



Village of Fraser Lake

Bylaw 866, 2025

A bylaw to adopt the a 5 year Financial Plan for the year 2025

WHEREAS pursuant to Section 165 of the *Community Charter*, a Municipality must have a Financial Plan that is adopted annually, by Bylaw, before the Annual Property Tax Bylaw is adopted:

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Village of Fraser Lake in open meeting assembled enacts as follows:

1. This bylaw may be cited as the "Bylaw No. 866; 2025 Village of Fraser Lake 2025-2029 Financial Plan"
2. That Schedule "A" attached is part of Bylaw 866, 2025
3. That Schedule "B" attached is part of Bylaw 866, 2025

READ A FIRST TIME this 15 day of April 2025

READ A SECOND TIME this 15 day of April 2025

READ A THIRD TIME this 15 day of April 2025

RECONSIDERED, PASSED AND FINALLY ADOPTED this 23 day of April 2025


Sarrah Storey, Mayor


Ethan Fredeen, Corporate Officer

VILLAGE OF FRASER LAKE

FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN (2025-2029) BYLAW NO. 866, 2025

SCHEDULE "A"						
	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	
REVENUES						
NET TAXATION	\$2,630,026	\$2,893,029	\$3,182,331	\$3,500,565	\$3,675,593	
SALES AND USER FEES	\$522,950	\$528,180	\$533,461	\$538,796	\$544,184	
LICENCE AND PERMITS	\$7,200	\$7,200	\$7,200	\$7,200	\$7,200	
RENTALS	\$25,140	\$25,140	\$25,140	\$25,140	\$25,140	
CONCESSION AND FRANCHISE	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$18,000	
INVESTMENTS AND PENALTIES	\$69,500	\$69,500	\$69,500	\$69,500	\$69,500	
GOVERNMENT TRANSFERS	\$10,346,521	\$939,223	\$548,005	\$1,062,960	\$950,907	
TRANSFER FROM SURPLUS	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
COMMUNITY FOREST	\$0	\$1,447,832	\$1,867,233	\$1,311,045	\$1,288,042	
MISCELLANEOUS	\$11,820	\$11,820	\$11,820	\$11,820	\$11,820	
DEBT RESERVE FUND						
SALE OF ASSETS						
BORROWING						
TRANSFER FROM RESERVES	\$9,343,305	350,000	\$350,000	\$350,000	\$350,000	
COLLECTION FOR OTHER GOV'T	\$946,402	955,866	965,425	975,079	984,830	
TOTAL	\$23,920,864	7,245,789	\$7,578,115	\$7,870,104	\$7,925,215	
EXPENDITURES						
TRANSFER TO RESERVE FUNDS	\$0	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	
CAPITAL	\$3,361,491	386,281	363,235	480,445	478,599	
GENERAL GOV'T SERVICES	\$1,965,123	1,984,774	2,004,622	2,024,668	2,044,915	
PROTECTIVE SERVICES	\$274,611	277,357	280,131	282,932	285,761	
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH	\$90,025	90,925	91,835	92,753	93,680	
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES	\$383,390	387,224	391,096	395,007	398,957	
ENV. DEVELOPMENT SERVICES	\$596,930	602,899	608,928	615,018	621,168	
RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES	\$571,594	577,310	583,083	588,914	594,803	
FISCAL SERVICES						
WATER UTILITY	\$13,235,918	275,600	281,112	286,734	292,469	
SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM	\$2,433,380	145,000	146,450	147,915	149,393.65	
PMTS TO OTHER GOV'T	\$946,402	955,866	965,425	975,079	984,830	
COMMUNITY FOREST	\$62,000	1,462,552	1,880,639	1,880,640	1,880,640	
TOTAL	\$23,920,864	\$7,245,789	\$7,696,555	\$7,870,104	\$7,925,216	
	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	

BYLAW 866, 2025 VILLAGE OF FRASER LAKE 2025-2029 FINANCIAL PLAN

SCHEDULE "B" STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

In accordance with Part 6 – Financial Management of the Community Charter, the Five Year Financial Plan must include objectives and policies regarding each of the following:

1. The proportion of total revenue that comes from each of the funding sources described in Section 165(7) of Part 6 of the Community Charter;
2. The distribution of property taxes among the property classes, and
3. The use of permissive tax exemptions.

