

# BC Municipal Spending Watch 2013

## 6th Edition: Trends in Operating Spending, 2000–2011

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A BC family of four could have saved on average \$5,302 in municipal taxes over the last 11 years if city councils kept their operating spending to the rate of inflation and population growth. While operating spending grew at a slower pace than previous years, total real municipal operating spending has increased by 52 per cent from 2000 to 2011, representing \$5.4 billion in excess spending - far beyond what should be considered as sustainable and fiscally responsible.

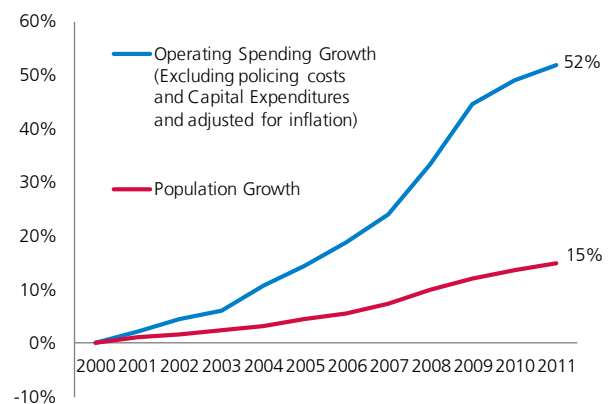
### Introduction

The BC Municipal Spending Watch analyzes the sustainability of municipal finances by ranking municipalities based on their operating costs, and their rate of operating spending growth over the past decade.

Between 2000 and 2011 (the latest data available), BC's population grew by 15 per cent while total municipal operating spending adjusted for inflation increased by 52 per cent - about three-and-a-half times population growth over the same period (see Figure 1).

Figure 1

### BC Municipal Operating Spending Growth Adjusted for inflation and Population Growth, 2000 – 2011



Source: Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development; BC Stats, Population Estimates; BC Stats, CPI.

Since municipalities cannot run deficits, any increases in operating spending means that locals governments must raise taxes and fees on businesses and residents to compensate for the shortfall, which from past research that CFIB has done, usually gets transferred disproportionately to small businesses<sup>1</sup>. This has negative consequences to the entire province.

Small business has a big impact on BC. According to government statistics, small businesses in BC accounts for 98 per cent of all businesses in the province, and more than half of private sector employment<sup>2</sup>. An increase in tax burden on small businesses would negatively impact BC's economy, slowing down the already fragile recovery that our economy has made since the global economic downturn. Thus an increase in municipal spending is not just unfavourable to small business owners in BC, but also to BC residents.

This is why CFIB is advocating for responsible spending from municipal governments. Our survey results show that small business owners have expressed that the appropriate annual increase in local municipal spending should be at the rate of inflation and population growth<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Kastelen, Kimball. 2013. The BC Municipal Property Tax Gap Report.

<sup>2</sup> Government of BC, *Small Business Profile 2012*.

<sup>3</sup> Armstrong, Matthew and Jones, Laura. 2006. *British Columbia Municipal Spending Watch*.

## Key Findings

- ▶ In all, there were just 10 out of 153 municipalities in BC that kept operating spending in line with inflation and population growth the last decade. No large municipalities (population of 25,000 and over) made the list.
- ▶ 72 out of the 153 municipalities did not increase their operating spending above inflation and population growth from 2010 to 2011, which means that the majority of BC municipalities (81) increased their operating spending above inflation and population growth the past year.
- ▶ In 2000, BC residents spent on average \$717 dollars for the operations of their local government (total municipal operating spending divided by total BC population). In 2011, that dollar amount increased to \$945 per person when adjusted to inflation, representing a 32 per cent increase in operating spending per capita in BC from 2000.
- ▶ On average, the region where residents pay the most for the operations of their local government is Northern BC at \$2,190; in comparison, residents living in Thompson Okanagan paid the least at \$1,238.
- ▶ Vancouver Island had the highest operating spending growth the past decade in all the regions examined at 46 per cent adjusted for inflation and population growth.
- ▶ Lytton is the worst overall performer in BC (Table 2), and Langford is the worst performer among the large municipalities (Table 1). Kaslo is the best overall performer in BC (Appendix 1), and Burnaby and Nanaimo are the best performing large municipalities in the report (Table 2).
- ▶ BC's major centres, Vancouver and Victoria, increased their operating spending by 31 and 26 per cent after adjusting for inflation and population growth respectively from 2000 - 2011 (table 1). Together, it represents about 1.1 billion in excess spending the past decade.
- ▶ Amongst the largest municipalities, Surrey had a 13 per cent increase in real operating spending per capita from 2010 to 2011 (Appendix 2). A sizable portion of the operating spending increase came from an increase in salaries and benefits for municipal employees<sup>4</sup>.
- ▶ Another large municipality Abbotsford, was able to decrease its operating spending per capita by 13 per cent from 2010 - 2011 (Appendix 2), though its real operating spending per capita has grown by 59 per cent the past decade.
- ▶ Penticton, once a poor performer, continued its good progress by decreasing its operating spending per capita for the second straight year.
- ▶ Trends from 2010 to 2011 demonstrate a slowdown in operating spending increases compared to previous years, though short and long term operating spending is still above inflation and population growth.

The rankings are based on a 50/50 weighting of two key measures: the municipalities' **(1) 2000 - 2011 real operating spending per capita growth**, or % growth in operating spending the past decade adjusted for inflation and population growth; and **(2) 2011 operating spending per capita**, or in other words, how much a resident pays for the operations of their local government in 2011.

Note that rank 1 = worst and that *capital expenditures are excluded from our calculations*. For more on the methodology of the ranking please refer to page 7 of the report.

In an assessment of the big cities in BC (Table 1), Langford ranked the worst among the largest BC municipalities, and ranked 18<sup>th</sup> worst in all of BC. While it has a relatively

<sup>4</sup> City of Surrey, *Statement of Financial Information 2010, 2011*

low operating spending per capita, it also has the highest real operating spending per capita growth among municipalities with a comparable population over the past decade at 132 per cent. It did however, improve its rankings by two spots from last year.

The City of Langley improved its rank by 34 spots by cutting its real operating spending per capita by 10 per cent from last year's report. On the reverse, Mission worsened its rank by 21 spots in this year's report after increasing its real operating spending per capita by 13 per cent from 2010 - 2011. The Township of Langley improved its rank over the past year after cutting its real operating spending per capita by 7 per cent, however, its spending growth over the past decade remains high at 80 per cent when adjusted for inflation and population.

Penticton, historically a poor performer, improved its rank by 12 spots from last year's report, though there is still much work to be done as it has one of the highest local government operating cost its region. West Vancouver, Kelowna, and New Westminister, similar to Penticton, also have high operating spending per capita compared to their regional counterparts.

