

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

BC Assessment Authority: 604.294.6441  
 City of Port Coquitlam Tax Office: 604.927.5425  
 Metro Vancouver (regional district): 604.432.6249  
 Municipal Finance Authority: 1.250.383.1181  
 School Taxes: 1.250.356.0907  
 TransLink: 604.453.4500



Your grant is just a click away

Claim your Home Owner Grant online:  
[www.portcoquitlam.ca/e-hog](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/e-hog)

## 6 WAYS TO PAY YOUR PROPERTY TAXES IN PORT COQUITLAM

### 1. PAY AT YOUR BANK

Save time. Pay your taxes and other bills while banking.

### 2. PAY BY PHONE OR INTERNET

Check with your bank or credit union to see if it offers this service. You can also claim your Home Owner Grant at [www.portcoquitlam.ca/e-hog](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/e-hog).

### 3. \*PAY BY MAIL

Mail your cheque or money order to City of Port Coquitlam, 2580 Shaughnessy Street, Port Coquitlam BC V3C 2A8.

### 4. \*24-HOUR DROP OFF

Drop your payment in the mail slot to the right of the main entrance to City Hall.

### 5. \*PAY IN PERSON

Bring your payment to the Tax Office on the main floor of City Hall from Monday to Friday (excluding statutory holidays), 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. *Extended hours from June 16 to July 2: 8 am to 5 pm.* Please be prepared to wait in line.

### 6. FOR NEXT YEAR

Consider joining our Pre-Authorized Payment Plan for property taxes and utilities. More information is available from the Tax Office (604.927.5425) or [www.portcoquitlam.ca](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca).

*\* Cheques post-dated up to July 2, 2008 accepted.*

**Credit Card Payments:** The City of Port Coquitlam does not accept credit card payments for property taxes or utilities.

**MORE PROPERTY  
TAX DETAILS  
INSIDE!**

## Message from the Mayor

The City's spending priorities for the next five years once again reflect what you have told us you want – a safe and accessible community and a healthy environment.

Transportation always tops the list of citizen priorities. In less than two years we will see a major improvement to access throughout our City and region with the completion of the Coast Meridian Overpass in January 2010. You can find out more about this critical project in this edition of *Update*.



We're also working to improve safety in our community by investing in our RCMP resources. We're helping fund three new officers – bringing the number of new officers to more than 19 in the past three years – as well as five civilian staff members to take on more administrative duties, allowing the officers to focus on police work. These costs are shared with the City of Coquitlam.

Port Coquitlam's beautiful natural surroundings and the environment are also important to our residents. Our efforts will include development of our first Environmental Strategic Plan; new 'green' initiatives for parkland, City infrastructure and facility maintenance; the use of fuel-efficient or hybrid City vehicles, and various other projects intended to protect the environment.

As you contemplate this year's property tax bill, rest assured that your City is committed to ensuring the taxes you pay each year are helping create the Port Coquitlam you want.

Scott Young  
Mayor

## MORE WAYS TO FIND US ONLINE

Recently, Port Coquitlam became the first city in Metro Vancouver to provide a page on Facebook. Launched on March 14, Port Coquitlam's business page on Facebook features a variety of information about City services, programs, initiatives and web links.

The Facebook page is the latest of the City of Port Coquitlam's ongoing efforts to provide more electronic services to its residents.



Find us on  
**Facebook**

To view the City's business page on Facebook, and to sign up as a 'fan', visit [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and type City of Port Coquitlam in the search window. Only Facebook account holders can view the page.

# PROPERTY TAXES ARE DUE ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 2nd, 2008

A 5% penalty will be added to 2008 property taxes outstanding after **July 2nd, 2008**. A further 5% penalty will be applied after **August 15, 2008**.

**EXTENDED HOURS AT  
CITY TAX OFFICE  
JUNE 16th TO JULY 2nd:  
8 AM – 5 PM**

## Understanding your property tax notice

Taxes collected on behalf of:

- the Provincial Government
- for schools
- BC Assessment
- Greater Vancouver Regional District
- TransLink
- Municipal Finance Authority

The City of Port Coquitlam transfers all funds collected to these external agencies.

Use **COLUMN A** if:

- You do not qualify for a grant.
- You are a registered owner who does not live in the home.

