



ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 24, 2023

Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District adopts 2023-2027 Financial Plan

ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL DISTRICT – The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD) Board of Directors, at the regular meeting on March 22, 2023, adopted the 2023-2027 Financial Plan.

The plan is the result of significant discussion and includes financial increases targeted towards improved service levels offered by the ACRD. The updated five-year plan reflects that the ACRD is a growing organization that continues to increase the service levels of the many functions it provides, as well as explore new services that respond to changing regional needs. The service level changes have been a result of both regulation and legislation changes, as well as the implementation of the ACRD's Strategic Plan.

The 2023 budget is approximately \$29.6 million. This plan has been challenging to develop as inflation rates increase both the cost of operations and construction costs. The financial plan includes a tax increase of 9.84 per cent, including the Regional Hospital District Annual Budget. Approximately \$13.4 million is budgeted for capital projects, and the Regional District anticipates 67 per cent of the funds for these projects will come from grant funding.

"It is never easy to bring forward a financial plan that includes tax increases to the areas we serve. This budget was subject of significant deliberation, and I believe it effectively meets the many changing needs within the region." explains ACRD Chair John Jack. "Our plan will also lead to some much-needed improvements to services and resources, which will benefit all residents of our region."

Some of the key changes that will come because of this five-year financial plan include:

- Increasing resources to support Fire Departments to strive to continue to meet Fire Underwriter Survey (FUS) standards to ensure the best available fire insurance rates for residents.
- Development of a Land Use and Development Plan for the Long Beach Airport to set a long-term vision for the service.
- Completing the Zoning Bylaw review for the electoral areas and then initiate a comprehensive review of the six electoral area Official Community Plan's (OCP's) over the next three years.
- Construction of the final section of the West Coast Multi Use Pathway that will create a continuous path, separate from the highway, from the District of Tofino to the District of Ucluelet.
- Community engagement in the Alberni Valley regarding a proposed new aquatics facility.



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The estimated impact of the ACRD component of property taxation on the average household in each area is as follows:

Jurisdiction	Estimated Increase on Average Household from Prior Year	Estimated ACRD Portion of Property Tax 2023
Area A - Bamfield	\$129.78	\$994.73
Area B - Beaufort	\$43.50	\$577.11
Area C - Long Beach (not including Salmon Beach)	\$36.08	\$431.54
Area C – Salmon Beach area of Long Beach	\$52.44	\$1,548.42
Area D - Sproat Lake	\$80.05	\$972.56
Area E - Beaver Creek	\$55.26	\$1,199.13
Area F - Cherry Creek	\$22.59	\$479.21
City of Port Alberni	\$20.81	\$243.03
District of Tofino	\$154.31	\$824.70
District of Ucluelet	\$81.37	\$458.41

The Financial Plan document summarizes each area, including potential increases in costs and taxation. The summary identifies the cost to each jurisdiction according to the services provided and the total overall requisition changes from the prior year. It also includes details on each of the service budgets. You can view this at: [2023-2027 Financial Plan](#) . If you have any questions, please email budget@acrd.bc.ca .

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For more information, please contact:

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About the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District:

Established in 1966, the Alberni–Clayoquot Regional District is in the heart of Vancouver Island, British Columbia. It encompasses more than 6,500 square kilometres, with a population of approximately 31,000. The ACRD consists of member municipalities Port Alberni, Tofino, Ucluelet, as well as Bamfield, Beaufort, Long Beach, Sproat Lake, Beaver Creek and Cherry Creek. It was also the first regional district to welcome full participation on the board from the Treaty First Nations of Huu-ay-aht First Nations, Yuułu?it?ath Government, Uchucklesaht Tribe Government and Toquaht Nation. The ACRD is within the territory of the Nuu-chah-nulth Nations. The ACRD is governed by a fourteen-member Board of Directors that represent the member jurisdictions. The regional district offices are in Port Alberni.