Moving on to an assessment of the 'Least Sustainable Cities in BC' (Table 2), Lytton is once again BC's worst overall spender in 2011. While it has made strides to improve its fiscal situation by decreasing its real operating spending per capita by 13 per cent from 2010 and 2011, its past legacy of overspending has left it in a rut as Lytton's per capita real operating spending since 2000 has grown by over 192 per cent, even as population has shrunk by 30 per cent over the same period (See appendix 1). Stewart also stands out in the 'least sustainable municipality' category. Not only does it have the second worst overall ranking in this report, it also has incurred the greatest real operating spending per capita increase over the past year at 58 per cent.

An interesting case is Sooke. While having one of the lowest operating spending per capita in all of BC, it also has the highest

spending growth in BC the past decade, at 214 per cent adjusted for inflation and population growth. The municipality continues to do poorly as it increased its real operating spending per capita between 2010 and 2011 by another 15 per cent.

Chetwynd entered the top 10 most unsustainable list in this year's report after posting a 20 per cent increase in real operating spending per capita from 2010 to 2011. Other municipalities that have catapulted in the 'most unsustainable' list include Granisle and Revelstoke.

### Case Study: City of Penticton

From 2000 onward, the City of Penticton was among the worst performing BC municipal jurisdictions. After a core service review in 2009, significant changes were implemented which resulted in union positions being eliminated, salaries reduced, and management wages frozen. The city also adopted 'zero-based' budgeting, and for three years straight the city has posted a 0 per cent tax increase.

Table 1

## How BC's Largest Municipalities Spend (population 25,000 and above) Listed from Worst to Best (by overall Provincial Rank)

Municipality	2000-2011 Real Operating Spending per Capita Growth (%)	2011 Operating Spending per Capita (\$)	Overall Provincial Rank (1=Worst, 153=Best)	Last Yr. Rank
Langford	132	703	18	16
Penticton	42	1,922	41	33
Township of Langley.	80	1,011	44	32
West Vancouver	46	1,608	48	50
Kelowna	52	1,461	51	57
North Vancouver District	54	1,253	58	63
North Vancouver City	45	1,229	72	58
Abbotsford	59	929	73	37
Vancouver	31	1,373	78	90
Vernon	52	935	82	77
Victoria	26	1,398	85	88
Chilliwack	55	723	96	97
New Westminster	15	1,489	97	110
Maple Ridge	47	856	98	94
Kamloops	28	1,208	101	99
Delta	25	1,233	104	101
Coquitlam	35	1,023	105	106
Richmond	29	1,135	107	102
Surrey	49	746	108	131
Prince George	23	1,229	110	105
Port Coquitlam	34	962	114	118
Port Moody	27	1,096	115	121
North Cowichan	34	857	122	116
Mission	26	985	125	146
Campbell River	21	1,013	130	120
Saanich	27	864	131	129
Langley City	27	858	132	98
Burnaby	17	984	137	134
Nanaimo	12	987	143	137
<b>Average:</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>912</b>		

The "overall rank" assigned to each municipality is an equally-weighted combination of two indicators: (1) 2000 - 2011 real operating spending per capita, or % growth in operating spending the past decade adjusted for inflation and population growth; and (2) 2011 operating spending per capita, or in other words, how much a resident pays for the operations of their local government in 2011.

Table 2

**BC's Freest Spending Municipalities – The 20 Least Sustainable**

Municipality	2000-2011 Real Operating Spending per Capita Growth (%)	2011 Operating Spending per Capita (\$)	2010-2011 Change in Real Municipal Operating Spending per Capita (%)	Overall Provincial Rank (1=Worst, 153=Best)	Last Yr. Rank
Lytton	192	5,599	-13	1	1
Stewart	126	5,347	58	2	11
Whistler	48	5,420	-22	3	2
Fort Nelson (Northern Rockies)	134	3,415	-6	4	3
Lions Bay	198	1,679	11	5	6
Sooke	214	659	15	6	9
Tahsis	30	4,029	5	7	12
Masset	50	3,578	9	8	14
Port Edward	56	3,053	-6	9	7
Chetwynd	78	2,453	20	10	34
Granisle	45	2,977	10	11	25
Revelstoke	89	2,088	13	12	26
Golden	107	1,708	8	13	19
Sayward	51	2,777	-32	14	4
Fort St. James	73	2,261	-28	15	5
Ucluelet	59	2,444	3	16	20
Zeballos	25	2,950	-9	17	15
Langford	132	703	-5	18	16
Tofino	60	2,102	-13	19	10
Summerland	72	1,855	3	20	28

The "overall rank" assigned to each municipality is an equally-weighted combination of two indicators: (1) 2000 - 2011 real operating spending per capita, or % growth in operating spending the past decade adjusted for inflation and population growth; and (2) 2011 operating spending per capita, or in other words, how much a resident pays for the operations of their local government in 2011.

While the overall provincial rank is the most appropriate measurement to evaluate spending behaviour, it is also valuable to examine recent changes in either direction (i.e. change in municipal operating spending growth per capita from 2010 to 2011). The ten most improved municipalities are listed in Table 3 while the ten worst performing municipalities are listed in Table 4.

Some bright spots in this report include Sayward, which takes home the title of 'Most Improved Municipality in 2011', having reduced its real operating spending per capita by 32 per cent over the past year, the highest among BC municipalities. Another two municipalities, Fort St. James and Valemount, while having a high operating cost of local government per resident, has also greatly reduced its spending over the past year.

Whistler, which has the second highest operating spending per capita in BC, cut its real operating spending per capita from the previous year by 22 per cent, a good improvement.

Port Clements and Cumberland's real operating spending per capita reduced by 16 per cent over the previous year which resulted in the greatest improvement in overall rank in this year's report, where both municipalities improved its overall rank by 48 spots.

The worst performer over the previous year is Stewart, where its real operating spending per capita increased by 58 per cent, nearly triple that of the next worst performer, Dawson Creek at 21 per cent.

Telkwa increased its real operating spending per capita by 20 per cent over the previous year, resulting in the biggest drop in overall ranking in this report, slipping 51 spots (see Appendix 1).

Table 3

### BC's 10 Most Improved Municipalities in 2011

Listed from Largest to Smallest 2010 - 2011 Spending Reductions

Municipality	2010-2011 Change in Real Municipal Operating Spending per Capita (%)
Sayward	-32
Fort St. James	-28
Valemount	-28
Whistler	-22
Mackenzie	-19
Pouce Coupe	-18
Houston	-16
Cumberland	-16
Port Clements	-16
100 Mile House	-13

Table 4

### BC's 10 Worst Performing Municipalities in 2011

Listed from Largest to Smallest 2010 - 2011 Spending Increases

Municipality	2010-2011 Change in Real Municipal Operating Spending per Capita (%)
Stewart	58
Dawson Creek	21
Telkwa	20
Chetwynd	20
Hope	17
Silverton	16
Sooke	15
Comox	14
Mission	13
Surrey	13



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## Methodology

### How is Spending Measured?

The Municipal Spending Watch rankings are based on an equal weighting of growth in inflation-adjusted operating spending per capita (2000-2011) and the 2011 operating spending per capita<sup>5</sup>.