Submit a Grant Application and use **COLUMN B** if:

- You are under age 65 and live in your home.
- There is a grant available on your property.

Submit a Grant Application and use **COLUMN C** if:

- You are at least age 65 or over and live in your home.
- Or if you:*
- Receive a Disability, War Veterans or Civilian War allowance.
  - Meet the qualifications noted on the back of your notice.

**If your property taxes are paid by a mortgage company:**

- It is the sole responsibility of the property owner to complete the homeowner grant every year (if eligible). You must submit your application to the City Collector by the due date to avoid penalties.
- At their request, your mortgage company is advised of property taxes payable ONLY, and NOT ANY UNPAID water and sewer levies for the current year.

### Tax Deferment Program

You can apply to the BC Property Tax Deferment Program to defer payment of your home's annual

property taxes if you are:

- 55 years or older; or
- widowed; or
- a disabled person as defined by the Land Tax Deferment Regulations;

and you are Canadian citizen or landed immigrant who has lived in British Columbia for at least one year immediately prior to applying for tax deferment benefits.

For more information and an application form, contact the City's Tax Office (604.927.5425 or [taxes@portcoquitlam.ca](mailto:taxes@portcoquitlam.ca)), the Provincial Tax Deferment Office (1.250.387.0555) or the program's website ([www.sbr.gov.bc.ca/rpt](http://www.sbr.gov.bc.ca/rpt)).

CITY OF PORT COQUITLAM  
2580 Shaughnessy Street  
Port Coquitlam, BC V3C 2A8  
City Hall - Telephone: 604-927-5411  
Tax Office - Telephone: 604-927-5425  
Office Hours: M-F 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
E-mail: [taxes@portcoquitlam.ca](mailto:taxes@portcoquitlam.ca)  
Website: [www.portcoquitlam.ca](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca)

**2008 PROPERTY TAX NOTICE**  
DUE DATE: Wednesday, July 2, 2008

AVERAGE, JOE  
AVERAGE, IMA  
123 ANY STREET  
PORT COQUITLAM BC V3C 2A8

5% PENALTY IF NOT PAID OR GRANT NOT CLAIMED BY JULY 2, 2008  
ADDITIONAL 5% PENALTY ADDED TO ANY CURRENT TAXES  
OUTSTANDING CATERING TAXES TO 2007

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Claim your Home Owner Grant online:  
[www.portcoquitlam.ca/e-hog](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/e-hog)

LEGAL DESCRIPTION		TOTAL NET ASSESSED VALUES FOR TAXATION PURPOSES		
CLASS	GENERAL	SCHOOL	HOSPITAL	
1 - Res	493,883	493,883	493,883	

FOLIO NUMBER	999999-999	ACCESS	337334			
PROPERTY ADDRESS	123 ANY STREET					
PHD		RATES		COLUMN A NO GRANT	COLUMN B BASIC GRANT	COLUMN C ADDITIONAL GRANT
SCHOOL LEVY		1.80420		891.06	891.06	891.06
Less: Home Owner Grant					-570.00	-845.00
NET BASIC SCHOOL TAXES				891.06	321.06	46.06
BC ASSESMENT AUTHORITY LEVY		0.06150	30.37	30.37	30.37	30.37
GVRD LEVY		0.06310	31.16	31.16	31.16	31.16
GVRD TRANSIT LEVY		0.33810	166.98	166.98	166.98	166.98
TRANS LINK REPLACEMENT TAX LEVY			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
MUNICIPAL FINANCE AUTHORITY LEVY		0.00020	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
NET OTHER GOVERNMENT TAXES			228.61	228.61	228.61	228.61
POLICE SERVICES		0.72070	355.94	355.94	355.94	355.94
FIRE SERVICES		0.51200	252.87	252.87	252.87	252.87
CAPITAL		0.99550	296.08	296.08	296.08	296.08
PARKS & RECREATION SERVICES		0.53190	262.70	262.70	262.70	262.70
ROADS, DRAINAGE AND ENGINEERING SERVICES		0.30990	153.05	153.05	153.05	153.05
COAST MERIDIAN OVERPASS		0.04150	20.50	20.50	20.50	20.50
TERRY FOX LIBRARY		0.09940	49.09	49.09	49.09	49.09
DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES		0.05770	28.50	28.50	28.50	28.50
OTHER CITY SERVICES		0.36410	179.82	179.82	179.82	179.82
LOCAL SERVICES - GARBAGE FEE		164.30000	164.30	164.30	164.30	164.30
LOCAL SERVICES - GARB SEC SUITE			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
LOCAL SERVICES - 2008 SEC SUITE EXEMPT			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
NET MUNICIPAL TAXES			1,762.85	1,762.85	1,762.85	1,762.85
TOTAL NEW TAXES LEVIES			2,882.52	2,312.52	2,037.52	2,037.52
Tax Prepayments/Adjustments			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL OUTSTANDING TAXES			2,882.52	2,312.52	2,037.52	2,037.52

