

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 over 180 local and regional services to the 80,000 plus people being served.

The future of our community depends on our ability to deliver 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, will be determined by what we do and how we do it.

We face many challenges; dealing with growth, impacts on the environment including climate change, homelessness, drug addiction, a lack of affordable housing, water quality and quantity and the rising cost of delivering services. None are simple or easy, and we can only be successful working together with the community.

Please stay engaged as we move forward on a number of key issues. We will try to provide you with the information you need to decide whether you are in support of critical initiatives such as protecting water and providing more housing for the least fortunate amongst us.

If you have any questions, please contact me at: Chairperson@cvrld.bc.ca.

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 CVRHD's portion being 40%.

The CVRHD's 2018 budget is \$16 million and the impact to a residential property is \$51.89 per \$100,000 of residential assessed property value.

Included in the 2018 Hospital Budget is \$5.2 million for the CVRHD's 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 have been putting funds aside to raise the Regional Hospital District's 40% share. At this point in time, \$38.1 million has been accumulated for the CDH replacement with another \$8.4 million to be added in 2018.

The proposed new hospital is in the planning phase. The Concept plan has been completed, when it has been approved by the Provincial Government the next step is the Business plan phase. Once the Business plan is approved by the Ministry of Health 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.

2018



Cowichan Valley
Regional District
Property Taxes

Collected by the
Town of Lake Cowichan

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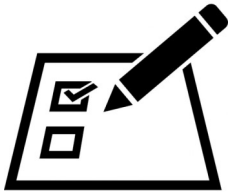


Financial Reporting Award

The CVRD received the Canadian Award for Financial Reporting for its 2016 Annual Financial Report. 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. The 2016 Annual Report was the first annual report published by the CVRD, which is a requirement to apply for this award.

BC Summer Games

The Cowichan Region will host the 2018 BC Summer games from July 19-22. Over 3,500 athletes, coaches and officials will arrive in the Cowichan Valley. For three days, competition will occur in 18 sports, with the average age of the athletes being 14. Come out, support this event and share our community with our visitors. Visit www.bcgames.org for event details.



2018 Election

General local elections are held every four years on the third Saturday in October. The next general local elections will be held on Saturday, October 20, 2018. Two advance voting opportunities will be held on Wednesday, October 10 and Tuesday, October 16. Visit the CVRD's Election page at <https://www.cvr.bc.ca/988/Elections-Referenda> for more information.

Where do my local Regional District taxes go?

The CVRD provides 176 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 2018.

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 within the Town of Lake Cowichan

SERVICES	2018	2017
General Government	11.62	11.74
Commuter Transit	0.44	0.45
Transit	13.17	14.72
Emergency 911	5.02	5.71
Economic Development	2.67	2.23
Regional Tourism	0.61	0.69
Environmental Initiatives	2.96	3.32
Emergency Planning	3.92	4.46
Regional Parks	5.70	6.37
Kinsol Trestle	0.51	0.59
Regional Parkland Acquisition	4.30	4.89
Arts and Culture	0.66	0.75
Cowichan Lake Recreation	109.80	123.56
Victim Services West	0.65	0.64
Cowichan Lake Activity Centre	2.41	2.81
Senior Centre Grant	1.25	1.42
Kaatza Historical Society	1.31	1.53
Cowichan Valley Hospice Society	0.31	0.35
Solid Waste Complex	22.79	24.38
Cowichan River Flood Management	2.02	2.32
	<u>192.11</u>	<u>212.91</u>

This is an estimate calculated on the 2018 financial plan adopted on January 10, 2018. It will vary slightly from your actual tax notice due to anticipated assessment changes, rounding and the Provincial collection fee of 5.25% that is added to your CVRD rate.

Who else is paying for these services?

Some services – Emergency Planning for example - are provided to the entire region and some are for specific areas only. An example of the latter is Cowichan Lake Recreation which is funded by taxpayers of the Town of Lake Cowichan and Electoral Areas F & I.

What do electoral areas pay in taxes?

Rural residents pay many of the same taxes that municipal residents do. They pay taxes for:

- BC Assessment Authority
- Municipal Finance Authority
- Regional Hospital District
- Vancouver Island Regional Library
- School taxes
- Police tax
- Rural Tax (Road Maintenance)

About the CVRD

The Cowichan Valley Regional District includes:

- Duncan
- Ladysmith
- Lake Cowichan
- North Cowichan

And the Electoral Areas of:

- A - Mill Bay/Malahat
- B - Shawnigan Lake
- C - Cobble Hill
- D - Cowichan Bay
- E - Cowichan Station/Sahtlam/Glenora
- F - Cowichan Lake South/Skutz Falls
- G - Saltair/Gulf Islands
- H - North Oyster/Diamond
- I - Youbou/Meade Creek