Policing costs, while technically a component of municipal operating spending, are largely beyond the political control of municipal governments and is instead determined by negotiations at the provincial level. For this reason, policing costs from overall operating spending have been excluded<sup>6</sup>. However, it should be noted that municipal governments nonetheless play an important part in helping restrain these costs in concert with the provincial government.

Capital expenditures such as infrastructure building were excluded in calculation as well. This report only looks at local government *operating* spending.

As with past years, the higher the rank, the worse off a municipality is in achieving sustainable operating spending (Rank of 1=worst).

Note that Barriere, Canal Flats, Clearwater, Lantzville, Sun Peaks, West Kelowna, and Queen Charlotte were not included in this report, as many of these municipalities are newly incorporated and do not have data stretching back to 2000.

Municipalities are divided into the following geographic regions:

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- Vancouver, Coast & Mountains
- Vancouver Island
- Thompson-Okanagan
- Kootenay-Rockies & Cariboo-Chilcotin Coast
- Northern British Columbia

This report analyzes BC municipal spending statistics from 2000 to 2011, the most recent year available. Unless otherwise stated, data on municipal revenues and expenditures was obtained from the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development. Figures and tables on municipal spending represent CFIB calculations based on this data.

Similar to past reports, the year 2000 is used as the base year for comparing operating spending, which includes spending patterns during economic upturns and downturns over the past decade. Operating municipal spending is calculated using total municipal expenditures excluding capital spending and policing costs<sup>7</sup>.

Municipal population growth rates and provincial inflation are calculated based on BC Stats data from 2000 to 2011. To evaluate the degree of sustainable spending growth, CFIB considers population growth and inflation to be a reasonable benchmark for optimal spending increases based on past survey responses from small business owners in BC.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>5</sup>A standardized index is created for each indicator (between 1 and 100). A municipality with the highest real operating spending per capita growth is given a score of 1 while the municipality with the lowest 2010 – 2011 real operating spending per capita growth is given a score of 100. All other municipalities are given a proportionate score within that range. The same exercise is applied to the indicator for the 2011 operating spending per capita.

<sup>6</sup> Lam, Janice. 2011. *BC Policing Costs*.

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<sup>7</sup>In the case of West Vancouver, transportation and transit expenses have also been excluded from operating spending due to special circumstances in these expenses after 2000. This is addressed in the previous editions of this report.

Due to changes in accounting practices, starting from 2008, amortization is excluded from total expenses.

<sup>8</sup>The BC savings for a family of 4 (\$5,302) was calculated based on BC total operating spending in 2000 and inflation/population growth rates up to 2011. The BC population figure was based on the year 2011.



## Municipal Revenue Trends, 2000 – 2011

Municipal revenue in BC totalled \$7.9 billion in 2011<sup>9</sup>. According to BC Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, most of the revenue (39%) came from taxation (figure 2), such as through property taxes, and 27 per cent was from the sale of services such as getting a business licence.

The rest came from government transfers (7%), which refers to the monetary transfer of funds from higher levels of government to lower levels of government; developer contributions (6%), which are costs a developer needs to pay to connect a new community to municipal infrastructure, investment income (2%), and other (1%).

The category to note is 'Own Purpose Taxation' (Figure 2). Being the main tool for municipalities to generate revenue, small business owners are particularly affected by taxes on business property because they are taxed at a much higher rate than residents, despite not consuming municipal services at the same rate<sup>10</sup>. In 2011, BC businesses on average paid 2.70 times more on property tax than on a residential property of equal value<sup>11</sup>. As raising residential property taxes prove to be highly unpopular among voters, raising property taxes on businesses remains an easy alternative without creating much public backlash.

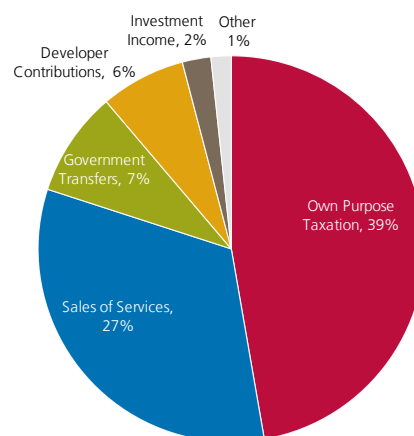
In figure 3, of interest is the 175 per cent increase in real municipal revenues from government transfers the past decade. While local governments argue that the large increases in municipal spending are due to 'government downloading', or the transfer of responsibility from provincial governments to municipal governments, we can see from the charts that municipalities are hardly left

alone to administer the programs. Quite the contrary, municipalities have been given much support from higher levels of government to administer the programs they have passed down.

Another source of municipal revenue that has more than doubled over the decade is sales of services - everything from parking fees to business licences. This is another easy way for local governments to raise revenues without causing too much criticism, but the effects of raised fees hurts small businesses tremendously.

Figure 2

### Sources of Municipal Revenue, 2011



Source: Ministry of Community, Sport, & Cultural Development. 2011. Local Gov't Stats. Revenue. Sch401\_2011; BC Stats, CPI.

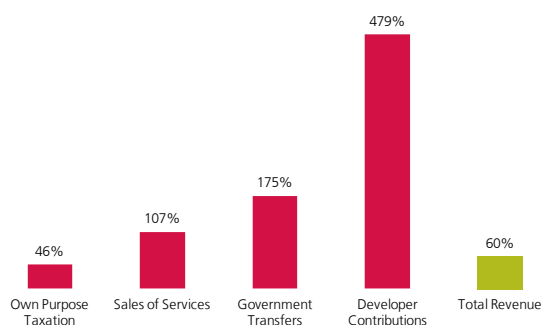
<sup>9</sup> Ministry of Community, Sport, & Cultural

Development. 2011. Local Government Statistics

<sup>10</sup>Kastelen, Kimball. *The BC Municipal Property Tax Gap*

<sup>11</sup>Ibid.

