

Life. The Okanagan Way.



# **Building Our Community**



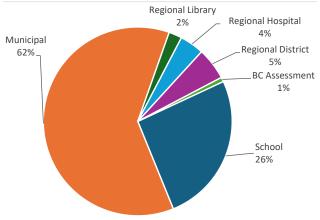
lakecountry.bc.ca/taxes



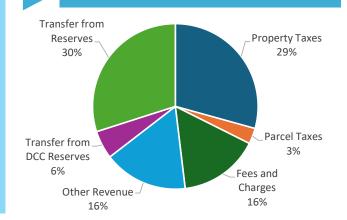
## 2024 Budget

# Your Property Tax Dollars

The District collects funds for the Regional District of the Central Okanagan, the regional hospital and library, Provincial school taxes, BC Assessment and the Municipal Finance Authority.



## **Where The Money Comes From**





#### **Property Taxes are due July 2, 2024**



#### Where Your Tax Dollars Go

The District's Water and Sewer Systems as well as Garbage & Recycling are funded entirely by user fees.



26% Policing



24%
Transportation Services



23%
Parks, Recreation &
Culture



12%
Community Services
(incl. Bylaw Services)



12% Fire Department



4% Debt



### **Message from Mayor Ireland**

## 2024 Budget Highlights

Operating budget - \$41.5 million

Project and Capital budget - \$29.9 million

Budget includes support of Community Services:

Lake Country Health Planning Society Lake Country Art Gallery Lake Country Heritage Society Boys and Girls Club Community Hall Grants Community Engagement Grants

#### **2024 Capital Projects**

Beaver Lake Intake Tower \$3.8 million Replacement Construct

Pretty Road Improvements \$2.1 million

2 Fire Engines/Water Tenders \$1.8 million

Bulk Metering/ \$1.2 million

Facility Construction

Mountain Bike Skills \$500,000

Park Construction

Learn more about the major projects planned this year:

lakecountry.bc.ca/projects

#### **Home Owner Grant**

If eligible, you must apply for your home owner grant each year through the Province of BC. Penalties will be levied if home owner grants are not received by the province by the due date.

Municipalities do not accept home owner grant applications. Grants are a form of payment towards your property taxes. You do not need to make a payment to claim your home owner grant.

Visit **gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant** or phone **1-888-355-2700** to apply for your grant or to find out if you are eligible.

#### **Tax Deferment**

Eligible BC residents can apply for the provincial deferment program at gov.bc.ca/propertytaxdeferment or 1-888-355-2700.

Property owners must continue to make outstanding utility payments to the District of Lake Country.

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In March, Council adopted the five-year financial plan for Lake Country which included the 2024 budget. After extensive consultation with the community, including a Budget Town Hall on January 23rd, Council agreed that a 9.52% increase was required to



sustain the essential services and daily opertions our citizens rely on.

The increase is needed to support community safety, keep up with the rising costs of delivering services, long-term infrastructure planning and asset management, and wage increases required to attract and retain skilled staff. We treat any increases very seriously as we are all taxpayers and care deeply about our community's future. Lake Country is at a turning point and has faced extenuating circumstances in the past few years leading to larger than normal tax increases that have been necessary to deliver on the services and infrastructure the community continues to expect. I encourage all Lake Country residents to get involved in our calls for input. As always, Council welcomes your thoughts as we work together to guide Lake Country into the future.

Visit lakecountry.bc.ca/subscribe or find us at lakecountry.bc.ca/mayorandcouncil.

Blair Ireland, MAYOR