If eligible, a completed grant application must be submitted to the City Collector by the due date, regardless of how taxes are to be paid.

You are not currently enrolled in the Tax Pre-authorized Payments Plan. If you enrolled your estimated monthly payment amount for next year's taxes would be \$250.00.

## Construction of overpass under way

Construction crews rolled into Port Coquitlam in early March to begin construction on the long-awaited Coast Meridian Overpass.

Stage 1 activities on the north side of the project area, along Coast Meridian Road, included site preparation and road work in March and April.

Stage 2, now under way, includes road reconfiguration and utility work on the west side of Coast Meridian Road north of Lougheed Highway, and on Lougheed Highway east and west of Coast Meridian Road. In addition, crews have completed the preloading of the south embankment and are preparing for the installation of the first set piles for the bridge foundations.

The City hosted a public open house on March 27 to update the public about the project status and provide opportunities for input. The next open house is planned for the fall.

The CMO project budget is \$132 million, about half of which is paid by grants from Translink and other agencies. The annual budget impact for the City is \$1.37 million, which includes a 1.2 per cent property tax increase in 2008 and 2009. For the average Port Coquitlam home worth \$440,673, this will translate into about a \$28 increase each year.

### More CMO information

Construction and traffic updates are posted on the project website at [www.portcoquitlam.ca/cmo](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/cmo). Project contractors SNC-Lavalin Constructors (Pacific) Inc. have established a CMO Construction Information Line at 604.648.6415, and individuals can also contact [info@coastmeridian.ca](mailto:info@coastmeridian.ca) with questions or to sign up to receive e-mail notices and project updates.

## KITCHEN WASTE TO BE COLLECTED

Starting July 14, Port Coquitlam residents will be able to add kitchen waste to their green waste carts for pickup by the City.

Accepted wastes will include :

- fruit and vegetable peels,
- coffee grinds and filters,
- tea bags,
- cut flowers, and
- other items that can be composted.

Cooked foods, grease, meats or fish are not accepted.

In conjunction with the service, the City will begin year-round collection of green and kitchen waste.

The new service aims to reduce the amount of garbage going to the landfill, and the associated costs.

Waste audits by Metro Vancouver and other jurisdictions, as well as a pilot study in Port Coquitlam, indicate that 16-26% of garbage produced is kitchen waste suitable for composting. In the City's study in February, participants produced about 2.5 kg of kitchen waste each week, and collection of that waste would reduce their annual garbage weight by 16.5%.

Watch for more details prior to the introduction of the new service.

### June is Bike Month

With the weather warming up, it's a great time to rethink your stressful commute. What about cycling along tree-lined streets, trails and bike lanes instead of driving in bumper-to-bumper traffic? You'll save money, get fit and help the environment. Plus, for trips under 10 km, cycling can be as fast as driving at rush hour.

Test-ride your commuter route on the weekend and explore alternative routes. Start by riding to work one or two days a week. Keep it fun!

For details about the Traboulay Poco Trail and our extensive trail system, visit [www.portcoquitlam.ca](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca).



For more about Bike Month, visit [www.best.bc.ca](http://www.best.bc.ca).

## About the Home Owner Grant

### To help us process your payment faster:

- Complete your Home Owner Grant application in full, if you are eligible. Missing information may delay processing and could result in late charges.
- If you are 65 years of age or older, please ensure your birth date is included on the application.
- You must complete a new Home Owner Grant application each year.

