

May 20, 2016

Property tax notices in the mail

City of Campbell River property owners can expect to see tax notices arrive in the mail before the last week of May, and citizens are reminded that property tax payments are due by Monday, July 4, 2016.

Property owners will receive an informational pamphlet explaining components of the tax notice summarizing frequently asked questions and important information. Also included in the tax notice is an application form for the pre-authorized withdrawal system (PAWS) for prepayment of 2017 property taxes.

Tax notices will arrive with information about the methods available for property tax payment. Whichever method is used, property owners are reminded that in order to avoid a 10 per cent penalty, payment and completed Home Owner Grant (HOG) applications must be received by July 4, 2016.

The City is the designated tax collector for many other government agencies including Provincial School Taxes, Strathcona Regional District, Regional Hospital District, Regional Solid Waste, Regional Library, BC Assessment Authority, and the Municipal Finance Authority. *“The City is the designated tax collector for many other government agencies by Provincial law”* explains Dennis Brodie, the City’s Finance Operations Supervisor. *“Those charges on the top half of the City’s tax notice labeled ‘Net School Taxes’ and ‘Net Other Government Taxes’ are collected by the City and passed directly on to those other bodies. The City has no control over these rates or amounts collected on behalf of other agencies.”*

Property tax payments can be mailed or paid in person at City Hall. Post-dated cheques are accepted. The City will also accept payment by debit card. Please ensure debit card transaction limits will cover the amount of taxes due. The City cannot accept payment by credit card.

Things to remember about the Home Owner Grant (HOG):

- The provincial grant must be applied for each year.
- Residential property owners can claim the Home Owner Grant without paying property taxes.
- Banks and financial institutions cannot claim the grant on behalf of property owners.
- How to apply for the Home Owner Grant:
 - Go online to www.campbellriver.ca and click on “Payments” under “Online Options” then launch the Home Owner Grant application from the link on the right hand side of the screen. Use your access code (called “Access” on your tax notice, beside the folio number).
 - Apply in person at City Hall 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, except statutory holidays.

The City has posted information on its website under *City Services* that outlines how property tax funds are used. This information will also be published in local newspapers and a paper copy is available by contacting City Hall.

Property owners are reminded to check tax notices and water and sewer charges to ensure active or de-activated secondary suites are correctly noted in the property tax calculation.

People who have not received a tax notice by June 6 are asked to contact the City’s Finance Department at 250-286-5715.

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Contact: Dennis Brodie, Finance Operations Supervisor 250-286-5754