FUNDING SOURCES:

Table 1 shows the proportion of total revenue proposed to be raised from each funding source in 2025. Property taxation offers a stable and reliable source of revenue to fund services that are difficult or impractical to fund on a user-pay basis. These include services such as general administration, fire protection, bylaw enforcement, snow removal, maintenance of streets, sidewalks and parks and recreation.

Grants form a large portion of anticipated revenue for 2025.

- Conditional grants are used to fund specified capital projects. An exception is the Community Works Fund that is deferred until appropriate projects are identified by Council.
- Unconditional grants are used to balance the general operating budget.

User pay charges are collected where charges can be effectively administered. Examples include water, wastewater, solid waste collection, ice arena rentals, building permits and business licencing.

The Village is taking steps to optimize its' Community Forest Operating. Revenue from this enterprise started in late 2019. These funds will not support the General Operating budget but will provide funding for community capacity initiatives such as community transportation, education, sports and recreation, and support of seniors. A reserve has been created for unused funds.

OBJECTIVES & POLICIES:

- User pay rates for water, waste water and solid waste collection will be reviewed yearly to ensure that those services are funded through user fees.
 - The Village will review user fees and revise them as required to ensure they adequately meet both capital and operating costs of the service
- To ensure responsible stewardship of our water resources and to manage costs associated with the filtration and delivery of a safe and healthy source of potable water.
 - A limited number of water meters have been installed on Village and commercial properties to help develop our understanding of water consumption volume by the Village and user groups. We have also installed a bulk water meter at the arena that allows out of town residents access to a reliable safe water source.
- Management of the costs associated with building permits and building inspection.
 - User pay rates for building permits are set at common rates by our Regional District.
 - As a small municipality, with limited new construction or renovation, user fees collected do not pay for the cost of this service. Costs are moderated through a contract with the Bulkley-Nechako Regional District for Building Inspection Services.

- User fees for Village recreation and cultural programs and facilities are set at a low rate to encourage facility use, physical activity and healthy lifestyles. These facilities include our recreation complex, the recreation program, our library, our parks, docks, wharf and our Visitor Centre and Museum.
 - User fees for recreational and cultural facilities fund a portion of the costs associated to the provision and annual maintenance of the facilities. The remainder is funded by the tax payers.

Table 1: Sources of Revenue

Revenue Source	% Total Revenue
Grants	45%
Taxes	11%
Fees	3%
Other Sources	1%
Borrowing	0.0%
Trans from Reserves	40%
Surplus	0.0%
Community Forest	0.00%
Total	100.0%

DISTRIBUTION OF PROPERTY TAX RATES:

Table 2 outlines the distribution of property taxes among the property classes. The major industry property class provides the largest proportion of property tax revenue. The closure of Endako Mine in 2015 precipitated a reduction in our annual tax revenue of \$1.3 million; the closure further affected the 1% grant in lieu for 2019 based on 2015 revenues from BC Hydro thus causing a reduction in Grant in Lieu of Taxes from 12% to 4%. This necessitated a reduction in expenditures. Our community strives to provide as many services to its residents as possible in order to make Fraser Lake an attractive, healthy, safe, engaging place to live and to work.

OBJECTIVE:

- Council endeavours to provide as many services as possible to its residents with as low a tax rate as possible for all property classes. Regardless of the significant reduction in revenue, our Council strives to continue current levels of service.

POLICIES:

- The Village continues to encourage economic development in our community and the surrounding area. Our policies are designed to support local retail and commercial business. By creating a

supportive environment, we encourage local business to maintain levels of employment and to invest in the community through expansion and creation of new jobs.

- Each year Council compares the tax rates in Fraser Lake to surrounding municipalities. Council's goal is to keep our tax rates comparable to other municipalities in our region.
- Council is committed to continuing to provide current services with as low a tax rate as possible. Village revenues will be supplemented by user fees.
- The availability of grant funding allows the community to move forward on capital projects that would otherwise not be possible. In order to be fiscally responsible with Village financial resources, capital project planning must include a proactive grant application regime.

Table 2: Distribution of Property Tax Rates

PROPERTY CLASS	TAX ALLOCATION %
Residential	23.50%
Utilities	17.09%
Major Industry	47.70%
Business	8.65%
Recreation/non-profit	.08%
Grants in lieu of taxes	2.98%
Total	100.0%

PERMISSIVE TAX EXEMPTIONS

OBJECTIVE

To provide tax relief to selected parcels of property as permitted in the Community Charter.

POLICY

The Village of Fraser Lake uses permissive tax exemptions for churches only.