

# CITY HALL TIMES



**MAY, 2010**

City of Grand Forks  
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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Sprinkling Regulations Schedule
- Property Taxation and Assessments
- Citizens on Patrol
- Solar Days
- Yard & Garden Waste Collection Dates

The basic concept in taxation is: Assessment x Tax Rate = Property Taxes. A decrease in property assessments does not automatically relate to a

decrease in Property Taxes since your tax rate increased. Please note that the tax rate is applied per thousand dollars of

assessment. The following is an example of a Residential Property with a decreased property assessment:

### **Residential Property: Eligible for under 65 year's Provincial Home Owner Grant**

Average Assessment Level:SFD		\$ 204,820	\$ 202,044	
Tax Jurisdictions		2009	2010	Change
School		\$ 538.45	\$ 535.92	\$ (2.53)
Less: PHOG		\$ 538.45	\$ 535.92	\$ (2.53)
<b>Net School</b>		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
City: Municipal		\$ 558.79	\$ 589.14	\$ 30.35
City Flat		\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00	\$ -
<b>Total City</b>		\$ 618.79	\$ 649.14	\$ 30.35
Less: Residual PHOG		\$ 306.55	\$ 309.08	\$ 2.53
City Tax		\$ 312.24	\$ 340.06	\$ 27.82
<b>Other Local Taxation:</b>				
Regional District		\$ 363.78	\$ 379.32	\$ 15.54
Hospital District		\$ 40.66	\$ 39.30	\$ (1.36)
BC Assessment		\$ 13.13	\$ 13.42	\$ 0.29
Municipal Finance		\$ 0.04	\$ 0.04	\$ (0.00)
Local Policing		\$ 53.91	\$ 59.58	\$ 5.67
<b>Total Other Taxation</b>		\$ 471.52	\$ 491.65	\$ 20.14
Net Payable		\$ 783.76	\$ 831.72	\$ 47.96
Monthly Payable		\$ 65.31	\$ 69.31	\$ 4.00
Total Tax assessed		\$ 1,628.76	\$ 1,676.72	\$ 47.96
Monthly		\$ 135.73	\$ 139.73	\$ 4.00

Property assessment is done by BC Assessment Authority based on the market value of all real properties in BC. Correct classification is determined for every property. Legislation is reviewed to determine if the property is fully or partially exempt from taxation. Once the

assessment is complete, a Revised Assessment Roll is provided to the City. Based on the information provided on the Assessment Roll and the revenue required to be raised from property taxation for services, a tax rate is determined for each class of property.

The taxing authority in Grand Forks is the City of Grand Forks. The City also collects taxes on behalf of the School District, Hospital Districts, Regional district, Municipal Finance Authority, BC Assessment Authority.

Property Taxation and Assessments  
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## CITIZEN'S ON PATROL

Grand Forks Citizens on Patrol is a Volunteer group of area residents who care about their town and want to make Grand Forks a better place for families and visitors. The main focus of the Program is being the extra eyes and ears for the RCMP. This involves two person patrols maintaining contact with their own dispatcher and/or the RCMP dispatch as needed.



Citizens on Patrol, which has proven successful in hundreds of Canadian communities, involves community volunteers doing patrols through various parts of the community looking for potential criminal activity. Not limited to just patrols, Grand Forks Citizens on Patrol may assist with missing person searches and other activities which will assist the RCMP. Citizens on Patrol is an excellent way to have fun and to make a difference in fighting and preventing crime in your community!

### HOW TO JOIN

To become a Grand Forks Citizens on Patrol Volunteer you must:

1. Be 19 years or older
2. Complete a Criminal Record check with the local RCMP detachment

3. Successfully complete the Citizens on Patrol Training Program

### What is "Citizens on Patrol"?

It is community members organizing patrols to provide additional eyes and ears for the RCMP. Members of the community apply through the Grand Forks RCMP to become a citizen on patrol. As a citizen on patrol you would be required to volunteer your time, patrolling specific areas of the

city of Grand Forks using a City vehicle and the help of another volunteer. Being in a vehicle enables you to patrol the area and keep your eyes open for anything suspicious. If you do see something you are provided with a VHF two-way radio while on patrol and you would make contact with a base station. The base station will then record your observation and contact the appropriate emergency services to advise them of what you have seen.