### Explanatory notes – Home Owner Grant

**BASIC GRANT: For applicants under 65 years of age.** If the current year tax is less than \$920, the Home Owner Grant is the amount of the current year taxes less \$350. If the current year tax is \$920 or more, the Home Owner Grant is \$570. The minimum tax payment required from applicants under 65 is \$350.

**ADDITIONAL GRANT: For applicants 65 years of age or older, or in receipt of an allowance under the War Veteran Act or Civilian War Related Benefits Act, disability assistance, hardship assistance or a supplement under the BC Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Act, or a person with disabilities under the regulations.** If the current year tax is less than \$945, the Home Owner Grant, inclusive of the additional grant, is the amount of the current year taxes less \$100. If the current year tax is \$945 or more, the Home Owner Grant, inclusive of the additional grant, is \$845. The Home Owner Grant is reduced by \$5 for every \$1,000 of residential assessed value in excess of \$1,050,000.

*These notes are intended for general guidance only and are subject to the detailed provisions in the Home Owner Grant Act and regulations.*

To obtain the grant, complete and submit an application form. If you qualify for the additional grant (see below) and wish to obtain it, you must complete the box on the application form that best describes your qualification and provide the required information and forms.

### Who may qualify?

1. You may qualify for a Home Owner Grant if:
  - You are an owner (as defined in the Local Government Act and the Taxation (Rural Area) Act, which includes a lessee under a registered lease of 99 years or more who is required to pay the current year taxes); and
  - you are a permanent resident of B.C. (either a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant); and
  - you occupy, as your principal residence, the dwelling described on your application form.
2. You and your spouse together may qualify for only one grant on one residence in British Columbia in any one calendar year, even if you live in separate residences (unless you are legally separated).
3. If you are the spouse, child, grandchild, parent, brother or sister of a **qualifying** deceased owner, you may be eligible for the grant in the year of the owner's death if the residence was your principal residence at the time of death.
4. You may qualify for the Additional Grant if:
  - you are over 65 (please state your birth date on the application form); or
  - you have a permanent disability, or are the spouse, child, grandchild, parent, step parent or person standing in the place of a parent, grandparent, brother or sister of a person with a permanent disability who resides in your home (complete the required forms, which are available from the City Collector).
5. The City Collector or Grant Administrator may require any documentation considered necessary to confirm your eligibility.
6. Corporations are not eligible for a grant unless they qualify as owners of eligible buildings, land cooperatives or multi-dwelling leased parcels, as defined in the Home Owner Grant Act. Such owners must use the prescribed Form A, available from the City Collector at City Hall, 2580 Shaughnessy Street or 604-927-5425.
7. If an owner is unable to apply in person, the owner's committee or a person appointed in writing as the owner's attorney (Power of Attorney) or authorized representative (Representation Agreement) may apply on behalf of the owner.
8. To avoid penalty for late payment of your taxes, you must apply for a grant on or before the tax due date of July 2, 2008 (you may apply before the tax due date even if you are not paying your taxes before the due date).

*A grant for the current tax year may not be allowed if an application for the grant is delivered to the City Collector later than December 31 of that year. Extensions of one year may be allowed. For more information, contact the City Collector at 604.927.5425 or [taxes@portcoquitlam.ca](mailto:taxes@portcoquitlam.ca), or visit [www.sbr.gov.bc.ca/hog](http://www.sbr.gov.bc.ca/hog).*

## DON'T FORGET TO CLAIM YOUR HOME OWNER GRANT ONLINE!

Skip the lineups and save a stamp. City of Port Coquitlam residents who are eligible for Home Owner Grants can claim them through the City's website. All you need is the Folio Number and Access Code on your tax notice. Simply:

1. Go to [www.portcoquitlam.ca/e-hog](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/e-hog)
2. Click on Online Payments and Services and follow the prompts.





## BAIT LOCKERS INTRODUCED AT HYDE CREEK

In early March, random lockers in change rooms at Hyde Creek Recreation Centre were fitted with alarms. If one of the bait lockers is forced open, a loud repetitive beeping will alert the staff, who will notify the police.

Coordinated by the Parks and Recreation Department and the Community Police Office, the program was inspired by – but is not affiliated with – ICBC’s successful Bait Car program. While the Bait Locker program aims to deter locker thieves, visitors should still continue to be diligent when using the lockers, as the City is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

## Vote this fall – it counts!

Voters will head to the polls on Saturday, November 15 to elect their local mayor, city councillors and school board trustees.

