



Community. Leadership. Pride.

TO: WFN Property Taxpayers

May 31, 2021

FROM: Ernest Jack, WFN Surveyor of Taxes

RE: Westbank First Nation: Property Tax, 2021

Enclosed please find your 2021 property tax notice, Please also note the following information to ensure that you claim the maximum Home Owner Grant, and avoid penalties.

HOMEOWNER GRANTS

For Homeowners under 65, the basic Homeowner Grant is \$570.00 on the principal residence, and the amount payable is listed in column B. If any of the homeowners listed on the title are over 65, there is an additional Homeowner Grant of \$275.00. Please pay the amount in Column C. To ensure you receive the Homeowner grant, please ensure the signed original form is received by our office or you have claimed your HOG online by the due date, Sept. 30, 2021.

HOW TO PAY

- You can pay online (using internet banking). If you pay this way, please submit your Homeowner grant no later than Sept 30, 2021. (Using the form or Online through our website.)
- You may also pay property taxes at your bank or Credit Union. Bring your tax statement with you and please submit Homeowner Grant to our office by the due date.
- You can pay by phone with your credit card. Just call the office and we will assist you.
- You can pay by E-transfers: email **centraldesk@wfn.ca** | **Must use password: WFNaccounting** Please include your folio # in the message.

WFN also accepts cash, cheques, debit, and credit cards for property tax payments at the office. The payments counter is open to serve you from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM Monday to Friday. You can pay in person at the WFN office: 515 Hwy 97 South, by Westside Road.

COVID-19 MEASURES

Due to COVID-19, you are encouraged to use the online methods to pay if possible. Social distancing measures are in effect. Do not come to the office if you are feeling unwell and obey all signs and social distancing restrictions at the office.

ON-LINE SERVICES

E-Services are now available thru the Westbank First Nation website. www.wfn.ca. Westbank First Nation (WFN) is pleased to offer our residents, businesses and visitors the convenience of managing accounts online. For most of the services we provide, you must register and create a user account. *This is a secure site as we are dedicated to protecting your privacy and safeguarding your personal financial information.* To register and create an account you will need the access code located on your Property Tax Notice and your Utility Bill Notice (if applicable). Access codes can also be obtained by calling the WFN Taxation Department at 250.769.4999. Upon successful login, you will be given access to the online services applicable to your account.

Our online services currently include:

Property Tax Inquiries	Account Assessment Searches (Public)
Electronic Home Owner Grant Submission	Account Searches (Public)
Utility Inquiries	Coming soon (Sign up for Ebilling)

iCity Online is best accessed using Google Chrome or Firefox and has not been optimized to work with smartphones or tablets.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

301-515 HIGHWAY 97 SOUTH, KELOWNA, BC V1Z 3J2



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Westbank First Nation (“WFN”) Council approves annual budget

WFN Council gave final approval to the 2021-2022 annual budget on Monday, March 22. Prior to WFN Council approval; the local government and property tax budget was reviewed and accepted by the WFN Advisory Council. The Advisory Council represents the more than 10,000 residents on WFN lands. Council has extended the due date from July 2, 2021 to Sept. 30, 2021 in order to assist those affected by COVID-19. If you are able to pay, we ask that you pay by July 2, 2021 to ensure we have the funds needed to continue providing your essential services. Please ensure your payment and Home Owner Grant are received at our office no later than 4:00 p.m. Sept 30, 2021. **Late payments will have an immediate 10% penalty applied.**

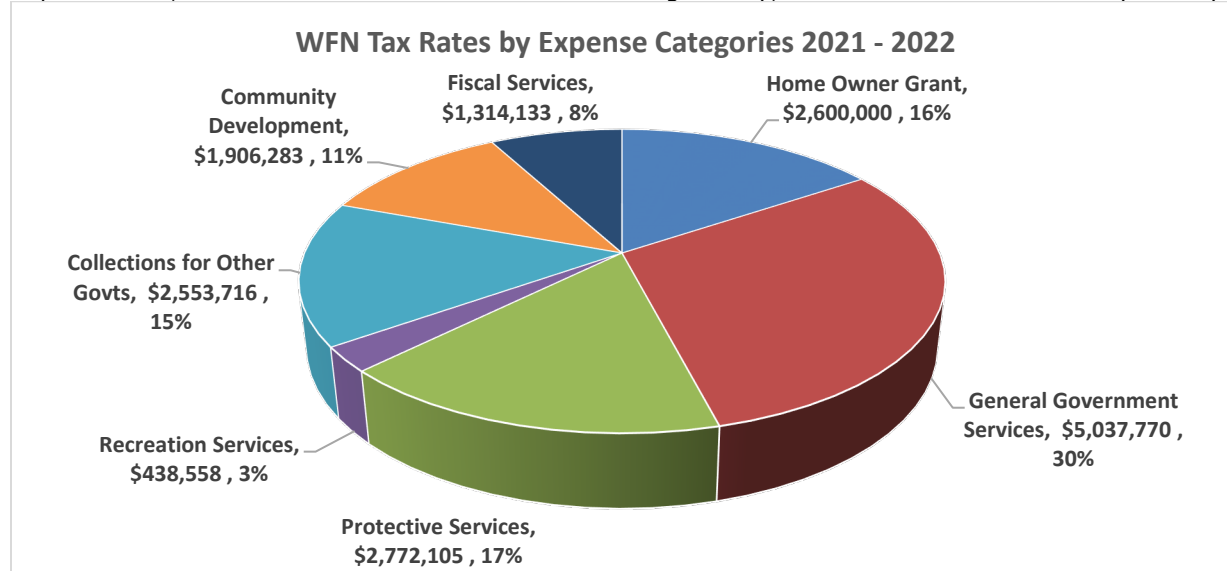
In 2021, property taxation revenues will total \$16.2 million, a 2.2% increase over 2020, the budget also includes other revenues of \$.5M. With average gross taxes up \$101, or 4.8%, 4724 taxable residents will pay an average of \$1,627 after WFN’s Homeowner Grant. There is a basic minimum tax of \$500.00 plus a sewer parcel tax of \$6.50.

WFN property taxes pay for the following services:

• Homeowner Grants	\$2.6 M
• General Government Services	\$5.03 M
• Protective Services	\$2.7 M
• Recreation Services	\$0.4 M
• Collection for Other Governments	\$2.5 M
• Community Development	\$1.9 M
• Fiscal Services	\$1.3 M

For 2021, BC Assessment showed a 3.95% growth rate in new construction on WFN lands, totaling \$66.04 million. Market values increased total assessments a further .54%. Total residences increased from 4,652 in 2020 to 4,724 in 2021. Combined with approximately 535 businesses, assessed taxable property on WFN lands totals \$2.27 billion, ranking WFN approximately 58th among the 162 registered municipalities in BC.

Property tax notices will be mailed in late May, and the final deadline for payment without penalty is September 30, 2021. The office is closed on National Aboriginal Day, June 21 and all other Statutory Holidays.



For more information, please contact:
 ERNEST JACK, Surveyor of Taxes, Westbank First Nation, T 250 769 2400 or COMMUNICATIONS, Westbank First Nation, T 250 769 4999, www.wfn.ca

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