

## Public comment welcomed on plan to balance service needs with community's ability to pay

The City of Campbell River draft 2010-2014 financial plan is available to the public, and City Council invites residents to provide feedback on the plan through written submissions and survey responses. People can view the plan and complete the survey on the City's webpage ([www.campbellriver.ca](http://www.campbellriver.ca)) under *What's New*. (Survey also printed opposite page.) Paper copies of the draft financial plan are available for review at City Hall.

### Draft 2010-2014 financial plan highlights

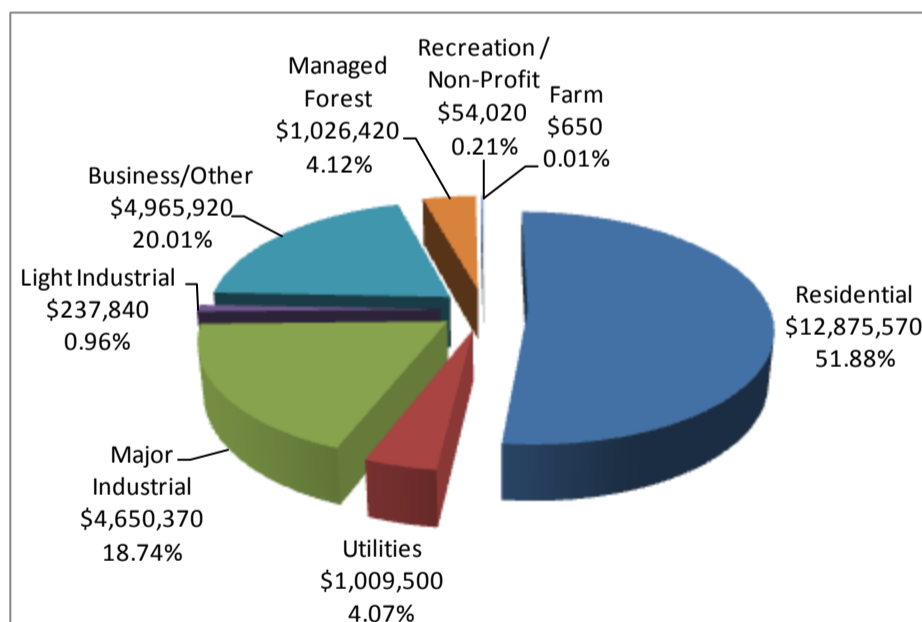
- The draft financial plan is a staff proposal that anticipates operating expenditures of \$43.62 million and capital expenditures of \$31 million, which includes amounts for uncompleted 2009 projects.
- During budget deliberations, City staff will recommend adjustments to the tax sharing between residential, commercial, managed forest and industrial assessment classes, which will have significant taxation ramifications.
- Services in the draft plan are proposed to be maintained at 2009 levels.
- The draft financial plan includes a proposed total tax levy of \$24.4 million.

The draft plan will be reviewed, debated and amended by City Council during financial plan deliberations Feb. 24 to 26, 2010 before adoption in March.

Highlights of City work proposed in the draft financial plan include:

- Hosting the 2010 B.C. Seniors Games, anticipated to boost the local economy
- Improving communications internally and externally to our community
- Completing construction of the Greenways Loop
- Starting the Highway 19A construction project from Hilchey to just south of Rockland Road (roadway work, sidewalks, water and sewer upgrades)
- Starting the Campbell River Airport project providing the appropriate funding is received
- Reviewing the Official Community Plan to integrate sustainability goals, objectives, and principles
- Reviewing and implementing revised development cost charges
- Tidal power feasibility study
- Environmental sustainability initiatives
- Completing Robron Park site design
- Constructing lacrosse box

