

Message from the Chair

The Cowichan Valley Regional District stretches from the Nanaimo Airport in the north to the Malahat in the south, and from the west coast of Vancouver Island to Valdes Island off the east coast of the island. The area has amazing diversity, from forest lands to farms, from lakes and rivers running to the ocean, from rural properties to unique small scale towns and cities. All of this is divided up into 9 Electoral Areas and 4 Municipalities. Elected representatives from the 13 jurisdictions come together at the CVRD Board to work with CVRD staff to provide 179 local and regional services to the over 83,000 people in our region.

Our communities depend on the delivery of these many services in a reliable and cost effective manner. Whether it is solid waste, emergency services, recreation services, bylaw enforcement, environmental services or basic sewer and water, the health and happiness of our citizens, as well as our hopes for a sustainable future, are determined by what we do and how we do it.

We continue to make progress on issues that we face in the Cowichan region including the impacts of growth, climate change and homelessness. We have made additional investments in addressing water security through our Drinking Water and Watershed Protection service, met concerns with soil deposit with our Soil Deposit Bylaw and are taking steps to address homelessness and affordability through our Affordable Housing Contribution service. We also continue to work on harmonizing and modernizing land use policy throughout the region to manage the impacts of growth and ensure we build communities that are affordable, environmentally sound and well adapted to thrive in our ever changing world.

There is always more to do, and our board and staff are focused on ensuring the best quality of life in a vibrant, diverse and affordable Cowichan region. Working with residents is the key to the CVRD's success. Please stay engaged as we move forward on a number of issues in 2020. We are committed to providing you with opportunities for public participation in decision-making processes on many critical issues.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at: chairperson@cvr.bc.ca

Aaron Stone, Chair

Cowichan Valley Regional Hospital District

The Cowichan Valley Regional Hospital District (CVRHD) provides capital funding to Island Health for the following facilities within its boundaries:

- Cowichan District Hospital
- Cairnsmore Place
- Ladysmith Community Health
- Chemainus Health Care Centre

Capital funding is cost-shared with the province on a 60/40 basis, with the CVRHDs portion being 40%.

The CVRHDs 2020 Budget is almost \$28 million and the impact to a residential property is \$51.84 per \$100,000 of residential assessed property value.

Included in the 2020 Hospital Budget is \$5.8 million for the CVRHDs share of a new hospice facility.

The Cowichan District Hospital is 50 years old and its replacement is Island Health's number one capital priority on Vancouver Island. Starting in 2010, the CVRHD has been putting funds aside to raise the Regional Hospital District's 40% share. At this point in time, \$55.9 million has been accumulated for the CDH replacement with another \$11.4 million to be added in 2020.

The proposed new hospital is in the planning phase. The Concept Plan has been completed and approved by the provincial government. The next step was the Business Plan phase, which was just completed and is waiting for approval by the Ministry of Health. If approved it is expected that the new hospital would be operational within five years. During 2016, the Regional Hospital District purchased land where the new hospital will be built. The site is on Bell McKinnon Road just south of Herd Road.

2020



CVRD

**Cowichan Valley
Regional District
Property Taxes**

**Collected by the
Town of Lake Cowichan**

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Duncan BC V9L 1N8
Phone: 250.746.2500
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Financial Reporting Award

The CVRD received the Canadian Award for Financial Reporting for the past three years of Annual Financial Reports. This award was established to encourage local governments to publish high-quality financial reports and to provide peer recognition and technical guidance for officials preparing these reports. Its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

2019 Major Project Highlights

A regional Official Community Plan was drafted and presented to the public, harmonizing the existing electoral area OCPs and zoning bylaws. The resulting single document provides clarity and consistency through standardized language and policies, enabling better planning decisions and saving an estimated 45 staff years and \$4.5 million in OCP work over the next 15 years.

A Regional Recreation Strategic Plan was completed, providing a roadmap that captures the collective desire, need and vision for recreation in the Cowichan region. The CVRD is now in the process of exploring a usage-based funding model for the significant recreation facilities in the region, with the goal of creating a more equitable funding structure.

The CVRD established a soil deposit bylaw to regulate the movement of earth and natural soils in the region. The bylaw establishes a permitting process for the deposit of soil, and is intended to protect streams and other environmentally sensitive areas, while ensuring soils are deposited in a safe and appropriate manner.

