

Electoral Area E:

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.

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.

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.

Electoral Area Services (Shared Services between other Electoral Areas):

Electoral Area Administration Service:

Provides Directors' remuneration related to electoral area governance, costs associated with the local government elections and Electoral Area portions of shared wages and overhead. Funds are set aside annually into a reserve to fund the local government election every four years. This prevents a large tax increase during the election year.

Electoral Area Feasibility Studies:

Provides funds for the establishment of new services as well as funds for costs not covered by grant-funded studies that do not fit under already established services. The costs that are expended to establish a new service become part of costs allocated to the new service.

Social Planning Service:

The service supports community well-being through research, advocacy, and policy development, addressing issues like housing, health, social inclusion, and poverty reduction.

qathet Regional Hospital District:

Regional Hospital Districts (RHDs) were created not to operate but to help finance local contributions to major healthcare facility construction.

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.

Electoral Area Services (Individual Area Services):

Electoral Area E Community Recreation Service:

This service supports recreational programs for the Lasqueti Community Association.

Lasqueti Island Library Service:

The Lasqueti Island Library service is funded by taxpayers within Electoral Area E. The service provides an annual contribution to the Vancouver Island Regional Library for library services on Lasqueti Island.

Lasqueti Island Fire Protection Service:

The service provides fire protection and emergency response to all of Lasqueti Island, and supports the management and operations of the Lasqueti Island Volunteer Fire Department.

Lasqueti Island Marine Ramp Service:

The Lasqueti Island Marine service is funded by taxpayers within Electoral Area E. The service supports the operation and maintenance of a multi-purpose boat ramp for recreational and commercial use. The foreshore is leased from the Province, and the qathet Regional District paid for the installation of the ramp.

Lasqueti Island Health Centre Service:

The Lasqueti Island Health Centre service is funded by taxpayers within Electoral Area E. This service supports the operation of the Judith Fisher Health Centre through a contribution agreement with the Lasqueti Last Resort Society. The Judith Fisher Centre provides health and wellness services to Lasqueti, as well as provides a public space for the community.