### How we currently share the load 2009 tax distribution by property class

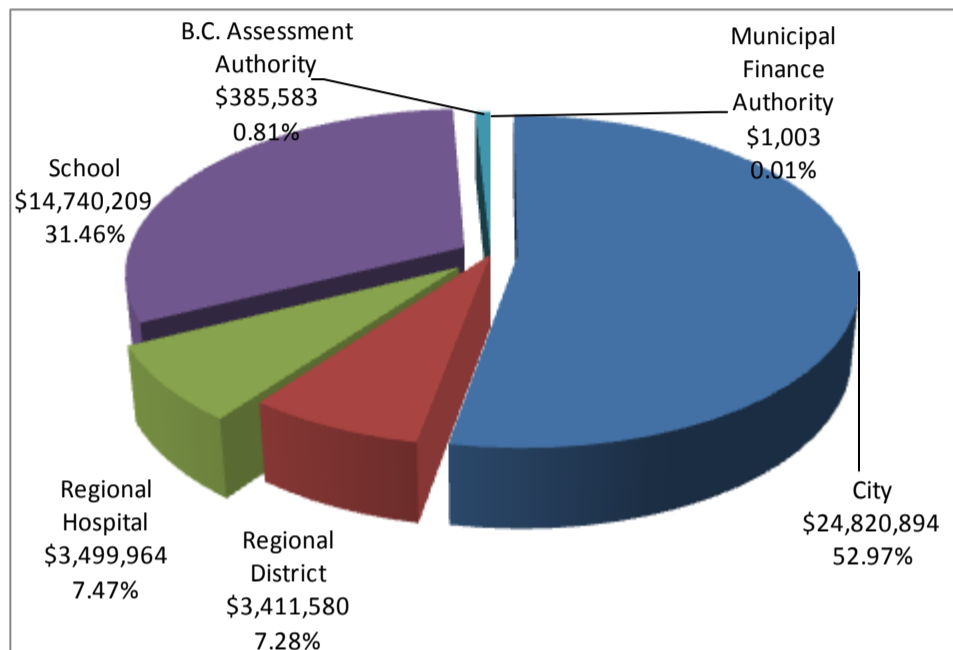


### What do local residents pay for City taxes?

The average homeowner pays \$84.51 per month. Campbell River tax rates are 25 per cent lower than the BC average for municipalities with a population of 30,000 people.

### Property taxes Where do they go?

The property taxes that you pay to the City include your payment to the provincial government and regional taxing authorities. Municipal services funded with tax revenues retained by the City of Campbell River in 2009 are illustrated below.



### YOUR 2009 TAX DOLLARS AT WORK (For an average residential assessment)

<b>Support services</b>	General administration, accounting, human resources, legislative and information services and risk management	\$ 118.81
<b>Protective Services</b>	Fire and rescue, policing, building inspection, bylaw enforcement and animal control	427.34
<b>Transportation Services</b>	Roads, sidewalks, public transit and general public works	147.70
<b>Public Health Services</b>	Cemetery operations and maintenance	2.09
<b>Development Services</b>	Economic development and city planning	32.82
<b>Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services</b>	Programs, recreational and civic facilities, walkways, playgrounds and parks	142.53
<b>Debt Charges</b>	Principal and interest payments on existing or planned borrowing	141.92
<b>CITY TAX TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ 1,013.21</b>

### How did Council balance the budget last year?

Municipalities are required by law to balance their budget. The City of Campbell River is not permitted to plan for a deficit budget.

In 2009, Council balanced the need to maintain core services and to fund rising costs. Last year's budget did not draw on surplus and set aside funding for asset replacement (a new legal requirement). The City also reduced major industry taxation by \$500,000.

The City's 2009 financial plan included service cuts. Cost savings amounting to \$1.4 million came from across all City departments and included staff reductions, the elimination of unassigned positions, layoffs and reduced hours for some workers.

The 2009 financial plan resulted in a 9.82 per cent increase in residential property taxation, which equates to approximately \$150 per average residential property.

### YOUR INPUT IS IMPORTANT

Council will determine how best to share the costs of City services during budget deliberations February 24 to 26, 2010. Here's how members of the public are invited to provide input:

- Complete a City services survey and mail or return it to City Hall by noon, Feb. 19. (Survey is also posted on the Internet at [www.campbellriver.ca](http://www.campbellriver.ca).)
- Present suggestions during Council's budget deliberation meetings at City Hall. Council will hear and receive submissions from members of the public in Council Chambers at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. on February 24 to 26. Speakers must register with the Legislative Services Manager.
- Provide a written submission to Council c/o the Deputy City Clerk via email ([peter.wipper@campbellriver.ca](mailto:peter.wipper@campbellriver.ca)) or to City Hall at 301 St. Ann's Road, Campbell River, BC, V9W 4C7.

View City of Campbell River  
2010-2014 Draft Financial Plan at:  
[www.campbellriver.ca](http://www.campbellriver.ca)  
(under *What's New*)  
Paper copies available for review  
at City Hall

Questions? Contact us.  
City of Campbell River  
301 St. Ann's Road  
Campbell River BC V9W 4C7  
Email: [info@campbellriver.ca](mailto:info@campbellriver.ca)  
Tel 286-5700  
Fax 286-5760  
[www.campbellriver.ca](http://www.campbellriver.ca)