Figure 3  
**Growth of Revenue Sources,  
inflation adjusted, 2000 – 2011**



Source: Ministry of Community, Sport, & Cultural Development. 2011. *Local Gov't Stats. Revenue. Sch401\_2000 -2011; BC Stats, CPI.*

## Municipal Spending Trends, 2000 – 2011

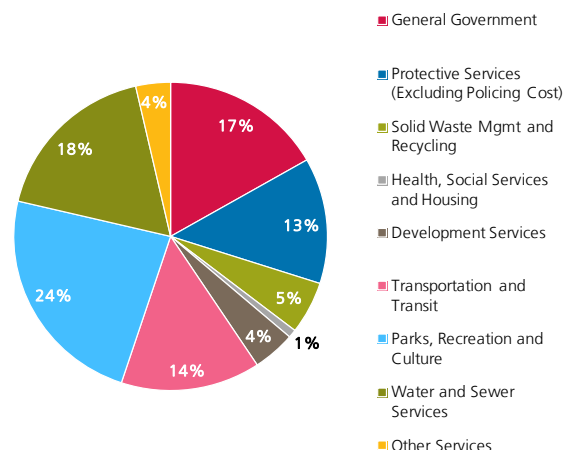
Aggregate municipal operating spending in BC totaled 4.6 billion in 2011. According to data, 30 per cent of operating spending in BC municipalities was spent on general government and protective services (excluding policing cost).

Unfortunately, unlike provinces such as Alberta where the provincial government collects, aggregates, and publishes data on municipal salaries and benefits, as well as the number of employees a municipality has, the BC government does not require such information. This makes it more challenging to have a further breakdown in expenses to figure out where exactly is the money going to.

In a past study done by CFIB, it was found that there is a very large disparity between public sector and private sector salaries, wages and benefits. CFIB's Wage Watch Report found that in BC, there was an average wage premium of 11.8 per cent for public sector workers, which balloons to 35.1

per cent when including public sector benefits<sup>12</sup>.

Figure 4  
**Allocation of Municipal Spending,  
2011**



Source: Ministry of Community, Sport, & Cultural Development. 2011. *Local Gov't Stats, Expenditure. Sch402\_2011.*

In Figure 4, the column to note is 'other services'. This is defined by the province as 'operating costs that may include cemeteries, airports, wharves & docks, and other utilities (e.g. telephone, gas and electricity)<sup>13</sup>, the definition remains relatively ambiguous. This category has increased by 130 per cent over the past decade even after adjusting for inflation (see Figure 5).

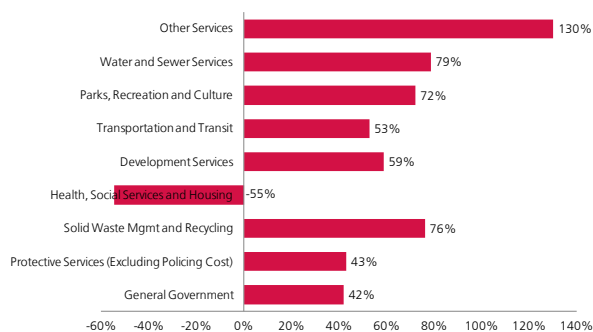
Most expenditures, with the exception of social services, have grossly outgrown population and inflation growth the past decade.

<sup>12</sup> Mallett, Ted. Wong, Queenie. *Canadian Federation of Independent Business. 2008. Wage Watch: A Comparison of Public-sector and Private-sector Wages*

<sup>13</sup> *Provincial Guidance. Community, Sport and Cultural Development.*

Figure 5

### Growth of Spending, by expenditure category, adjusted to inflation, 2000 – 2011



Source: Ministry of Community, Sport, & Cultural Development. 2000-2011. Local Gov't Stats, Expenditure. Sch402\_2000-2011; BC Stats, CPI.

## Municipal Spending Trends by Region

### 2000-2011 Municipal Operating Spending Statistics

This section examines British Columbia's municipal spending trends by the following geographic regions:

- ▶ Vancouver, Coast & Mountains
- ▶ Vancouver Island
- ▶ Thompson Okanagan
- ▶ Kootenay Rockies & Cariboo Chilcotin Coast
- ▶ Northern British Columbia

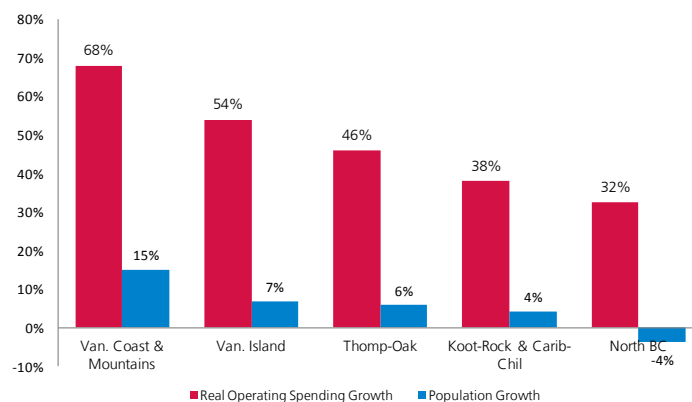
These regions are the same defined geographic areas used by the Government of British Columbia. For balance, "Kootenay Rockies" and "Cariboo Chilcotin Coast" have been combined in this analysis.

Figure 6 below compares regional real operating spending growth to that of population growth within the last decade. As seen, even when operating spending is adjusted to inflation, operating spending still greatly outpaces population growth. Note with the case of Northern BC, despite having a population decrease in the region, real

operating spending ramped up by 32 per cent from 2000 – 2011.

Figure 6

### BC Regional Real Operating Spending Growth and Population Growth, 2000 – 2011



Source: Ministry of Community, Sport, & Cultural Development. 2000-2011. Local Gov't Stats, Expenditure. Sch402\_2000-2011; BC Stats, Population Estimates 2000-2011; BC Stats, CPI.

## Vancouver, Coast & Mountains

Lytton and Whistler are the worst performers in the region (see Table 5). There has been some improvement however, with the two curbing its real operating spending per capita by 13 and 22 per cent respectively from the previous report. The third worst municipality in the region Lions Bay, had the biggest increase in real operating spending per capita growth in the region from 2000 - 2011 at a stunning 198 per cent. Spending went up again in 2010 - 2011, showing no signs that the trend is slowing down.

The Township of Langley and Pitt Meadows' real operating spending growth per capita increased by 80 per cent since 2000, a worrying sign of out of control spending.

BC's largest municipality, Vancouver increased its per capita real operating spending by 2 per cent between 2010 and 2011. Since 2000, Vancouver's population has increased by 15 per cent (refer to appendices), while real operating spending per capita has increased by 31 per cent. Vancouver's overall rank worsened 12 spots from last year's report. Powell River was the only municipality in the region that was able to keep operating spending to inflation and population levels during the past decade.

