



Mike Crane

Keep Bears Safe

Whistler is home to more than 40 bears. To keep bears and humans safe it's important to make sure bears stay wild. This means bears should never have access to human food or other attractants.

- Don't litter or leave household garbage where bears can reach it. Bears have a great sense of smell and have been known to break into cars to reach food or garbage.
- Clean your barbecue after every use.
- Don't leave out bird feeders or pet food.
- Stay at least 100 metres away from bears at all times. This includes dogs! Bears can become aggressive when dogs get too close or chase them. Sadly, bears that have shown aggression towards people and dogs have been euthanized. Always leash your dog on the Valley Trail.

Visit whistler.ca/bears for more information.

Whistler's Maytober Transportation Challenge

Private passenger vehicle trips within Whistler make up more than half (57 percent) of Whistler's community greenhouse gas emissions. From May to October, the RMOW is challenging residents to switch out one trip by private vehicle each week for a lower carbon way of travel. If every person in Whistler with a registered vehicle made this switch from just May to October, we could cut our community's greenhouse gas emissions by almost one percent. The RMOW has several programs to help make the switch easier than ever.

- The new Valley 10 Express bus route provides service between Emerald Estates and Cheakamus/Function during peak periods in approximately 30 minutes.
- From June 15 to September 3, buses are free for everyone in Whistler on weekends and holiday Mondays thanks to pay parking revenues.
- Kids ride the bus free any day of the week with a fare-paying adult.
- BC Transit's NextRide website provides real-time bus arrival information on your phone or computer.
- Bike valets will be back at events like the Whistler Farmer's market and secure bike parking is available for free in the Whistler Village Library underground parking lot.
- The Valley Trail offers 40 kilometres of paved pathway for walking, biking, skateboarding and other non-motorized travel.

Visit whistler.ca/maytober for more information.



Justa Jeskova

Together, we prepare for wildfires

The RMOW is working on wildfire prevention in several ways including wildfire fuel reduction projects (forest thinning), FireSmart Program (community chipper service, homeowner support), and through the Whistler Fire Rescue Services (WFRS) by thinning forests around critical infrastructure. Homeowners are encouraged to take simple measures to protect their property and our community against the ignition and spread of wildfire. Four ways that Whistler homeowners can help protect their homes from wildfire are:

1. Schedule a FREE FireSmart home assessment.
2. Remove brush, yard waste and tree debris – Besides having a non-combustible roof, this is the most significant immediate step homeowners can take to protect their property.
3. Implement FireSmart renovation recommendations, including roof materials and design, siding, vents, gutters, eaves, decks and porches, fencing and landscaping
4. Visit whistler.ca/firesmart for more information

Prepare for wildfire season

Hotter, drier summers mean Whistler is at risk for wildfires. In 2017, this threat saw more than 60,000 British Columbians evacuated from their homes and communities. The RMOW has a comprehensive emergency plan that includes a community evacuation plan that specifies how the RMOW and emergency organizations would safely evacuate the entire community in case of an emergency.

Every resident should prepare for wildfire season by:

- Knowing where to find accurate information during an emergency whistler.ca
 - Preparing a "Go Bag" for emergency evacuations. A "Go Bag" is a bag that contains emergency supplies and important papers such as insurance, immunization records, passports, medications or copies of prescriptions and cash all in one place. Having these items ready to go will save valuable time if there were to be an evacuation.
- whistler.ca/emergency has more information about preparing an emergency plan for yourself and your family.



The Resort Municipality of Whistler 2019 Tax Guide

PROPERTY TAX TIPS AND PAYMENT

Property taxes are due by Tuesday, July 2, 2019.

The Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW) manages an annual operating budget of \$95.6 million on behalf of the resort community providing municipal programs, services and infrastructure to approximately 12,000 permanent residents and an average daily population of more than 30,000 which includes part-time and seasonal residents and more than three million visitors per year.

Late payment penalty

Under provincial legislation, a late payment penalty of 10% must be applied to all current year taxes not paid by the due date of July 2, 2019:

- a 5% penalty is applied to any unpaid current balances on July 3, 2019; and
- an additional 5% penalty is applied to any current unpaid balances after September 30, 2019.

Home Owner Grant

The Home Owner Grant is a provincial government program designed to help homeowners reduce the property taxes for the home in which they reside. To determine eligibility, please refer to the Home Owner Grant information on the back of your property tax notice.

