

Beneath the Clocktower

Your Insight into Issues and Events at Duncan City Hall May 2019

PROPERTY TAXES DUE TUESDAY, JULY 2, 2019

To avoid penalty, your property tax payment and completed Home Owner Grant application must be received by 4:00 p.m. on July 2, 2019.

Payment Options

- On Line or Telephone Banking Use your roll number as the account number.
- By Mail Cheque must be received at City Hall by due date. Postmarks will <u>NOT</u> be accepted as proof of payment.
- Post Dated Cheque To avoid the last minute rush, drop off your postdated cheque before the due date.
- In Person City Hall hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Cash, cheque or debit (up to your daily limit) are accepted. It is helpful if your forms are completed in advance.
- After Hours Drop Off Use the secure drop box at City Hall at any time. Please do not leave cash in the drop box.

Contact Us

Telephone: 250-746-6126
Email: taxes@duncan.ca

In Person: City Hall - 200 Craig Street

Duncan (8:30 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.)

HOMEOWNER GRANT

- Even if your taxes are included in your mortgage payments, you still need to complete your Homeowner Grant Application.
- Apply online at <u>www.duncan.ca</u> or fill out the form on the bottom of your tax notice and return it to City Hall.
- Remember, if you do not apply for the Homeowner Grant by the July 2, 2019 deadline, you will be subject to a penalty of 5% of the grant even if your mortgage company pays your property taxes. A further 5% penalty will be applied on September 3, 2019

2020 PROPERTY TAX INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS

This City program gives property owners the option to pay next year's taxes in monthly installments, through an automatic deduction from your bank account.

Payments are deducted on the first business day of each month, starting August 1, 2019 and ending May 1, 2020. Currently, you earn interest of 0.95% on these payments. To enroll in the program complete and return the enclosed form.



2019 BUDGET

The City of Duncan's Financial Plan and Tax Rates Bylaws for 2019 reflect Council's efforts to keep taxes affordable for households and businesses.

Throughout the budget process, public feedback is always encouraged. Budget meetings were advertised in the newspaper as well as on our Facebook page and website. Budget documents and surveys were published on www.placespeak.com. Two open houses were held to seek feedback from citizens on current budget topics. Thank you to those who took the time to attend.

For 2019, the municipal portion of the property tax increased by 2.9%. Your actual tax increase or decrease will depend on the type of property you own, and whether the assessed value of your property went up or down this year.

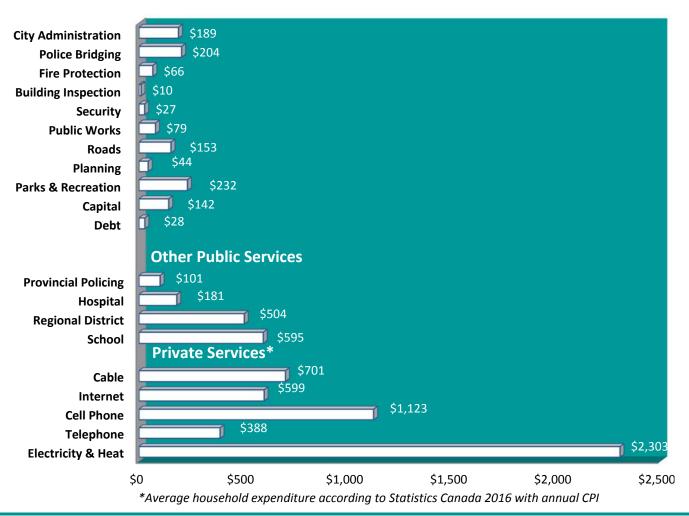
Property assessment is the responsibility of the BC Assessment Authority. You should have received your assessment notice in January of this year. If you have questions about your property's assessed value, you must contact BC Assessment. They can be reached at 1-866-825-8322 or www.bcassessment.ca.

The City also collects taxes for other authorities, including the Province, the Cowichan Valley Regional District, Cowichan District Hospital and the Vancouver Island Regional Library.

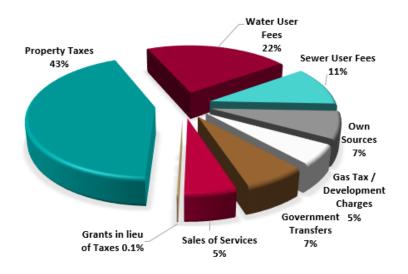
HOUSEHOLD ANNUAL COSTS

The average household cost of City services (based on the average assessment of \$356,721 for a single family dwelling) compared to other common household costs is shown in the chart below.

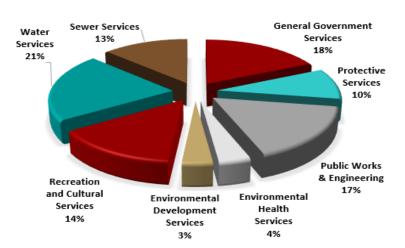
2019 City Service Costs Compared to Other Costs



2019 CITY REVENUE SOURCES



2019 CITY OPERATING EXPENSES



City Revenue Includes:

- Business and dog licences
- Building and other related permits
- Real estate rentals
- Parking permits
- Interest on investments
- Penalties
- Land use alteration fees

PROPERTY TAX

DEFERMENT PROGRAM

A low-interest provincial loan program can assist qualified homeowners with paying their annual property taxes. You may be eligible to defer your taxes if you are: 55 years or over, a person with disabilities and you live in your home, or you financially support a dependent child under the age of 18.

Contact the Tax Deferment Program:

Phone: 1-800-663-7867

Email: TaxDeferment@gov.bc.ca