Table 5

**Municipalities by Overall Provincial Rank, Vancouver, Coast & Mountains**

Municipality	2000-2011 Real Operating Spending per Capita Growth (%)	2011 Operating Spending per Capita (\$)	Change in Municipal Spending per Capita from 2010-2011 (%)	Overall Provincial Rank (1=Worst, 153=Best)	Last Yr. Rank
Lytton	192	5,599	-13	1	1
Whistler	48	5,420	-22	3	2
Lions Bay	198	1,679	11	5	6
Harrison Hot Springs	44	1,740	8	43	64
Township of Langley	80	1,011	-7	44	32
Pitt Meadows	80	959	0 <sup>14</sup>	47	43
West Vancouver	46	1,608	0	48	50
North Vancouver District	54	1,253	2	58	63
Pemberton	32	1,546	-3	66	61
Kent	51	1,142	1	68	73
North Vancouver City	45	1,229	-4	72	58
Abbotsford	59	929	-13	73	37
Vancouver	31	1,373	2	78	90
Hope	46	1,048	17	83	124
Squamish	38	1,185	-6	84	68
White Rock	41	1,094	5	86	103
Chilliwack	55	723	2	96	97
New Westminster	15	1,489	3	97	110
Maple Ridge	47	856	0	98	94
Anmore	45	874	5	99	107
Bowen Island	24	1,293	-7	100	75
Delta	25	1,233	-1	104	101
Coquitlam	35	1,023	2	105	106
Sechelt	41	900	-2	106	95
Richmond	29	1,135	-1	107	102
Surrey	49	746	13	108	131
Port Coquitlam	34	962	4	114	118
Port Moody	27	1,096	5	115	121
Gibsons	14	1,244	5	123	132
Mission	26	985	13	125	146
Langley City	27	858	-10	132	98
Burnaby	17	984	1	137	134
Powell River	-16	1,489	-3	146	140
<b>Regional Average:</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>1,415</b>	<b>0</b>		

<sup>14</sup>Figures shown as '0' could be due to rounding down

## Vancouver Island

While residents of Sooke pay a relatively low cost for the operations of their local government, its real operating spending per capita growth has skyrocketed by 214 per cent, the worst in the region and in BC (see Table 6). The second worst ranked municipality in the region Tahsis, residents pay on average \$4,029 for the operations of their local government.

The provincial capital, Victoria, kept its spending steady by not increasing its per capita real operating spending from 2010 to 2011. Overall, Victoria ranked 85<sup>th</sup> in this year's report, its real municipal operating spending per capita since 2000 has increased by 26 per cent.

There are four good performers in the region that have kept spending to inflation and population levels from 2000 - 2011, namely, Port Alberni, Lake Cowichan, Qualicum Beach and Parksville.

Table 6

### Municipalities by Overall Provincial Rank, Vancouver Island

Municipality	2000-2011 Real Operating Spending per Capita Growth (%)	2011 Operating Spending per Capita (\$)	Change in Municipal Spending per Capita from 2010-2011 (%)	Overall Provincial Rank (1=Worst, 153=Best)	Last Yr. Rank
Sooke	214	659	15	6	9
Tahsis	30	4,029	5	7	12
Ucluelet	59	2,444	3	16	20
Zeballos	25	2,950	-9	17	15
Langford	132	703	-5	18	16
Tofino	60	2,102	-13	19	10
Metchosin	118	638	10	29	42
Port Alice	37	2,181	12	32	60
Colwood	102	761	9	39	49
Alert Bay	21	2,353	-9	40	27
Belcarra	62	1,124	10	56	83
View Royal	74	798	-2	63	51
Port Hardy	27	1,512	1	75	82
Victoria	26	1,398	0	85	88
Gold River	4	1,798	-2	87	89
North Saanich	46	979	-7	88	70
Cumberland	48	938	-16	89	41
Oak Bay	29	1,300	-2	90	86
Highlands	50	750	-2	103	91
Central Saanich	38	951	-3	109	92
Esquimalt	34	1,015	-2	112	96
Comox	35	934	14	116	139
Duncan	20	1,163	2	120	119
North Cowichan	34	857	0	122	116
Sidney	18	1,096	-2	129	117
Campbell River	21	1,013	-1	130	120
Saanich	27	864	2	131	129
Ladysmith	18	1,020	2	135	133
Courtenay	18	1,021	3	136	136
Nanaimo	12	987	-1	143	137
Port Alberni	1	1,193	4	144	147
Port McNeill	17	798	6	147	148
Lake Cowichan	-2	948	-1	150	149
Qualicum Beach	-4	956	0	151	152
Parksville	0	869	10	152	153
<b>Regional Average:</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>1,424</b>	<b>1</b>		

## Thompson Okanagan

Valemount has made progress over the past year by posting a 28 per cent decrease in real operating spending per capita between 2010 and 2011 (see Table 7). Still, it is ranked fourth worst in the region due to residents needing to pay on average, \$1,922 for the operations of their local government.

Penticton continued its good progress, moving from a 7 per cent reduction in real operating spending per capita from 2009 to 2010 to another 5 percent reduction from 2010 to 2011. However, it remains the third worst municipality in the region due to its high real operating spending per capita growth the past decade, and residents having to pay a high cost for the operations of their local government. Summerland posted a 3 per cent increase in real operating spending per capita from last year, raising its rank from 28<sup>th</sup> worst in the last report to 20<sup>th</sup> worst in this year's report.

As a whole, this region has the lowest average local government operating cost per capita compared to the other four regions. No municipalities in the Thompson Okanagan region was able to keep spending in line with inflation and population growth, though Midway, Ashcroft and Enderby was able to keep their spending somewhat close by the yardstick.

Table 7

### Municipalities by Overall Provincial Rank, Thompson Okanagan

Municipality	2000-2011 Real Operating Spending per Capita Growth (%)	2011 Operating Spending per Capita (\$)	Change in Municipal Spending per Capita from 2010-2011 (%)	Overall Provincial Rank (1=Worst, 153=Best)	Last Yr. Rank
Summerland	72	1,855	3	20	28
Grand Forks	36	2,176	9	33	52
Penticton	42	1,922	-5	41	33
Valemount	36	1,877	-28	45	8
Sicamous	67	1,237	9	46	69
Lumby	77	983	-12	50	24
Kelowna	52	1,461	3	51	57
Greenwood	32	1,733	8	54	78
Lake Country	55	1,142	-1	64	59
Osoyoos	49	1,231	-7	65	46
Oliver	48	1,195	4	69	79
Peachland	43	1,284	3	70	76
Keremeos	51	963	1	79	81
Cache Creek	17	1,618	-7	81	67
Vernon	52	935	-1	82	77
Logan Lake	24	1,389	5	91	108
Merritt	35	1,169	6	92	109
Kamloops	28	1,208	0	101	99
Midway	4	1,503	-6	118	100
Princeton	23	1,113	-7	121	93
Armstrong	33	835	-2	127	113
Salmon Arm	27	951	5	128	130
Spallumcheen	36	684	8	134	141
Coldstream	39	516	5	138	138
Ashcroft	4	1,172	-4	141	126
Chase	17	918	-3	142	128
Fruitvale	25	720	12	145	151
Enderby	5	964	-4	149	143
<b>Regional Average:</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>1,241</b>	<b>0</b>		



## Kootenay Rockies & Cariboo Chilcotin Coast

Revelstoke continues to be a poor performer (see Table 8). While ranked 26<sup>th</sup> overall last year, Revelstoke posted a 13 per cent increase in real operating spending per capita from 2010 to 2011, moving its overall rank this year to 12<sup>th</sup> worst in BC and the worst in the region. Real operating spending growth per capita since 2000 is at 89 per cent. The second worst in the region, Golden, had the greatest increase in real spending growth per capita in the region at 107 per cent from 2000.

