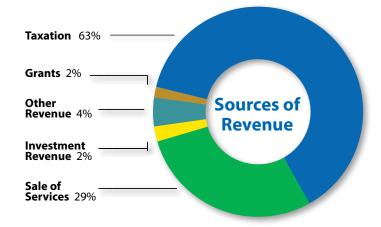
# Budget 2014: explained



### The 2014 Financial Plan was brought to Council and the public for discussion in November 2013:

- The District of Squamish considered options that included adjustments in operations and, if necessary, service level contractions to meet a zero % tax revenue increase for 2014.
- Contractual obligations and financial policies pressure the budget upwards each year, therefore a zero % budget increase would require a contraction of \$1.3 million.
- Three budget options were discussed, representing Council and community priorities as well as regulated and required activities
- The result is a blend of the three options and a proposed
   5.14% budget increase.



#### **Budget key drivers** Labour increases including retroactive increases phasing-in over three years: 2.48% (\$532,063) Contractual increases Increases to capital including retroactive funding: increases phasing-in: 2.75% (\$625,885) 2.29% (\$490,966) (RCMP, Transit, Other) Service contractions across all departments or revenue increases reduces budget by -3.08% (\$660,229)

### **Estimated property tax change**

Estimated municipal tax impact on average assessment per assessment class.

<b>Property Class</b>	Assessed Value	Muni Tax 2014	Change from 2013
Single family dwelling	\$467,120	\$2,333	<b>1</b> \$127
Residential strata unit	\$272,837	\$1,363	↑ \$8
Business Assessment	\$456,501	\$6,212	<b>↑</b> \$264



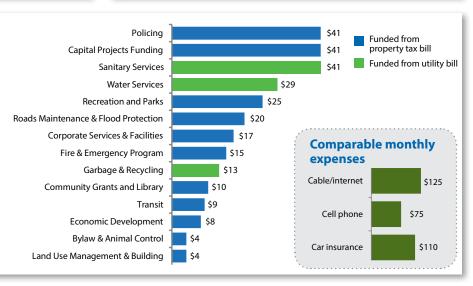
Municipalities are required to collect property taxes on behalf of other agencies such as the School District, SLRD (which includes the Aquatic Centre), and the hospital districts etc. These amounts will be itemized in your property tax bill in addition to the Municipal tax impact outlined in the chart above.

### How your tax bills break down monthly

Based on the average single family dwelling assessment of \$467,120

The District of Squamish focuses on delivering services to the community that makes Squamish enjoyable and highly livable.

In 2013, the District continued with the commitments identified in the Service Squamish Initiative to enhance the service-oriented culture with a customer focused strategy to Deliver Outstanding Service.



## District of Squamish 2014 Financial Planning

The District of Squamish 2014 budget is comprised of a General Operating Fund and three Utility Funds.

### 2014 budgeted operating costs

(funded by utility bill)

