

What to Know This Quarter

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City Hall 460 Columbia Avenue, Castlegar, BC V1N 1G7

CASTLEGAR

Province of BC Making Changes to Home Owner Grant in 2027

Beginning with the 2027 tax year, the Province of BC will no longer provide the additional \$200 Northern and Rural Home Owner Benefit as part of the Home Owner Grant program.

The benefit was introduced to address concerns that the consumer carbon tax could disproportionately impact northern and rural communities. As the consumer carbon tax is no longer in place, the Province has ended the additional benefit. The Province advises that 92% of homeowners will remain eligible for the regular Home Owner Grant, with an additional grant remaining available for seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities.

Residents with questions about the Home Owner Grant, including eligibility and grant amounts, should contact the Province directly:

Home Owner Grant Administration

Toll-free: 1-888-355-2700

Utility Payment Methods

Pre-Authorized Debit:

The City will debit the full amount of your quarterly bill on the due date. Download and complete the agreement at castlegar.ca/utility.

Online Banking: Log in to online banking, add a payee, choose the City of Castlegar Utilities and enter your 13 digit utility number. Make an online bill payment.

Your Financial Institution:

Take your utility bill to the bank and pay through a teller.

City Hall: Take your bill to the front desk Monday – Friday, from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and pay by cash, cheque or debit.

Credit Card: castlegar.ca/pay-online Please note there is a user fee for transactions charged by OptionPay.

Mail Cheque to City Hall:

Please include the top portion of your utility bill.



Winter Ready

Our team manages over 90 km of road and 23 km of sidewalk. During snow events, crews focus on keeping the transportation network safe and accessible while responding to changing weather.



Please park vehicles off City streets whenever possible

Remove obstacles

- ❑ **Vehicles, boats, trailers, basketball nets**, etc. must be removed from streets.
 - ❑ **Keep fire hydrants and catch basins on your property clear** of snow, to make them accessible during emergencies.
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Remove waste bins/carts from street after collection

Know your responsibilities

- ❑ **Clear snow and ice from sidewalks** adjacent to your property within 24 hours.
- ❑ **DO NOT shovel, plow or blow snow onto City streets.** Violations are subject to bylaw enforcement.
- ❑ **Maintain access to your driveway.** The City will not clear private driveways.
- ❑ **Place snow on the right side of your driveway** (facing the street) to minimize snow being pushed back into the driveway

Help crews work safely

- ❑ **Slow down** and follow snow plow and removal equipment at a safe distance until there is a safe, legal opportunity to pass.
- ❑ **Stay back.** Equipment may slow down, turn and back up frequently.
- ❑ **Children should not play on snowbanks** and should always remain away from snow plowing and removal equipment.
- ❑ **Do not approach operators.** Contact Civic Works at 250-365-5979 with any concerns.

Contractors and Businesses

Snow storage

Commercial snow removal contractors must store snow on-site or transport it to approved locations. Snow deposited on City streets or other City property may be removed at the owner's expense.



Snow Dump permits

A Snow Dump Permit is required to dump snow at the City Complex Snow Dump Facility. A map of your designated snow dump area and gate code to the facility's padlock will be issued after a submitted application is approved and the \$750 fee is paid.

Questions?

Visit castlegar.ca/snow for the latest information on snow route information, winter maintenance updates, Snow Dump Permits, and answers to frequently asked questions.