The CVRD was the successful recipient of a significant federal grant to support the detailed engineering design of a new weir for Cowichan Lake to better manage flows and protect fish stocks and other values in the Cowichan River.

A 4.3 km section of the Cowichan Valley Trail was completed, connecting the communities of Ladysmith, Saltair and Chemainus, and bringing the region one step closer to a continuous 120-kilometre non-motorized multi-use trail.

Where do my local Regional District taxes go?

The CVRD provides 179 services to over 83,000 residents within its boundaries. Not every municipality or electoral area participates in the same services. The following table shows the services that are included in your Regional District tax levy for 2020.

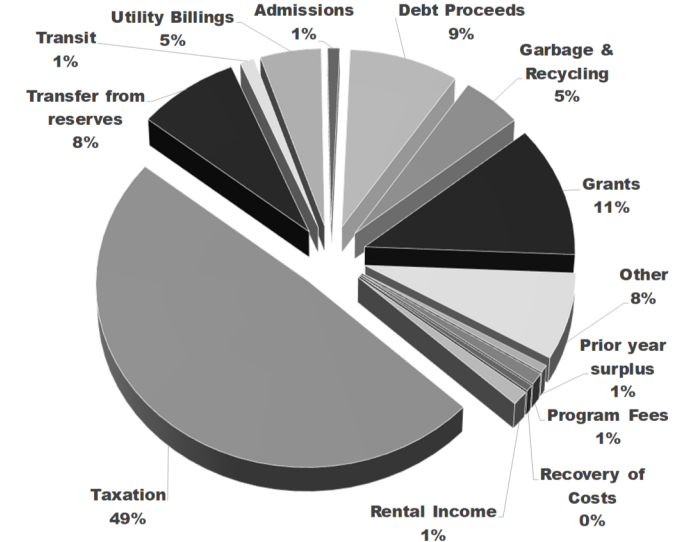
These taxes are billed on your municipal tax notice, and your municipality in turn forwards the funds to the Regional District to be used for the delivery of these services.

CVRD taxes paid by the property owners with the Town of Lake Cowichan per \$100,000 assessed residential value:

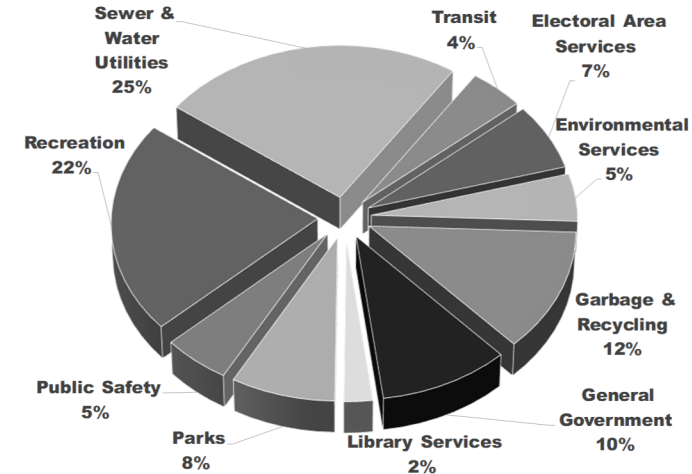
SERVICES	2020	2019
General Government	10.07	10.36
Commuter Transit	1.41	1.32
Transit	12.49	12.21
Emergency 911	4.39	4.57
Economic Development	2.32	2.09
Regional Tourism	0.51	0.54
Environmental Initiatives	2.64	2.73
Emergency Planning	3.63	3.74
Regional Parks	5.01	5.68
Kinsol Trestle	0.45	0.47
Regional Parkland Acquisition	1.05	0.67
Arts and Culture	0.55	0.58
Cowichan Lake Recreation	102.36	101.31
Victim Services West	0.55	0.58
Cowichan Lake Activity Centre	2.05	2.17
Senior Centre Grant	0.99	1.07
Kaatza Historical Society	1.10	1.16
Cowichan Valley Hospice Society	0.26	0.27
Solid Waste Complex	23.62	23.07
Cowichan Housing Association	3.17	3.37
Drinking Water & Watershed Protection	2.91	2.25
Cowichan River Flood Management	1.80	1.82
	183.32	182.05

This is an estimate calculated on the 2020 financial plan adopted on December 11, 2019. It will vary slightly from your actual tax notice.

Where does the money come from?*



Where does the money go?*



*These graphs are representative of the CVRD as a whole. Your local areas participation will vary slightly.