

# Update

May 2019

CITY OF  
**PORT**  
COQUITLAM

## PORT COQUITLAM PROPERTY TAXES ARE DUE: TUESDAY, JULY 2, 2019

A 5% penalty will be added to 2019 property taxes outstanding after July 2, 2019. A further 5% penalty will be applied after Aug. 15, 2019.

### MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL



L-R: Cllr. Laura Dupont, Cllr. Glenn Pollock, Cllr. Darrell Penner, Mayor Brad West, Cllr. Steve Darling, Cllr. Dean Washington, Cllr. Nancy McCurrach.

## Getting the basics right

Infrastructure, safety, recreation – these are some of the core services people expect their city to provide, and they're the focus of our 2019 budget and how your tax dollars will be spent this year.

In terms of infrastructure, we're saving for the future while also making significant investments in projects that will benefit you right away, from road and parks improvements to the new Port Coquitlam Community Centre, which will enhance services to our growing community and give a boost to our downtown. See the next page for more details.

We're also working to ensure our community is safe, family-friendly and livable, including support for community events, more RCMP officers, housing affordability, and a thriving, safe and welcoming downtown.

Thank you to the hundreds of residents who took the time to tell us about their priorities during our recent budget consultation. Your feedback keeps us informed of the community's changing needs as we strive to provide good value to our taxpayers.

Mayor Brad West

## 2019 BUDGET BREAKDOWN

**2.99%**

total municipal tax increase for average homes\*

**\$106,600**

new ongoing enhancements funded in 2019

**\$567,000**

one-time enhancements funded by surplus / reserves

**\$106 million**

operating and capital budget in 2019

**\$90 million**

capital budget in 2019-2020

\* Assessed at \$818,564

## Where do your taxes and levies go?



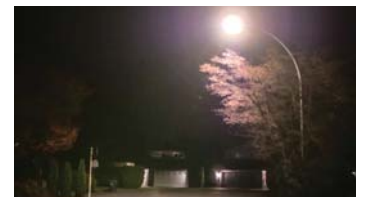
Construction of Port Coquitlam Community Centre



Road rehabilitation and other key infrastructure investments



Park upgrades including Castle Park spray park and Fox Park playground



Year two of City-wide LED streetlight conversions



Facility upgrades and reopening of Centennial Pool



A share of six new RCMP officers focusing on emerging issues



Pedestrian safety, cycling and traffic calming projects



Support for more and enhanced community events

More info: [portcoquitlam.ca/2019budget](http://portcoquitlam.ca/2019budget)



### Make easy monthly payments

Sign up for the City's convenient prepayment plan to start paying for next year's annual property taxes and/or utilities in manageable monthly installments, with no administration fee. The ideal time to start the plan is in July. Learn more at [portcoquitlam.ca/prepayment](http://portcoquitlam.ca/prepayment).

### Apply online in 3 easy steps

Claim your Home Owner Grant online, using your tax notice **Folio Number** and **Access Code**.

1. Go to [portcoquitlam.ca/e-hog](http://portcoquitlam.ca/e-hog).
2. Click Online Payments & Services and follow prompts.
3. Print the confirmation for your files.





# PORT COQUITLAM COMMUNITY CENTRE



## New services coming this fall

The City is preparing to open the first new features of the 205,000-square-foot Port Coquitlam Community Centre this fall. The construction zone downtown is a hive of activity, and staff are planning for an efficient and smooth transition of core programs and services. The first components to open will be:

**LATE SUMMER/EARLY FALL:** Two arenas, the library, multi-purpose spaces (activity and games rooms), Wilson lounge, and a kitchen, for use by families, seniors, youth and children.

**END OF 2019/EARLY 2020:** Leisure pool and fitness centre.

Future new amenities include a third arena, gymnasium, café, more multi-use spaces, an outdoor plaza and underground parking. Once completed in late 2021, the facility will host a wide variety of active and social recreation opportunities, provide jobs and serve as a catalyst for the downtown. Info: [portcoquitlam.ca/pococc](http://portcoquitlam.ca/pococc).



## Help prevent wildfires

Did you know that almost half of all wildfires in B.C. are caused by humans? To keep the community safe, Port Coquitlam bans outdoor burning and smoking/vaping of all types in parks, trails, along riverbanks and other natural areas. Help keep our community safe:



- Call 9-1-1 if you spot a fire or smell smoke.
- Use propane barbecues in parks only when permitted (look for signs during dry periods).
- Dispose of cigarette butts safely – and never throw them out the window of a vehicle.
- Don't park motorized bikes or vehicles on or next to dry grass.

## Public boulevard DOs & DON'Ts

It's important to know where your property ends and the public boulevard begins, to ensure access and public safety. The boulevard includes City infrastructure (sidewalks, curbs etc.) and a strip of finished or unfinished shoulder along the road. Learn more at [portcoquitlam.ca/boulevard](http://portcoquitlam.ca/boulevard).

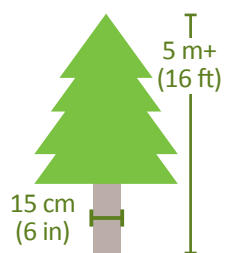
**DO:** Maintain, mow, weed and remove trash from the boulevard, and ensure plants don't block visibility or access for others.

**DON'T:** Add structures (e.g. fences, rockery) or hard surfaces; plant or install anything that will block visibility, access or parking; or alter the grade of the boulevard.

## New tree regulations in effect

Port Coquitlam adopted new tree regulations in February 2019, following two years of extensive public consultation.

The updated regulations include a number of changes to how trees are removed, replaced and protected, to ensure that the City maintains a healthy urban forest. Trees covered by the bylaw are at least 5 m tall OR larger than 15 cm across, measured 1.4 m above the ground, with some exceptions. Learn more at [portcoquitlam.ca/trees](http://portcoquitlam.ca/trees).



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR SUMMER FUN

Join us for **Summer in the City**, featuring free family fun, concerts, the arts, events and more. Go to [portcoquitlam.ca/events](http://portcoquitlam.ca/events) for more details.

- **Farmers Markets return June 6** – Thursdays, 3-7 p.m. in Leigh Square: produce, food, crafts and more.
- **Canada Day: July 1** – Celebrations at both Lions and Castle Parks.
- **PoCo Grand Prix: July 12** – Pro cycling, free family fun, live entertainment, food and beverage garden, and more.



For volunteer opportunities at PoCo Grand Prix and other events, see [portcoquitlam.ca/volunteer](http://portcoquitlam.ca/volunteer).