



# 2022 TAX INFORMATION

TAX PAYMENTS ARE DUE JULY 8, 2022

## BUDGET 2022: COUNCIL CUTS TAX LEVY BY MORE THAN HALF

The City faced large cost drivers in 2022 such as the unionization of RCMP members and the associated retroactive pay increases that were higher than projected by the federal government. Prince George City Council cut a projected 6.55 per cent 2022 tax levy by more than half to 3.0 per cent. The reduction means the average home (valued at about \$341K in 2021) will see an approximately \$70 increase in 2022.

To get down to three percent, Council approved reductions totaling \$882,000 in the following areas:

- **Economic Development:** \$82,000 reduction
- **Human Resources:** \$150,000 reduction
- **Road Rehabilitation:** \$450,000 reduction from proposed \$5.95 Million budget to \$5.5 Million
- **Snow Control:** \$200,000 reduction from proposed \$10.2 Million budget to \$10 Million

These and other changes brought the tax increase down to 5.84 per cent. Council then voted to use approximately \$3.25 million of the federal Safe Restart grant to reduce the tax increase to 3.0 per cent.

## THREE YEARS OF EXPENSE REDUCTIONS

The \$882,000 of reductions in 2022 (above) and the following measures mitigated unprecedented cost increases:

- Expenses such as training, travel, and conferences were suspended for two years. These expenses were reinstated in 2022 as the organization recovers from impacts of the pandemic.
- The management/exempt employee group was assigned a 0 per cent cost of living salary increase in both 2020 and 2021, resulting in approximately \$500,000 of total operating expense reductions.
- Organizational structure changes resulting in a total of approximately \$1.9 million in operating expense reductions.

## 2022 LOCAL GENERAL ELECTION

Like all BC municipalities, the City of Prince George will hold a General Local Election this fall. We will elect one mayor and eight councillors. General Voting Day is on October 15 and advance voting opportunities will be offered on October 5, 6, 11, and 12. Mail ballot applications will be available in August.

Candidate nomination packages will be available in July. The City is currently accepting Expressions of Interest for contracted workers to assist with delivering the election.

For more information visit: [princegeorge.ca/elections](https://princegeorge.ca/elections)

**JULY 8**

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DON'T FORGET TO APPLY FOR THE HOME OWNER GRANT.

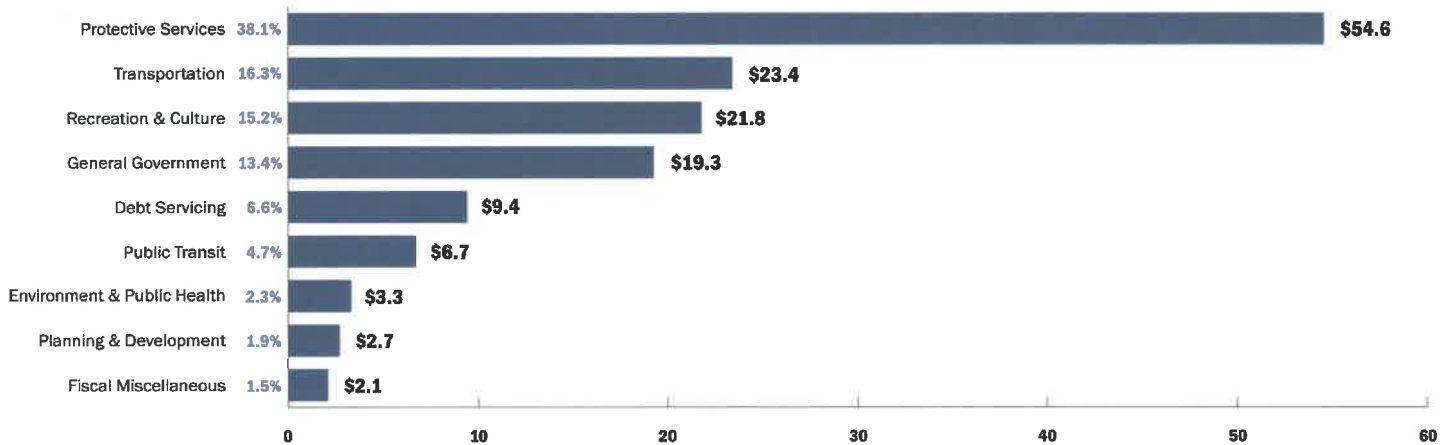


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### HOW YOUR TAX DOLLARS ARE SPENT

2022 General Operating Expenses in \$millions



Services such as water, sanitary sewer, and residential garbage collection are billed separately from property taxes. User fees (collected through City utility bills) support the operating costs of these services as well as the replacement of aging related infrastructure.

### CLAIMING THE HOME OWNER GRANT

The Provincial Home Owner Grant program helps reduce the amount of residential property taxes home owners pay on their primary residences. Applications **must** be made through the Government of BC. To claim the Home Owner grant, visit [www.gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant](http://www.gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant) or visit the link on the City website: [www.princegeorge.ca/taxes](http://www.princegeorge.ca/taxes). Note that taxes do not need to be paid before claiming the Home Owner Grant.

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