Other poor performers in the region include Wells, with an increase in real operating spending per capita between 2010 and 2011 of 12 per cent, Silverton with 16, and Nakusp and Montrose by 11.

A bright spot in the region has been Kaslo. While having a population growth of 13 per cent the past decade, Kaslo also cut back on municipal real operating spending per capita by 11 per cent last year, and overall real operating spending per capita by 9 per cent during 2000-2011, making it the most sustainable municipality overall in the report. Other municipalities that have cut back this year include Slocan with a 11 per cent decrease in real operating spending per capita from last year, and 100 Mile House at 13 per cent. Other honourable mentions include Radium Hot Springs, Elkford, and Rossland, which have been able to keep their spending more or less in line with population and inflation growth the past decade.

Overall, the Kootenay Rookies & Cariboo Chilcotin Coast has the lowest average real operating spending growth per capita among the five regions.

Table 8

### Municipalities by Overall Provincial Rank, Kootenay Rockies & Cariboo Chilcotin Coast

Municipality	2000-2011 Real Operating Spending per Capita Growth (%)	2011 Operating Spending per Capita (\$)	Change in Municipal Spending per Capita from 2010-2011 (%)	Overall Provincial Rank (1=Worst, 153=Best)	Last Yr. Rank
Revelstoke	89	2,088	13	12	26
Golden	107	1,708	8	13	19
Kimberley	64	2,005	-1	21	23
Wells	30	2,627	12	22	47
New Denver	89	1,455	6	24	35
Lillooet	81	1,470	2	26	31
Silverton	44	2,143	16	28	62
Nelson	15	2,621	6	30	48
Slocan	62	1,692	-11	31	17
Sparwood	38	2,080	0	37	38
Cranbrook	65	1,365	2	42	44
Williams Lake	43	1,593	-5	52	40
Nakusp	34	1,774	11	53	84
Fernie	12	2,035	1	59	74
Clinton	32	1,637	-4	60	55
Trail	28	1,708	0	61	65
Elkford	5	1,888	0	77	87
Creston	36	1,107	-8	95	71
Invermere	19	1,371	3	102	112
100 Mile House	-5	1,789	-13	111	72
Radium Hot Springs	-10	1,862	3	113	123
Castlegar	16	1,282	8	117	135
Warfield	32	957	1	119	114
Montrose	27	959	11	124	144
Quesnel	10	1,298	-5	126	111
Rossland	1	1,361	-1	133	125
Salmo	20	886	-5	139	122
Kaslo	-9	1,017	-11	153	142
<b>Regional Average:</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>1,635</b>	<b>1</b>		

## Northern British Columbia

As a whole, Northern British Columbians on average, pay the most for the operations of their local governments among the regions examined (see Table 9). In the list of most unsustainable municipalities in BC, five of the top ten are from Northern BC. The northern region of BC stands out in two regards: 21 out of 30 municipalities have undergone a population decrease from 2000 to 2011; yet most of these municipalities ramped up their spending during the same period. That being said, larger municipalities of the region such as Prince George, Terrace and Prince Rupert fared better on both key measurements than the average for the region.

Stewart leads the pack as the worst in the region. From 2010 to 2011, Stewart's change in real operating spending per capita increased by 58 per cent, the worst amongst all BC municipalities examined, almost 3 times more than the second worst performer in this report, Dawson Creek at 21 per cent. Sayward and Fort St. James tops the list for most improved from 2010 - 2011 both in BC as well as in the region, cutting its real operating spending per capita by 32 and 28 per cent respectively between 2010 and 2011. However, despite improvements over the last year, both municipalities have seen substantial increases in local government operating spending over the past decade.

Table 9

### Municipalities by Overall Provincial Rank, Kootenay Rockies & Cariboo Chilcotin Coast

Municipality	2000-2011 Real Operating Spending per Capita Growth (%)	2011 Operating Spending per Capita (\$)	Change in Municipal Spending per Capita from 2010-2011 (%)	Overall Provincial Rank (1=Worst, 153=Best)	Last Yr. Rank
Stewart	126	5,347	58	2	11
Fort Nelson (Northern Rockies)	134	3,415	-6	4	3
Masset	50	3,578	9	8	14
Port Edward	56	3,053	-6	9	7
Chetwynd	78	2,453	20	10	34
Granisle	45	2,977	10	11	25
Sayward	51	2,777	-32	14	4
Fort St. James	73	2,261	-28	15	5
New Hazelton	59	2,036	-13	23	13
Hudson's Hope	29	2,536	-1	25	30
McBride	54	1,952	-6	27	21
Dawson Creek	37	2,155	21	34	80
Kitimat	27	2,322	1	35	39
Vanderhoof	77	1,319	11	36	56
Fraser Lake	52	1,770	-1	38	36
Mackenzie	36	1,798	-19	49	18
Taylor	-42	3,174	-8	55	53
Pouce Coupe	43	1,481	-18	57	22
Houston	37	1,528	-16	62	29
Hazelton	11	1,957	-3	67	66
Fort St. John	38	1,383	-7	71	54
Burns Lake	34	1,403	4	74	85
Telkwa	41	1,236	20	76	127
Tumbler Ridge	-46	2,868	4	80	115
Port Clements	23	1,395	-16	93	45
Smithers	19	1,448	2	94	104
Prince George	23	1,229	0	110	105
Terrace	9	1,084	4	140	145
Prince Rupert	-23	1,576	4	148	150
<b>Regional Average:</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>2,190</b>	<b>0</b>		

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## Conclusions

Municipal operational spending is considered to be sustainable when it is at or below the rate of inflation and population growth. Over the past decade however, most of British Columbia's municipalities have spent well in excess of sustainable levels. While the rate of spending growth overall is slowing, only a minority of BC municipalities have demonstrated real restraint. Overspending by local governments leads to high taxation, which puts pressure on local commerce and stifles job growth. For local governments the choice is clear: address overspending now or leave a greater burden for future governments to deal with down the road.

CFIB believes there is still time for municipalities to adopt responsible spending practices before it is too late. Ultimately, it will require strong political leadership and a vision for a sustainable future.

