

# Colwood Connection

Involving you in decisions about our seaside community connected to nature.

May 2026

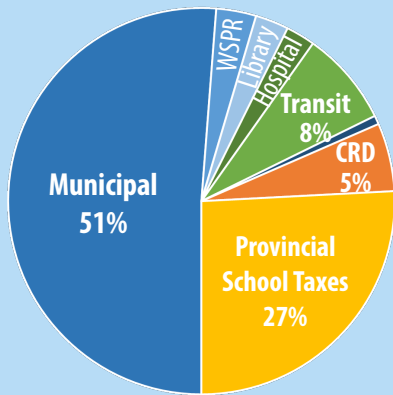
Colwood Tax Notice Newsletter

Photo: Taking the seaside route  
Ryan McKay

## PROPERTY TAXES ARE DUE July 2, 2026

**Did you know?** Only about **half** your tax bill is municipal tax.

49% is collected for OTHER AGENCIES. It all goes on one tax notice so you don't have to pay multiple bills.



## Shouldn't new development in our City result in lower taxes?

New tax revenue is primarily allocated to covering increasing safety and service needs as our community grows.

New developments come with a significant amount of new infrastructure that the City must maintain and repair: new roads, boulevards, trees, parks, trails, drainage systems, and more.

Public safety services such as Fire Rescue and RCMP must increase to meet the needs of a growing population.

With a 4.22% increase in 2026, the City of Colwood municipal property tax increase is among the lowest in the region.

## Serving a growing community while keeping taxes low

**Public Safety** Funding for additional police officers and expansion of the West Shore RCMP Detachment. Colwood Fire has shifted to a 24 hour staffing model to ensure emergency response, and is mitigating wildfire risk through the BC FireSmart program.

**Transportation** Ensuring our infrastructure continues to meet the needs of our growing community:

- Metchosin Road Corridor Study to improve traffic flow on this route
- Cairndale & Veterans Memorial signalized intersection upgrade
- Phase 2 engagement on a new Draft Transportation Master Plan

**Family doctors** 1,800 residents now have a family doctor and two new physicians are set to join the City's Colwood Clinic to continue to increase access to health care.

**Events, Arts & Culture** Free community events, activities at the Goldfinch Arts Centre, and collaborative initiatives to make Indigenous history and culture more visible in Colwood.

**Parks & Recreation** New park features and enhancements funded by the Growing Communities Grant:

- Herm Williams Park: new washroom and upgrade playground
- Havenwood Park: trail upgrades
- Ocean View Park: multi-sport court and an outdoor learning space
- Lagoon West Park: new outdoor interpretive shelter
- Quarry Park: new washrooms and exploring options for a water park
- Wishart/Royal Bay: exploring options for a new dog park
- Colwood Creek Park: proposed community garden hub operated by Colwood Garden Society (federal grant). Working with Agricultural Land Commission to advance planned park improvements.
- Lagoon Beach: Upgrade portable washrooms, new wildlife viewing platform, multi-use pathway (2028)
- Meadow Park: refurbish playground equipment
- Perimeter Park: stairs to beach trail

### 4.22% INCREASE TO PROTECT PUBLIC SAFETY, MAINTAIN CITY SERVICES & IMPROVE INFRASTRUCTURE

**1.97% for Police & Fire** Additional police & fire resources and mandated funding for E-Comm dispatch services to protect public safety as we grow.

**2.62% for City Services:** To keep pace with the service, operational and capital demands of our growing community, including maintenance and repair of expanding roads, parks, and stormwater infrastructure.

**1.00% for Infrastructure:** To plan ahead for repair and replacement of aging critical infrastructure and mitigate against unexpected tax increases.

**Less (1.37%) Rate Stabilization Strategies** Use of reserves to lower tax impact.

**4.22% overall:** The average property in Colwood is assessed at \$1.042M and will pay about \$110 more in municipal taxes in 2026 than they did in 2025.

## How does my BC Assessment property value affect my property tax bill?

BC Assessment determines the value of all BC properties. An increased assessment doesn't always mean a higher tax bill. Taxes may be influenced if assessed value increases **more than the average property**.