### What type of training do I require?

As a citizens on patrol member, you are required to take training with the RCMP in order to learn what type of activities are considered suspicious and need to be reported. Citizens on patrol members are trained to make observations, record the information and the proper procedures when contacting the RCMP.

### What type of duties would I be performing?

You may be required to conduct searches for stolen vehicles or vehicles involved in a crime, suspected impaired drivers, suspicious persons, suspects involved in a crime or suspects of probation violations and runaways. You would also be required to do observations in areas that are known to have been targeted for vandalism and break and enter. Observations can also be conducted on known or suspected party locations. You may also be called upon to assist in missing persons searches.

### For More Information...

To learn more about the Citizens on Patrol Program, please contact the Grand Forks RCMP

Detachment at:  
250 442-8288

**Join Us!!! We're looking for Volunteers!!!!**



**Proudly Sponsored by the  
Grand Forks RCMP  
Detachment and the City of  
Grand Forks**

## UTILITY METER READINGS AND HST IMPACT

In order to ensure that users are not charged HST before July 1, 2010, the City will be deferring the water and electrical meter readings until July 1, 2010. Since meters are usually read mid-month, users will experience a

longer billing cycle for May and June 2010. The next billing cycle will be shorter as we return to the regular reading dates.



## **SPRINKLING REGULATIONS**

(Please note that these regulations are applicable year round)

**Sprinkling shall be restricted to the following days and times:**

**“EVEN” numbered civic addresses may sprinkle on “even” numbered days (02,04,06,etc)**

**“ODD” numbered civic addresses may sprinkle on “odd” numbered days (01,03,05,etc)**

### **MANUAL SPRINKLERS**

**From 7:00 am until 9:00 am And**

**From 7:00 pm until 9:00 pm**

**On the 31st day of any month:**

### **MANUAL SPRINKLERS:**

**“EVEN” numbered civic addresses may sprinkle in the mornings from:**

**From 7:00 am until 9:00 am**

**And “ODD” numbered civic addresses may sprinkle in the evening from:**

**From 7:00 pm until 9:00 pm**

**City Parks & Cemetery will adhere to the same numbers of hours as residential sprinkling.**

**Flower, vegetable gardens and newly planted lawns & landscapes may be hand watered at any time using a hand held nozzle.**

**I.e.. No manual sprinklers.**

**The City has authority to shut water off at the property line to those residents refusing to comply with sprinkling regulations.**

**The first offense will result in a warning letter.**

**The second offense will result in your water being shut off.**

**A reconnection fee of \$50.00 will be required before your water is reconnected.**

### **AUTOMATIC TIMED UNDERGROUND SPRINKLERS**

**EITHER From Midnight until 4:00 am**

**OR From 7:00 am until 9:00 am**

**AND From 7:00 pm until 9:00 pm**

**BUT NOT BOTH**

**On the 31st day of any month:**

### **AUTOMATIC TIMED UNDERGROUND SPRINKLERS:**

**EITHER From Midnight until 4:00 AM OR**

**“EVEN” numbered civic addresses may sprinkle in the mornings from: 7:00AM to 9:00AM**

**“ODD” numbered civic addresses may sprinkle in the evening from: 7:00PM to 9:00 PM**

**BUT NOT BOTH**

### **FOR NEW PLANTED LAWNS AND LANDSCAPES** **FIRST MONTH ONLY**

**Newly planted lawns & landscapes may be sprinkled twice a day everyday from 7:00 AM - 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM-9:00 PM for the FIRST MONTH using either manual sprinklers or automatic timed underground sprinklers.**

**Automatic timed systems can be used to water up to 5 minutes per zone at a time, with total watering time NOT to exceed 4 hours. Newly planted lawns and landscapes may be hand watered using a hand held nozzle at any time i.e. No manual sprinklers**

