



VILLAGE VOICE

Coming Events:

Public Hearing

OCP
Monday, May 10th
@ 6:30pm

Parcel Tax Roll Review

Panel

Tuesday, May 11th
@ 11:30am

Special Council Meeting

Financial Plan
2010-2014 and
Village Budget
3rd Reading

Tuesday, May 11th
@ 7:30pm

Special Council Meeting

Financial Plan
2010-2014 and
Village Budget
For Adoption

Thursday, May 13th
@ 7:30pm

Council Meeting

Monday, May 17th
@ 7:30pm

Community Dialogue

Tuesday, May 25th
@ 7:00pm

OCP Technical

Review Bylaw
38-2010

Thursday, May 27th
@ 7:30pm

Brown Bag Lunch

June 4th @ Noon

Council Meeting

Monday, June 7th
@ 7:30pm

May 2010

Village of Queen Charlotte

Message from the Mayor

This is budget time for the Village and our newsletter this month lays out the budget, the financial plan and the tax implications for property owners. The Village's financial profile is very good – read the detailed articles and see for yourself.

The basic services of water, sewer and roads are the priorities of the Village. Both council and staff ensure that these services are taken care of before any other jobs are taken on. The new water plant is on line this month and though you will need to be patient as different phases of the plant kick in, we will soon be drinking from our new water supply. The sewer study is underway with half the funding for the study coming from a provincial grant. The roads budget is slowly growing as we continue to save some money each year to put towards equipment. The only debt the Village of Queen Charlotte owes is the money the town voted to borrow to move the water intake and complete the new water system. We can only borrow money with your approval.

In the difficult economic times facing our community; we are committed to support small business, families and the life style that attracts people to live here. We are committed to use our tax dollars wisely. While your property assessment may

vary (that is determined by BC Assessment), the municipal tax collected by the Village will be the same this year as last year. These are the tax dollars that fund items such as staffing, administration, roads, protective services, and public works. Water has a separate budget and you will be paying the first installment on the loan this year. Surface river water costs more than well water to treat consequently we have increased water user fees by \$2/month (residential). This is the first increase in user fees in over 10 years.

We also believe that whenever we can, we should bring provincial and federal tax money back to serve Queen Charlotte. Spirit Square (downtown park) is 100% funded through provincial grants and the support of Gwaii Trust and the Coast Sustainability Trust; the community park by the tennis courts is also 100% funded through provincial grants and Gwaii Trust. Even the cost for writing and submitting grant proposals is 75% funded through an outside source (Northern Development Initiative (NDI) Trust). Outside of staff administration time, none of your municipal taxes pay for these projects. Though we cannot use these monies for any other project no matter how worthwhile, we are holding a separate

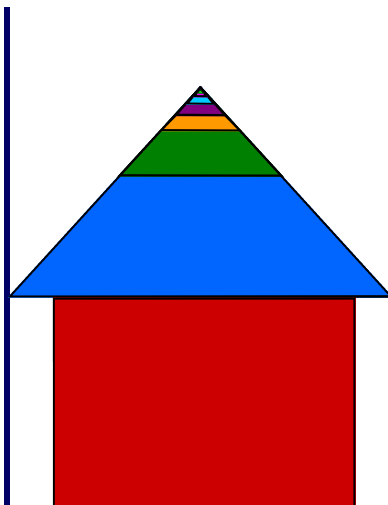
\$30,000 of NDI grant money for the Queen Charlotte Community Club volunteer society, when they are ready to apply.

Each of our major projects will be within budget as we are only able to build what we have the approved and budgeted funding to accomplish. The completion date for Spirit Square is March 31st 2011 and with the permission of Gwaii Trust the community park will commence after our priority water project is on-line. As in every project we do, we calculate the staff time to complete and the staff time for up keep.

Council has an aim. We are working to ensure that we have a community that is attractive to families, has a community focus and activities for all ages. In hard financial times it is even more important to plan and build for our future and we have been able to continue to move forward by bringing significant money into the community without impacting your municipal taxes.

Come add your voice to our discussions - join us at our monthly brown bag lunch, sign on to the Village Facebook page, attend the twice monthly council meetings or committee meetings, or join our new community dialogue meetings the last Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm in Council Chambers.

