

## City Provides Residents with Online Home Owner Grant Application

Parksville, BC - The City of Parksville is pleased to offer home owners the opportunity to claim the Home Owner Grant online. From now until the end of the year, Parksville residents can apply for their Home Owner Grant online through the City's website at [www.parksville.ca](http://www.parksville.ca). Tax notices were mailed to residents on May 28 and this new service is proving to be very popular. To date, about 165 residents have claimed their Home Owner Grant online.

If residents pay property taxes by internet, telephone banking, or if their mortgage company pays the property taxes on their behalf, it is no longer necessary to manually complete the application form and mail or drop off at City Hall. By applying online for the Home Owner Grant, residents will not need to make a trip to the mail box or City Hall.

To avoid a penalty, the Home owner Grant must be claimed by the tax due date of July 2, 2009. To claim the online Home Owner Grant, a WebID and password assigned by the City of Parksville to each property has been printed on the front page of the property tax notice and instructions for claiming online are included with the property tax notice.

The Home Owner Grant is a provincially sponsored program designed to help homeowners with their property taxes. There are two categories of grants which may reduce property taxes payable. Depending on the home's assessed value and the age of the home owner, they may qualify for a basic grant of up to \$570, or an additional grant for those 65 and older of up to \$845. Homeowners eligible for the basic grant must still pay a minimum property tax of \$350. Homeowners eligible for the additional grant must still pay a minimum property tax of \$100.

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### For more information:

Lucky Butterworth, Director of Finance

Phone 250 954-3063

[lbutterworth@parksville.ca](mailto:lbutterworth@parksville.ca)