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## Recommendations

CFIB recommends that:

1. Municipal operating spending increases be limited to the rate of population growth and inflation.
2. In all cases, core services must be identified and core service reviews conducted to ensure effective fiscal management.
3. Public sector compensation should be aligned with the private sector. British Columbia currently has a 35.1% gap between these sectors when combining wages and benefits<sup>15</sup>. CFIB recommends to freeze public sector wages until private sector wages catches up and reaches parity with those of the public sector.
4. Increase transparency of reporting municipal financial data. While data is collected and reported on an annual basis by the BC Government, the quality and coverage of the data could use improvement. For example, the province should collect and publically report the data on the number of full-time employees and the total amount spent on wages, salaries and benefits at the municipal level on a regular basis. This practice is already in place in neighbouring Alberta. In order to better inform the public as to where their tax dollars are being spent, improving accountability in the process, employment and salary numbers should be broken down by function and included in the annual reports submitted to the province by municipal governments<sup>16</sup>.
5. All municipalities support the mandate and abide by the recommendations of BC's new Municipal Auditor General. CFIB is encouraged that the provincial government has followed through on its commitment to create an independent office of Municipal Auditor General, as recommended in previous iterations of this report. However, the success and effect of this new office will rely on the cooperation and recognition of municipal governments. Therefore, we urge municipalities to commit to working constructively with the Municipal Auditor General to reverse the unsustainable spending trends demonstrated in this report.

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<sup>15</sup> Mallett, Ted. Wong, Queenie. *Canadian Federation of Independent Business. 2008. Wage Watch: A Comparison of Public-sector and Private-sector Wages*

<sup>16</sup> Armstrong, Matthew and Jones, Laura. *British Columbia Municipal Spending Watch*.

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## Appendix 1

### 2000-2011 Overall Provincial Rank (1=Worst, 153=Best)

Municipality	2000-2011 Real Operating Spending Growth (%)	2000-2011 Population Growth (%)	2000-2011 Real Operating Spending per Capita Growth (%)	2011 Operating Spending per Capita (\$)	Change in Municipal Spending per Capita from 2010-2011 (%)	Overall Provincial Rank (1=Worst)	Last Yr. Rank
Lytton	105	-30	192	5,599	-13	1	1
Stewart	68	-25	126	5,347	58	2	11
Whistler	67	13	48	5,420	-22	3	2
Fort Nelson (Northern Rockies)	216	35	134	3,415	-6	4	3
Lions Bay	185	-4	198	1,679	11	5	6
Sooke	272	19	214	659	15	6	9
Tahsis	-27	-44	30	4,029	5	7	12
Masset	40	-7	50	3,578	9	8	14
Port Edward	27	-19	56	3,053	-6	9	7
Chetwynd	70	-5	78	2,453	20	10	34
Granisle	48	2	45	2,977	10	11	25
Revelstoke	79	-5	89	2,088	13	12	26
Golden	101	-3	107	1,708	8	13	19
Sayward	31	-13	51	2,777	-32	14	4
Fort St. James	15	-34	73	2,261	-28	15	5
Ucluelet	61	1	59	2,444	3	16	20
Zeballos	-10	-28	25	2,950	-9	17	15
Langford	255	53	132	703	-5	18	16
Tofino	109	30	60	2,102	-13	19	10
Summerland	74	1	72	1,855	3	20	28
Kimberley	67	2	64	2,005	-1	21	23
Wells	64	27	30	2,627	12	22	47
New Hazelton	25	-21	59	2,036	-13	23	13
New Denver	79	-5	89	1,455	6	24	35
Hudson's Hope	30	1	29	2,536	-1	25	30
Lillooet	52	-16	81	1,470	2	26	31
McBride	49	-3	54	1,952	-6	27	21
Silverton	28	-11	44	2,143	16	28	62
Metchosin	129	5	118	638	10	29	42
Nelson	22	6	15	2,621	6	30	48
Slocan	92	19	62	1,692	-11	31	17
Port Alice	-2	-28	37	2,181	12	32	60
Grand Forks	30	-4	36	2,176	9	33	52
Dawson Creek	55	13	37	2,155	21	34	80
Kitimat	6	-17	27	2,322	1	35	39
Vanderhoof	59	-10	77	1,319	11	36	56
Sparwood	33	-3	38	2,080	0	37	38
Fraser Lake	37	-10	52	1,770	-1	38	36
Colwood	132	15	102	761	9	39	49
Alert Bay	0	-17	21	2,353	-9	40	27
Penticton	48	4	42	1,922	-5	41	33
Cranbrook	67	1	65	1,365	2	42	44
Harrison Hot Springs	80	25	44	1,740	8	43	64
Township of Langley	111	17	80	1,011	-7	44	31
Valemount	18	-13	36	1,877	-28	45	8
Sicamous	74	4	67	1,237	9	46	69
Pitt Meadows	116	21	80	959	0	47	43
West Vancouver	52	4	46	1,608	0	48	50
Mackenzie	-10	-34	36	1,798	-19	49	18
Lumby	91	8	77	983	-12	50	24
Kelowna	87	23	52	1,461	3	51	57
Williams Lake	35	-6	43	1,593	-5	52	40
Nakusp	20	-10	34	1,774	11	53	84
Greenwood	32	0	32	1,733	8	54	78
Taylor	-25	29	-42	3,174	-8	55	53
Belcarra	55	-4	62	1,124	10	56	83