-Carol Kulesha, Mayor



2010 Tax Rates*

Municipal Finance Authority	0.002%
BC Assessment Authority	0.786%
Regional Hospital	1.100%
NW Regional Hospital	2.257%
Police	3.983%
Regional District	9.736%
General Municipal	28.181%
School	53.954%

*These figures do not include water/sewer frontage or recreation parcel tax

2010 Property Taxes Decrease

How has the municipal tax rate changed in the Village of Queen Charlotte? The following tables show the changes in the municipal property tax rates on \$100,000 value for residential and business properties.

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TAX HISTORY			
Village of Queen Charlotte 2006 - 2010			
Year	Assessment	Tax Rate	Municipal Property Tax
2010	\$100,000	2.38	\$238.16
2009	\$100,000	2.61	\$260.87
2008	\$100,000	2.56	\$256.00
2007	\$100,000	2.56	\$256.00
2006	\$100,000	2.51	\$251.00

BUSINESS PROPERTY TAX HISTORY			
Village of Queen Charlotte 2006 - 2010			
Year	Assessment	Tax Rate	Municipal Property Tax
2010	\$100,000	6.70	\$670.00
2009	\$100,000	7.93	\$793.00
2008	\$100,000	7.68	\$768.00
2007	\$100,000	7.68	\$768.00
2006	\$100,000	7.53	\$753.00

You can see that the dollars collected for municipal taxes have gone down. In 2010 you will pay the least amount of money for municipal taxes in the last 5 years. The Village has been able to decrease property taxes by successfully keeping operating costs in check, obtaining grant monies to help pay for training, equipment and capital project costs coupled with increased property values and the larger Small Community Grants offered to municipalities. In the 2010 budgets both Council and all municipal staff wages have been held at zero per cent increase.



VILLAGE OF QUEEN CHARLOTTE

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A Closer Look at 2010

Total 2010 Budget	\$3,447,068.00
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Expenditures include:

Operating General Budget:	\$1,041,478.00
Water Operating Budget	\$336,833.00
Sewer Operating Budget	\$164,240.00
Capital Projects	\$1,904,517.00

2010 Revenue Sources for

Revenue Source:	
Property Taxes	22%
Parcel Taxes	19%
Small Community Grant	31%
Grants in Lieu of Taxes	4%
Other Grants	17%
Other Sources	6%

Honna River Water Project:

Building the Water Intake and Treatment Plant is a multi-year project. Total cost will be over 4 million of which 3.2million comes from grants. In 2010:

Revenue Source:	2010
Federal/Provincial Grant	\$173,478
Provincial Grant	\$831,040
Loan from MFA	\$900,000

2010 is the first year we will start paying down the loan for the water system. It is funded through the Water Frontage Tax. The per meter water frontage rates to will increase from \$14.17 to \$21.16 per taxable meter for those properties in the water area. The Sewer Frontage Tax and the Recreation Parcel Tax will remain the same in 2010.



Other Capital Projects:

Spirit Square:		(Land Purchased through Gwaii Trust Grant)
Revenue Source:	Budget	
Province of BC	\$100,000	Received in 2009/Held in Term Deposit
Coast Sustainability Trust	\$190,000	Grant approved-to be paid after construction.
Community Park Phase 2:		
Revenue Source:	Budget	
Gwaii Trust	\$207,513	\$62,253 Advanced in 2009/Held in Term Dep. Grant approved-to be paid after construction.

All other property taxes are set by the Province of BC. They include:

- School Tax
- Police Tax
- Regional District Requisition (Island Waste Management, QCI Rec., Museum)
- Regional Hospital Requisition
- North West Regional Hospital Requisition
- British Columbia Assessment Authority Tax
- Municipal Finance Authority of British Columbia Tax

These taxes are collected and forwarded to the various agencies by the municipality.

Your 2010 property tax notices will be mailed to you in early June and are due Friday, July 2nd, to be delivered to the Village office at 903A Oceanview Drive no later than 4:30 p.m. Payment will be accepted by cash, cheque, post dated cheque (July 2nd, 2010) or by Northern Savings Credit Union Memberlink. Please feel free to contact the Village office if you have any questions about your property axes. Our telephone number is 250-559-4765.