There are two categories of grants which may reduce your property tax:

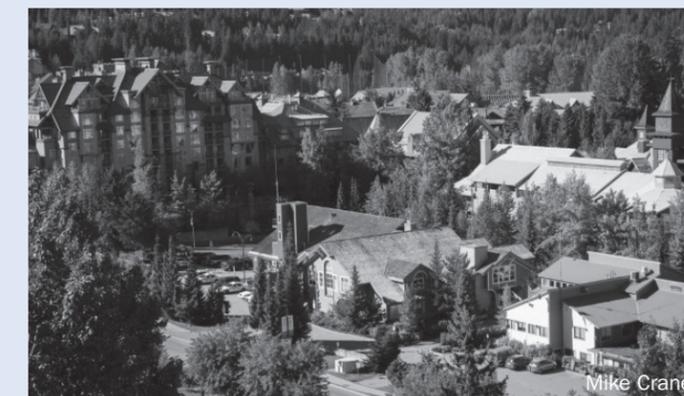
- Regular grant of up to \$770
- Additional grant of up to \$1,045 if you are a senior, a person with disabilities or living with a spouse or relative with disabilities

Additional Provincial School Tax on High-Value Properties

Starting in 2019, an additional school tax applies to most high-valued residential properties in the province, the additional tax rate is:

- 0.2% on the residential portion assessed between \$3 million and \$4 million
- 0.4% tax rate on the residential portion assessed over \$4 million

More information can be found at: www.gov.bc.ca/schooltax or phone 1 888 355 2700



Mike Crane

FASTEST ▶▶▶



Pay your taxes online through your financial institution

Pay online through your bank or credit union account.



Claim your Home Owner Grant online

It's faster, provides instant confirmation and cuts down on errors. Visit whistler.ca/homeownergrant.



Tax Instalment Prepayment Plan

Apply to pay through automatic instalment withdrawals. Visit whistler.ca/propertytax.

SLOWER ▶▶



Drop off your payment at Municipal Hall

4325 Blackcomb Way. The mail slot outside the entrance is secure and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



In person at your bank or credit union

Make sure you also claim your Home Owner Grant online, or by mail or drop-off.

SLOWEST ▶



By mail

Payments must be received by July 2, 2019. Postmarks are not accepted as proof of paying on time.



In person at Municipal Hall

Line ups may be long near the tax due date.

Need more information? Find everything you need to know about paying your taxes at whistler.ca/propertytax.

Need help? Phone **604-935-8130** for personal assistance with any of your tax questions.



RESORT MUNICIPALITY OF WHISTLER

4325 Blackcomb Way
Whistler, BC Canada V0N 1B4
www.whistler.ca

TEL 604 932 5535
TF 1 866 932 5535
FAX 604 935 8109



Resort Municipality of Whistler
whistler.ca/propertytax



Property Tax FAQs

1. How is property assessed?

BC Assessment Authority (BCA) is an independent provincial Crown Corporation that determines the values of all properties in British Columbia. When establishing the market value of a property, BCA considers factors including the real estate market, location, size, age and condition of buildings. The assessed value of your property is based on prior year market value and physical property condition. All owners are mailed their property assessment notice by December 31 of each year. Learn more at bcassessment.ca.

2. How are property taxes calculated?

Property taxation is the single most important source of municipal revenue.

The general municipal tax rate on your property tax notice is called a "mil rate". The mil rate represents property tax dollars per thousand dollars of assessed property value.

For 2019, the mil rate for a residential property is \$1.552 per \$1,000 of assessed value. This means that for a residential property, every \$500,000 of assessed property value results in a general municipal property tax levy of \$776.

Different classes of property (e.g. Class 1, residential; Class 5, light industry; Class 6 business other) have different mil rates.

Taxes collected by the municipality on behalf of other taxing authorities, such as "school tax" and "BC Assessment Authority", have different mil rates to calculate and levy the amount of tax applicable to each property.

The Resort Municipality of Whistler collects "Other" taxes on behalf of the following agencies:

- Province of British Columbia (School tax)
- Squamish-Lillooet Regional District
- Municipal Finance Authority
- BC Assessment Authority
- Sea to Sky Hospital District

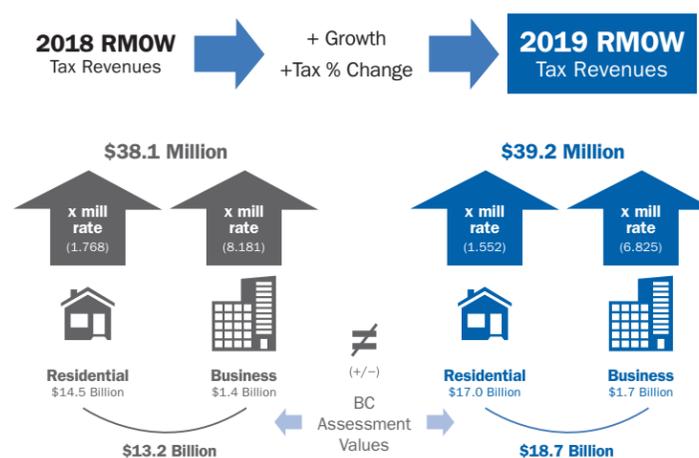
Your tax dollars at work — Municipal revenues fund a variety of municipal programs, services, and reserves.