Continued from page 1

Property Taxation &amp; Assessments

**Schedule A of Assessment by Class of Properties**

Assessment Class	Folios	2009 \$	Folios	2010 \$	Change \$	% Change	% of Assmnt
Residential vacant	649	13,965,820	616	14,410,930	445,110	3.2%	3.2%
Residential Single Family	1,570	321,568,800	1,571	317,411,500	(4,157,300)	-1.3%	70.0%
Residential ALR	41	4,308,700	43	5,170,100	861,400	20.0%	1.1%
Residential Farm	2	0	2	0	0	0.0%	0.0%
Residential Strata	178	25,735,000	178	27,402,700	1,667,700	6.5%	6.0%
Residential Other	67	15,873,601	70	16,873,100	999,499	6.3%	3.7%
<b>Total Residential</b>	<b>2,507</b>	<b>381,451,921</b>	<b>2,480</b>	<b>381,268,330</b>	<b>(183,591)</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>84.1%</b>
Utilities	31	1,097,785	31	1,064,890	(32,895)	-3.0%	0.2%
Major Industry	10	12,313,801	10	11,961,700	(352,101)	-2.9%	2.6%
Light Industry	11	2,200,700	11	2,115,300	(85,400)	-3.9%	0.5%
Business & Other	420	59,979,370	420	56,653,751	(3,325,619)	-5.5%	12.5%
Rec/Non-Profit	45	45,500	45	57,100	11,600	25.5%	0.0%
Farm	9	176,587	9	154,301	(22,286)	-12.6%	0.0%
	<b>3,033</b>	<b>457,265,664</b>	<b>3,006</b>	<b>453,275,372</b>	<b>(3,990,292)</b>	<b>-0.9%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Assessment by Class of Properties**

provides the comparative assessment for taxation in 2010. Overall the assessments have decreased from the prior year.

## COMPOSTABLE YARD & GARDEN WASTE COLLECTION DATES

North Side of Hwy 3 between  
Riverside Drive and North Fork  
Road (Current Wednesday  
Garbage Pick-up)

Yard & Garden Pick up will be  
Mondays

**MAY 24, JUNE 21, JULY 19, AUG  
16, SEPT 27, OCT 25, NOV 22**

Ruckle Addition and Valley  
Heights (Current Tuesday  
Garbage Pick-up)

Yard & Garden Pick up will be  
Tuesdays

**MAY 25, JUNE 22, JULY 20,  
AUG 17, SEPT 28, OCT 26, NOV  
23**

South Side of Highway 3 between  
Riverside Drive and Spraggett  
Road (Current Thursday Garbage  
Pick-up)

Yard & Garden Pick up will be  
Fridays

**MAY 28, JUNE 25, JULY 23, AUG  
20, OCT 1, OCT 29, NOV 26**



**GRAND FORKS  
SOLAR DAYS FESTIVAL  
FRIDAY, MAY 28TH, 2010**

**SENIOR'S CENTRE IN THE PARK**

**11:00 AM—6:00 PM**

Opening Ceremonies—11:00 AM

Solar Equipment Trade Show & BBQ —11:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Miniature Solar Car Races & Displays by Elementary School  
Students—1:30 to 2:30 PM at the Selkirk Parking Lot

Judging for: \*Fastest Car \* Best Decorated Car  
and \* Most Original Car

"Open Houses" are scheduled for Saturday, May 29th.  
(Please see newspaper ad for addresses)

Hosted by the Grand Forks Economic Development Task  
Forces' Solar Team. For More Details, Contact: Paul Pinard at  
(250) 442-2575

### UPCOMING 2010 COUNCIL MEETING DATES

All Regular Meetings of Council are held in Council Chambers at City Hall beginning at 7:00PM unless otherwise advertised. The following is a list of Primary Committee Meetings of council which are scheduled to follow the Regular Meeting of Council.

Monday, May 31st  
Monday June 14th  
Monday, June 28th  
Monday, July 19th  
Monday, August 16th  
Tuesday, Sept 7th  
Monday, Sept 20th  
Monday, October 4th  
Monday, October 18th

Monday, May 31st  
Monday, June 28th  
Monday, July 19th  
Monday, August 16th  
Monday, Sept 20th  
Monday, October 18th

Please note that there is only one Regular & Primary Meeting in the months of July and August.