### Average Colwood Property

Assessed Value:	\$1,042,400
Change from 2025:	(0.4%)
2026 Municipal Tax:	\$2,787
Change from 2025:	\$110

### Your BC Assessment Property Value Change

**LOWER** than the average change your bill may reflect

**a lower increase**  
AVERAGE CHANGE

**SIMILAR** to the average change your bill may reflect

**the average increase**  
AVERAGE CHANGE

**HIGHER** than the average change your bill may reflect

**a higher increase**  
AVERAGE CHANGE

# 2026 Fast facts: How Colwood tax dollars are invested in 2026

22,256 Residents  
42.4 Average Age  
7,688 Households  
1,189 Businesses  
60 City Parks  
102 km Roads  
7.6 km Oceanfront

32%  
Fire Protection,  
Police & Bylaw

4%  
Planning &  
Development

18%  
General  
Government

1%  
Solid Waste  
Management

16%  
Engineering &  
Transportation

15%  
Parks, Recreation  
& Culture

7%  
Sewer  
Services

## Top 5 ways the City works to keep you informed and involved

- 1 Detailed plans for our community** Review the Official Community Plan, Strategic Plan, Financial Plan, Transportation Plan, Parks & Recreation Plan, Climate Action Plan and more. [Colwood.ca/Plans](http://Colwood.ca/Plans)
- 2 Live streamed public meetings** Join meetings in person or online to learn about decisions. [Colwood.ca/Meetings](http://Colwood.ca/Meetings)
- 3 Engagement opportunities** We value your input into plans and initiatives like the Transportation Master Plan and National Urban Park program. [LetsTalkColwood.ca](http://LetsTalkColwood.ca)
- 4 Public participation and committees** bring a broader citizen viewpoint for Council to consider when making decisions about land use, transportation, infrastructure, parks, culture, heritage and more. [Colwood.ca/Committees](http://Colwood.ca/Committees)
- 5 Access to information about projects & initiatives** Use the search bar at Colwood.ca to find meeting information, event information, volunteer opportunities, and news about projects, initiatives, and development proposals in your neighbourhood. [Colwood.ca](http://Colwood.ca)

## Tax Deferment rate changes

The Province of BC has changed how they calculate the interest on deferred property taxes. Effective in 2026, deferred property taxes will accrue at compound interest, prime plus 2% — currently 6.45% with the rate resetting four times a year. Tax deferred prior to 2026 continues to accrue at the previous simple-interest formula, prime minus 2% for the regular program, reset twice a year. Please refer to the Province of BC website for details. [gov.bc.ca](http://gov.bc.ca)

## Get involved in a community group!

We work with amazing volunteer groups who help to advance our community's goals. Learn more about Arts & Culture Colwood, Colwood Garden Society, ReImagine West Shore, Citizens Environment Network in Colwood, Friends of Colwood Parks, PICK Colwood, Emergency Support Services, and more! [Colwood.ca/Volunteers](http://Colwood.ca/Volunteers)



## PROPERTY TAX DUE July 2, 2026

- 1. Claim your homeowner grant:**  
Online at [gov.bc.ca/HomeOwnerGrant](http://gov.bc.ca/HomeOwnerGrant)
- 2. Pay one of several ways:**
  - Through online or phone banking
  - 24 hour drop box at City Hall
  - Mail to 3300 Wishart Rd. V9C 1R1
  - Through your mortgage lender
  - At your banking institution
  - Tax deferral program
  - At City Hall

What's the fastest way to pay?  
Through your online banking!

Questions? Email [Finance@Colwood.ca](mailto:Finance@Colwood.ca)

## CONNECT WITH COLWOOD

We want to make it easy for you to have a say in decisions about your community.

Get in touch, share ideas, and get involved.

Phone: 250-478-5999

Online: [www.colwood.ca](http://www.colwood.ca)

Email: [info@colwood.ca](mailto:info@colwood.ca)

Requests: [colwood.ca/ActionRequest](http://colwood.ca/ActionRequest)

Engage: [LetsTalkColwood.ca](http://LetsTalkColwood.ca)

Subscribe: [colwood.ca/subscribe](http://colwood.ca/subscribe)

Social: [@CityofColwood](https://www.facebook.com/CityofColwood)

## JOIN US AT SUMMER EVENTS!

- Music in the Park Saturdays 5:30 -7:30
- Canada Day at Fort Rodd Hill July 1
- Eats & Beats Beach Party July 25
- Goldfinch Arts Centre shows and events
- Volunteer activities throughout the City

Visit [www.colwood.ca/Events](http://www.colwood.ca/Events)

## LET'S TALK, COLWOOD

We need your input to help guide improvements. Please share your thoughts at [LetsTalkColwood.ca](http://LetsTalkColwood.ca)