Municipal elections are your chance to have a say about who makes the decisions that affect your property taxes, development in your community, the City services you use and your child’s school. By voting, you’re helping shape the community you live in.

To cast your vote, you must be on the Province of BC Voters List. Visit Election BC’s website ([www.electionsbc.ca](http://www.electionsbc.ca)) before June 30 to ensure you are on the list or find out how to register. More details about the election will be made public closer to the date.

## Ticketmaster is now in Leigh Square

Now located in the Outlet at 2253 Leigh Square, the local Ticketmaster is a convenient way to purchase tickets for music concerts, sport games, arts or family events.

***ticketmaster***

This is still the only Tri-Cities outlet where you can purchase tickets and/or pick up your ordered ticket (in person only). The hours are Mon/Wed/Fri 9:30 am-6:30 pm; Tu/Thu 9:30 am-7:30 pm; Sat 9:30 am-5:30 pm (closed 1:30-2:30 pm) and Sun 11 am-5 pm (closed stat. holidays). Pay by cash, debit, Visa, Mastercard, Sears or En Route. To buy tickets, call Ticketmaster, 604-280-4444.

## CHECK YOUR SMOKE ALARMS AFTER VACATION

Port Coquitlam Fire & Emergency Services want to remind anyone travelling on extended vacations this summer to test your smoke alarms when you return. If the batteries were low and they chirped their warning while you were away, no one was there to hear it.

## Sign up for *e-update* today!

Stay connected with your community by signing up to receive the City’s Update newsletters by email each month.

Email newsletters will be delivered to your inbox once a month, with information about local events, public input opportunities, Parks and Recreation programs, new initiatives, project updates and more.

Sign up by clicking the ‘Sign up for Email Updates’ link on the home page at [www.portcoquitlam.ca](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca).



use what you know

Let your skills make a difference.

## Consider a career with the City

Are you looking for a job that is close to home, rewarding and allows you to use your skills and experience?

The City of Port Coquitlam offers a dynamic work environment for motivated individuals in all fields who want to be challenged, to learn and to be part of a team that takes pride in providing stellar service to our community.

For details and opportunities, visit [www.portcoquitlam.ca/jobs](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/jobs)

[www.portcoquitlam.ca/jobs](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/jobs)

## CITY CONTACTS

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY CONTACT	604.543.6700	FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES	604.927.5466
BUILDING PERMITS & INSPECTIONS	604.927.5444	<i>Emergency Calls Only</i>	911
24 Hour Request Line	604.927.5445	GARBAGE/RECYCLING COLLECTION	604.927.5488
BUSINESS LICENCES	604.927.5238	HYDE CREEK RECREATION CENTRE	604.927.7946
BYLAW ENFORCEMENT	604.927.5440	MAYOR & COUNCILLORS	604.927.5410
CEMETERY	604.927.5251	OPERATIONS	604.927.5488
COMMUNITY POLICE STATIONS		(Drainage & flood control; roads & lanes; sanitary, sewer; sidewalks, street lighting & traffic; signal outages, traffic inquiries; water system)	
3312 Coast Meridian	604.927.5451	<i>Emergency – After Hours</i>	604.543.6700
2581 Mary Hill Road	604.927.2383	POLICE (RCMP)	604.945.1550
DOG LICENCES	604.927.5425	<i>Emergency Calls Only</i>	911
EMPLOYMENT INQUIRIES	604.927.5479	PORT COQUITLAM RECREATION COMPLEX	604.927.7970
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COORDINATOR	604.927.5466	PROPERTY TAXES & UTILITY PAYMENTS	604.927.5425
FACILITY BOOKINGS	604.927.7903	VECTOR CONTROL (Pest Control)	604.927.5447
FIELDS CLOSURES	604.927.5455	WILSON CENTRE (Seniors Centre)	604.927.7970



2580 Shaughnessy Street, Port Coquitlam, BC V3C 2A8

Tel: 604.927.5411 • Fax: 604.927.5360 • Email: [info@portcoquitlam.ca](mailto:info@portcoquitlam.ca)

[www.portcoquitlam.ca](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca)