



RCRS Secondary:	GOV-02	Effective Date:	2009-APR-06 COUNCIL
Policy Number:	COU-179	Amendment Date/s:	
Title:	Revenue Policy (Statement of Revenue Objectives and Policies)	Repeal Date:	
Department:	Finance	Approval Date:	2009-APR-06 COUNCIL

PURPOSE:

The *Community Charter* requires all municipalities to develop specific policies on sources of revenue.

DEFINITIONS:

N/A

SCOPE:

N/A

POLICY:

1. Proportion of revenue by source

Property taxes

- The City of Nanaimo will attempt to keep the proportional share of revenue from property taxes at a level similar to the average of comparable municipalities.
- Where new sources of revenue are made available to the City from senior governments, wherever possible these revenues will be used to reduce dependency on property taxation revenue.

Parcel taxes

- Parcel taxes will be used whenever Council determines that they are more appropriate than property taxes.

Fees & Charges

- Wherever possible, fees & charges will be used to assign costs to those who benefit from the service provided. The proportion of the costs recovered by fees and charges will vary with the nature of the service provided.

Proceeds from borrowing

- Borrowing will be considered when determining the funding sources of large capital projects that provide benefits to taxpayers over a long period of time (20 years or more).
- Council will consider a policy to identify an appropriate level of debt for the community.

Other sources of revenue

- The City will continue to seek other sources of revenue in order to reduce reliance on property taxes.
- The City will consider hydro electric power generation where practical and environmentally supportable.

2. Distribution of property taxes among the classes

- The City of Nanaimo will maintain the percentage of property taxes received from residential taxpayers at a level comparable to the average of similar municipalities.
- The City will attempt, over time, to reduce the commercial tax rate to the average of all BC municipalities.
- Between 2009 and 2012, the light and major industrial tax rates will be reduced to the same level as the commercial tax rate.

3. Permissive Tax Exemptions

- The City of Nanaimo believes that Permissive Tax Exemptions are an appropriate way to recognize the value of the services provided to the community by non-profit organizations.
- Permissive Tax Exemption requests will be reviewed by the Grants Advisory Committee based on policies and guidelines approved by Council. The Committee will make recommendations to Council.
- Permissive Tax Exemptions will be reviewed at least every three years to ensure that the organization and property still meets the criteria established by Council.

PROCESS:

Retained by Council.

RELATED DOCUMENTS:

Community Charter

REPEAL/AMENDS:

N/A