Most property tax notices also have flat rate utility taxes and fees for municipal water, sewer and solid waste services, which are the same amount per property.

Utility parcel taxes and user fees are collected by the municipality to pay for water, sewer and solid waste services provided to the community.

3. How do individual property taxes relate to RMOW's tax revenues?



2019 budget in perspective

The Resort Municipality of Whistler's 2019 budget includes increases of:

- 2.9% increase to property tax revenues
- 2.0% to water and sewer parcel taxes and user fees
- 3.6% to solid waste and recycling fees

The municipal budget includes over 160 projects with a total budget of \$40 million. View details at whistler.ca/budget.



Water Conservation

Whistler water flows from the mountains to your tap. Our drinking water comes from alpine snow that melts into lakes and streams and replenishes the groundwater. The RMOW focuses on source water protection, so that the treatment of source water is effective. It can be easy to forget that treated water is a precious and limited resource even in Whistler where we receive a considerable amount of rain.

Whistler uses an innovative system for managing water conservation. The water conservation stage is evaluated each week. Recommendations to change the stage depend on water supply, reservoir levels, fire danger rating and the weather forecast. This allows for more flexible irrigation timelines while also ensuring the reservoirs are always full in case of fire.

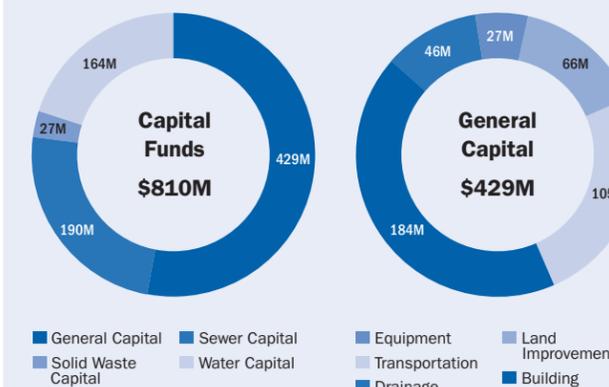
Developing more infrastructure to supply greater and greater amounts of water to our community is very expensive to build, operate, and maintain. The RMOW works with the community and businesses to find ways to manage demand growth and to best use our existing supply and infrastructure. By using water wisely, we can ensure it remains available for drinking and fire protection.

Whistler s Water – Let's Work Together to Use Less

RMOW Refines Asset Management Planning

The RMOW has completed an Asset Management Investment Report (AMIR) to determine a plan for the future replacement or retirement of the municipality's assets. The majority of the RMOW's assets are in buildings and transportation, such as Meadow Park Sports Centre, fire trucks and municipal vehicles.

The AMIR determines the current health of the municipality's assets and establishes the priority and plan for replacing them as they come to the end of their lifespan. The RMOW currently has \$810 million in assets, with 13 percent of those assets in deficit, meaning they are still in service beyond their expected life. The AMIR will help the RMOW adequately plan and budget for these costs over the coming years.



Stay in touch

The municipality seeks input from the community on the budget and other municipal programs, projects and issues as part of our organization's commitment to accountability, transparency and meaningful engagement. There are many ways for you to get informed and get involved:

- Sign up today for the RMOW Whistler Today e-newsletter whistler.ca/connect
- Attend council meetings or watch council meetings online whistler.ca/council
- Contact staff or members of Council whistler.ca/contact
- Attend open houses and events whistler.ca/events
- Complete online and phone surveys whistler.ca/surveys
- Join municipal committees whistler.ca/committees
- Facebook ([rmowhistler](https://www.facebook.com/rmowhistler)) or Twitter (@[RMWhistler](https://twitter.com/RMWhistler))

Welcome to MyWhistler

Visit whistler.ca/online services to:

- Register for **recreation, after school care, preschool and summer camp programs**
- Find zoning, land, utilities and road information using the municipal **Geographic Information System (GIS)**
- Use the **Active Development Application tool** under planning to learn about the status of active property development applications

Review our property tax information online anything.

Visit my.whistler.ca to register for your MyWhistler account and access online services.

- Sign up to receive your **property and utility tax notices** by email and review your previous property tax and utility transactions online
- Apply for your **home owner grant** – receive tax savings if you are eligible
- Renew your **business licence** or **dog licence**
- **New for 2019** - pay your **building and planning permits** online