2014: \$4,859,824
2013: \$4,356,460

Page 45 of the 5-year plan including principal repayment and

**Utilities** 

Water 2014: \$4,151,888 2013: \$3,072,579 Page 42 of the 5-year plan

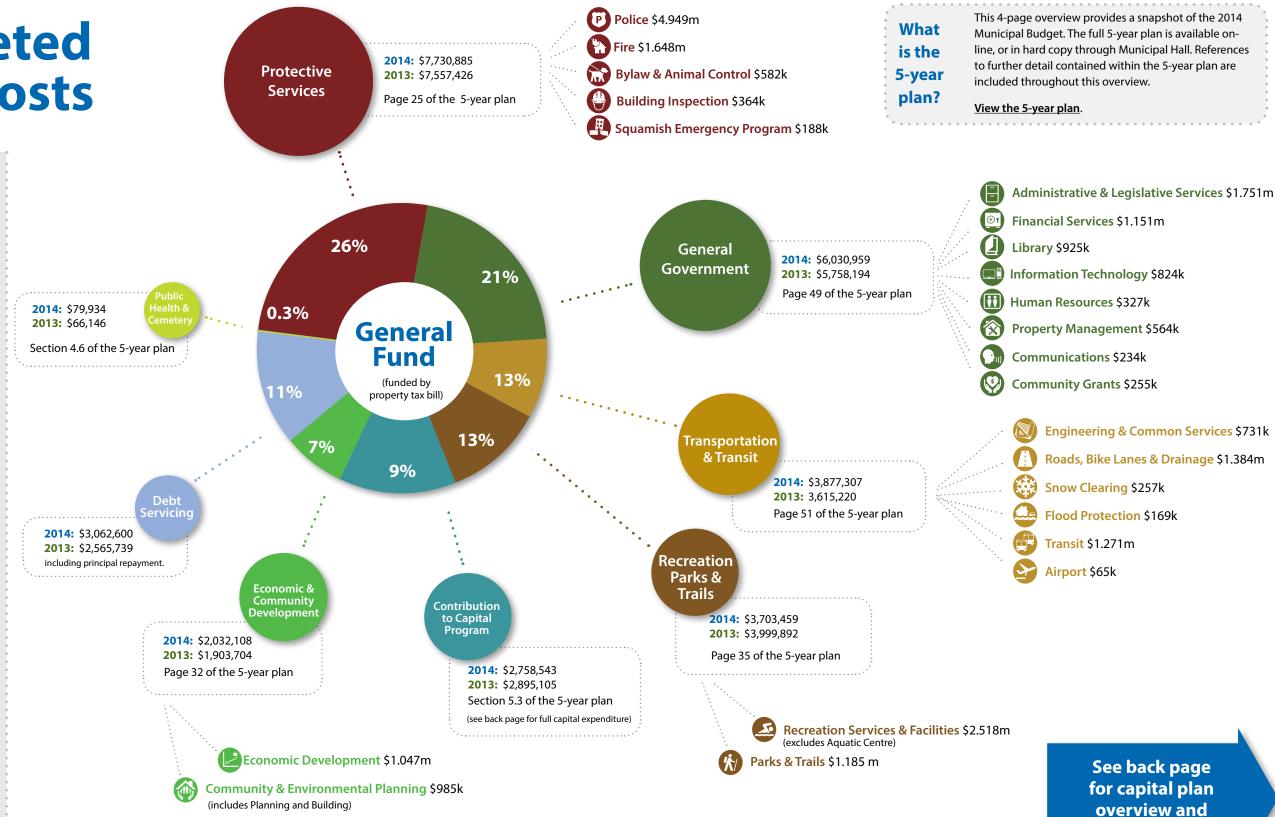
2014: \$2,310,610 2013: \$2,339,000 Waste

Page 40 of the 5-year plan including principal repayment and contribution to capital plan

including principal repayment and contribution to capital plan

contribution to capital plan

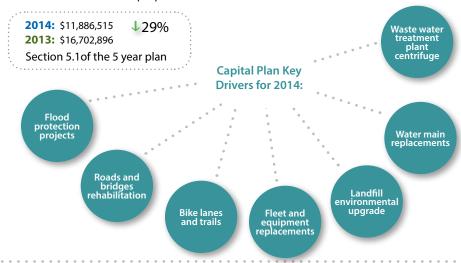




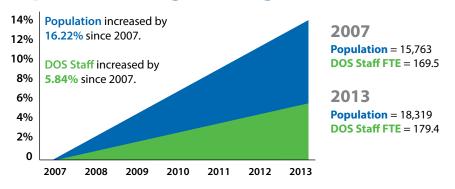
**E-Town Hall info** 

### 2014 Capital Plan

In recent years the District has embarked on an ambitious capital program that relied heavily on borrowing, which needs to change. The 5-year capital program for 2014 has been set to fit within the District's legal borrowing limits, and capitalizes on other funding opportunities. As well, reserves built up by the past three years of Utility bill increases allows the District to fund Water and Sewer projects without relying on debt. The result is a capital budget that is much lower than prior years, but that relies less on debt and more on reserves saved for this purpose.



### **Squamish is growing**



The term "Full Time Equivalent" (FTE) equates to all full-time, part-time, seasonal, casual and overtime hours as if they were combined together to represent full-time staff. For example, two staff working 20-hours each per week equals one FTE.

### DOS departments at a glance

#### **Business & Financial** Corporate Services & Public Works Community Services Services Services Bylaw & Animal Control Recreation Finance Engineering Services Human Communications Real Estate Operations Resources Emergency Economic Development **RCMP** Progrăm Development Services Fire Rescue Film & Events Library **Facilities** Information Technology Legislative Services

### **E-Town Hall**

Wednesday, March 12, 2014 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Council Chambers and streamed live at squamish.ca

District of Squamish Council invites the community to an E-Town Hall meeting to discuss the 2014 budget and the proposed 5.14% budget increase.

Questions/comments to Council during the E-Town Hall can be submitted two ways:

- In person during the meeting;
- Submitted electronically or by phone during the meeting.

Comments received from those watching from home will be shared real-time with Council and will receive a response during the meeting, while time permits. Comments can be submitted in any one of the following ways:

E-mail: budgetfeedback@squamish.ca

**Twitter:** @Squamishtown **Facebook:** Facebook.com/

districtofsquamish

Online: Squamish.ca/budget

**Phone:** 604.892.5217

We want to hear from you! squamish.ca/budget

You can always contact us via:

squamish.ca/contact 604.892.5217 budgetfeedback@squamish.ca

