

VILLAGE OF  
FRASER LAKE  
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Village of Fraser Lake



# Village News

MARCH 2021

## HOME OWNER GRANT—2021 CHANGES

Starting in 2021, residents in municipalities no longer apply for the home owner grant through their municipal office. Everyone now applies directly to the province using a new online system that's easy to use and will process applications faster.

### Home Owner Grant Information

The Provincial Home Owner Grant program helps to reduce the amount of residential property taxes that homeowners pay on their primary residence and is available to homeowners that pay property taxes to a municipality or to the province if they live in a rural area.

If you qualify for the Home Owner Grant (HOG), you must apply each year to receive it. Only one qualifying owner can claim a grant for a property each year.

You may be required to submit additional documentation to establish your eligibility and home owner grants are audited for up to seven years to ensure applicants are eligible for the grants they receive.

The information provided on this form may be shared for the purposes of administering the *Land Tax Deferment Act*, *Property Transfer Tax Act* and *Taxation (Rural Area) Act*.

### You must qualify for the Home Owner Grant

The Province of B.C sets out the qualifications for the home owner grant. To qualify for the home owner grant, you must:

- be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada
- live in BC, and
- occupy this residence as your principal residence

You may qualify as a homeowner who is:

- Regular home owner grant:
  - Under 65 years of age
- Additional home owner grant:
  - A senior (age 65 or older in the calendar year)
  - A War Veteran
  - A person with disabilities
  - A person living with a spouse or relative with disabilities
  - A spouse or relative of a deceased owner

### Claim your Home Owner Grant

Home Owner Grants are now claimed through the Province of BC by completing an online form at [gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant](http://gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant) or by calling 1-888-355-2700.

**Important:** To avoid penalties, owners are required to apply annually for the home owner grant prior to the property tax due date. The home owner grant is a form of payment and is subject to the property tax due date. Submit the grant even if you are not making a payment at that time, or your mortgage company pays your property taxes on your behalf.

### Special Points of Interest:

- Home Owner Grant
- Utility Bills
- Daylight Savings Time
- Easter Holidays
- Dog Tags
- Spring is Coming

### UTILITY BILLS

The Village utility bills will be sent out soon and are due May 31st.

Watch for yours in your mailbox.

### Daylight Savings Time

Begins on  
Sunday,  
March 14<sup>th</sup>.

Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead one hour

## HOME OWNER GRANT— GET READY TO APPLY

### EASTER HOLIDAY

The Village Office and Public Works will be closed on Friday April 2nd and Monday April 5th for the Easter Holiday



### DOG TAGS

The 2021 Village of Fraser Lake dog tags are now available. If you are a resident within the Municipality, please come into the office to pick up your free tag. The tag is a great identifier for your family pet and provides us with contact information should your dog be picked up by the dog catcher.

### Get ready to apply

The best time to apply is after you receive your property tax notice in the mail and before your property tax due date.

1. Wait to receive your property tax notice in the mail. This usually happens around May.
2. Keep your property tax notice on hand. It has important numbers you'll need to apply.
3. Once applications open, you can apply quickly and easily online.
4. If you're unable to apply online, call us at 1-888-355-2700 for assistance.

### Who can apply on behalf of a registered owner

Anyone with owner permission can apply on their behalf.

### Forgot to claim last year's grant?

The home owner grant may be available retroactively if you qualified last year and didn't apply.

You can apply for last year's home owner grant retroactively if you meet the following requirements:

- You qualified for the grant on December 31st of last year
- You're still the *registered owner* of the property
- **You** paid last year's property taxes; if last year's property taxes have been paid

Anyone with your permission can apply on your behalf.

### Apply for Your Retroactive Grant

Your application must be received by December 31st of the current year to claim last year's home owner grant. To apply, you need to complete the Retroactive Home Owner Grant. You may be required to submit additional documentation to establish your eligibility.

### For further information

Contact the Province of British Columbia, by visiting the BC Home Owner Grant Program website at [gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant](http://gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant).

## Spring Is Coming!

With spring just around the corner, there are many enthusiastic discussions about the warming temperatures and longer hours of daylight. It's an interesting time to listen to predictions about Spring coming early or late, quick or slow. The single point

everyone seems to agree on this year is the tremendous amount of snow sitting on the landscape. And when that snow melts, it will produce significant amounts of water. This is the time to prepare for that water. If you have a sump pump,

please take the time to make sure it's working. The warm winds of spring have been blowing. As much as I look forward to spring, I am confident in saying winter seldom departs without some challenges. Please take the time to be prepared