

# City of Powell River

## Where do your taxes go?

Regional districts help communities by providing important services like clean water, parks, and fire protection, but they do not manage roads or policing.

Each regional district is different because it offers services based on what the people in the area determine they need. Certain services, including Regional Hospital District Financing, General Administration, Planning Services, Emergency Planning, and Solid Waste Management, are mandated services that all regional districts must provide.

All budget decisions and direction to staff are made by the Board of Directors through voting. See how your tax dollars support services in your area:

### **Regional Services (Services Shared between Electoral Areas, and the City of Powell River):**

#### **General Administration Service:**

Provides general support to all regional district services. This includes finance, supporting the Board of Directors, the operation of meetings, purchasing, risk management, public engagement, human resources, elections, referendums, communications, bylaw and policy management, telecommunications and computer systems, and records management.

#### **Grants-in-Aid Service:**

Provides grant funding for initiatives that provide programs and facilities for residents of the qathet Regional District inclusive of all Electoral Areas, the City of Powell River, and Tla'amin Nation.

#### **Regional Parks Service:**

Provides for the acquisition, development, operation, and maintenance of land, buildings and other facilities for regional parks. The qathet Regional District manages two campgrounds, 10 regional parks, 22 beach access sites, and a few small recreation facilities. These parks and facilities are located on lands that are owned by the Regional District, or leased from the Province.

#### **Cemeteries Service:**

Provides for the operation and maintenance of the Powell River Regional Cemetery (Cranberry) and the Woodland Cemetery (Texada Island). Both cemeteries are open to the public and have no denominational restrictions.

#### **Regional Animal Shelter Service:**

Provides for an annual contribution towards the operation of an animal shelter that cares for abused and abandoned animals.

#### **Regional Emergency Preparedness:**

Provides emergency planning, preparedness, training, response, and recovery for all areas within the qathet Regional District, including the City of Powell River and in collaboration with the Tla'amin Nation. The program works with emergency responders, government staff, volunteers, partner agencies, and the public.

#### **Heritage Conservation Service:**

Provides heritage conservation mainly to support the operation of museums and heritage attractions.

#### **Emergency Telephone 911 Service:**

Provides emergency 9-1-1 telephone dispatch service to supported service areas.

#### **Waste Management Service:**

Provides long-term planning and management of solid waste for the entire regional district, and includes the operation of the Resource Recovery Centre. Waste collection is a separate service that the Regional District does not provide.

#### **qathet Regional Hospital District:**

Regional Hospital Districts (RHDs) were created not to operate but to help finance local contributions to major healthcare facility construction and renovations. The qathet Regional Hospital District (qRHD) board includes qRD Regional Board and a representative from Tla'amin Nation.

Each regional district service has its own budget, and only the participants of that service pay for it.

The main revenue source is property value tax, supplemented by parcel taxes and fees, with collection handled by provincial or municipal governments.

The qathet Regional District applies a standard 9% charge on the net operating budget of all services.

