.
July 4	Council, 7 p.m.
July 11	Council, 7 p.m.

Summer recess: July 18 through August 12

**Property tax penalty deadline is July 4, 2022.**

Please visit our website for more tax information at [esquimalt.ca/tax](http://esquimalt.ca/tax)

Township of  
**ESQUIMALT**