Municipality	2000-2011 Real Operating Spending Growth (%)	2000-2011 Population Growth (%)	2000-2011 Real Operating Spending per Capita Growth (%)	2011 Operating Spending per Capita (\$)	Change in Municipal Spending per Capita from 2010-2011 (%)	Overall Provincial Rank (1=Worst)	Last Yr. Rank
Pouce Coupe	38	-3	43	1,481	-18	57	22
North Vancouver District	58	3	54	1,253	2	58	63
Fernie	8	-4	12	2,035	1	59	74
Clinton	27	-4	32	1,637	-4	60	55
Trail	19	-7	28	1,708	0	61	65
Houston	9	-20	37	1,528	-16	62	29
View Royal	128	31	74	798	-2	63	51
Lake Country	96	26	55	1,142	-1	64	59
Osoyoos	80	21	49	1,231	-7	65	46
Pemberton	95	47	32	1,546	-3	66	61
Hazelton	-1	-11	11	1,957	-3	67	66
Kent	64	8	51	1,142	1	68	73
Oliver	56	5	48	1,195	4	69	79
Peachland	58	10	43	1,284	3	70	76
Fort St. John	73	26	38	1,383	-7	71	54
North Vancouver City	62	12	45	1,229	-4	72	58
Abbotsford	85	16	59	929	-13	73	37
Burns Lake	47	9	34	1,403	4	74	85
Port Hardy	3	-19	27	1,512	1	75	82
Telkwa	41	1	41	1,236	20	76	127
Elkford	7	2	5	1,888	0	77	87
Vancouver	51	15	31	1,373	2	78	90
Keremeos	95	29	51	963	1	79	81
Tumbler Ridge	-23	42	-46	2,868	4	80	115
Cache Creek	20	2	17	1,618	-7	81	67
Vernon	73	14	52	935	-1	82	77
Hope	43	-2	46	1,048	17	83	124
Squamish	74	27	38	1,185	-6	84	68
Victoria	38	10	26	1,398	0	85	88
White Rock	49	5	41	1,094	5	86	103
Gold River	-2	-6	4	1,798	-2	87	89
North Saanich	53	5	46	979	-7	88	70
Cumberland	85	26	48	938	-16	89	41
Oak Bay	28	0	29	1,300	-2	90	86
Logan Lake	18	-5	24	1,389	5	91	108
Merritt	31	-3	35	1,169	6	92	109
Port Clements	11	-10	23	1,395	-16	93	45
Smithers	14	-5	19	1,448	2	94	104
Creston	45	6	36	1,107	-8	95	71
Chilliwack	89	22	55	723	2	96	97
New Westminster	36	18	15	1,489	3	97	110
Maple Ridge	76	20	47	856	0	98	94
Anmore	132	60	45	874	5	99	107
Bowen Island	52	23	24	1,293	-7	100	75
Kamloops	39	8	28	1,208	0	101	99
Invermere	52	27	19	1,371	3	102	112
Highlands	96	31	50	750	-2	103	91
Delta	23	-1	25	1,233	-1	104	101
Coquitlam	47	9	35	1,023	2	105	106
Sechelt	75	24	41	900	-2	106	95
Richmond	49	15	29	1,135	-1	107	102
Surrey	96	32	49	746	13	108	131
Central Saanich	41	2	38	951	-3	109	92
Prince George	22	-1	23	1,229	0	110	105
100 Mile House	1	6	-5	1,789	-13	111	72
Esquimalt	40	5	34	1,015	-2	112	96
Radium Hot Springs	67	85	-10	1,862	3	113	123
Port Coquitlam	47	9	34	962	4	114	118
Port Moody	77	40	27	1,096	5	115	121
Comox	60	19	35	934	14	116	139
Castlegar	28	10	16	1,282	8	117	135
Midway	7	3	4	1,503	-6	118	100

Municipality	2000-2011 Real Operating Spending Growth (%)	2000-2011 Population Growth (%)	2000-2011 Real Operating Spending per Capita Growth (%)	2011 Operating Spending per Capita (\$)	Change in Municipal Spending per Capita from 2010-2011 (%)	<b>Overall Provincial Rank (1=Worst)</b>	Last Yr. Rank
Warfield	32	0	32	957	1	119	114
Duncan	25	4	20	1,163	2	120	119
Princeton	39	13	23	1,113	-7	121	93
North Cowichan	49	11	34	857	0	122	116
Gibsons	31	15	14	1,244	5	123	132
Montrose	23	-4	27	959	11	124	144
Mission	46	16	26	985	13	125	146
Quesnel	7	-2	10	1,298	-5	126	111
Armstrong	35	1	33	835	-2	127	113
Salmon Arm	41	11	27	951	5	128	130
Sidney	22	3	18	1,096	-2	129	117
Campbell River	31	8	21	1,013	-1	130	120
Saanich	35	6	27	864	2	131	129
Langley City	34	5	27	858	-10	132	98
Rossland	-2	-3	1	1,361	-1	133	125
Spallumcheen	33	-2	36	684	8	134	141
Ladysmith	47	25	18	1,020	2	135	133
Courtenay	56	33	18	1,021	3	136	136
Burnaby	35	15	17	984	1	137	134
Coldstream	54	11	39	516	5	138	138
Salmo	11	-7	20	886	-5	139	122
Terrace	4	-5	9	1,084	4	140	145
Ashcroft	-1	-5	4	1,172	-4	141	126
Chase	15	-1	17	918	-3	142	128
Nanaimo	31	17	12	987	-1	143	137
Port Alberni	1	-1	1	1,193	4	144	147
Fruitvale	20	-4	25	720	12	145	151
Powell River	-14	3	-16	1,489	-3	146	140
Port McNeill	5	-10	17	798	6	147	148
Prince Rupert	-35	-16	-23	1,576	4	148	150
Enderby	7	2	5	964	-4	149	143
Lake Cowichan	9	11	-2	948	-1	150	149
Qualicum Beach	19	24	-4	956	0	151	152
Parksville	12	12	0	869	10	152	153
Kaslo	3	13	-9	1,017	-11	153	142



## Appendix 2

### Rank by Alphabetical Order (1=Worst, 153=Best)

Municipality	2000-2011 Real Operating Spending Growth (%)	2000-2011 Population Growth (%)	2000-2011 Real Operating Spending per Capita Growth (%)	2011 Operating Spending per Capita (\$)	Change in Municipal Spending per Capita from 2010-2011 (%)	Overall Provincial Rank (1=Worst)	Last Yr. Rank
100 Mile House	1	6	-5	1,789	-13	111	72
Abbotsford	85	16	59	929	-13	73	37
Alert Bay	0	-17	21	2,353	-9	40	27
Anmore	132	60	45	874	5	99	107
Armstrong	35	1	33	835	-2	127	113
Ashcroft	-1	-5	4	1,172	-4	111	126
Belcarra	55	-4	62	1,124	10	56	83
Bowen Island	52	23	24	1,293	-7	100	75
Burnaby	35	15	17	984	1	137	134
Burns Lake	47	9	34	1,403	4	74	85
Cache Creek	20	2	17	1,618	-7	81	67
Campbell River	31	8	21	1,013	-1	130	120
Castlegar	28	10	16	1,282	8	117	135
Central Saanich	41	2	38	951	-3	109	92
Chase	15	-1	17	918	-3	142	128
Chetwynd	70	-5	78	2,453	20	10	34
Chilliwack	89	22	55	723	2	96	97
Clinton	27	-4	32	1,637	-4	60	55
Coldstream	54	11	39	516	5	138	138
Colwood	132	15	102	761	9	39	49
Comox	60	19	35	934	14	116	139
Coquitlam	47	9	35	1,023	2	105	106
Courtenay	56	33	18	1,021	3	136	136
Cranbrook	67	1	65	1,365	2	42	44
Creston	45	6	36	1,107	-8	95	71
Cumberland	85	26	48	938	-16	89	41
Dawson Creek	55	13	37	2,155	21	34	80
Delta	23	-1	25	1,233	-1	104	101
Duncan	25	4	20	1,163	2	120	119
Elkford	7	2	5	1,888	0	77	87
Enderby	7	2	5	964	-4	149	143
Esquimalt	40	5	34	1,015	-2	112	96
Fernie	8	-4	12	2,035	1	59	74
Fort Nelson (Northern Rockies)	216	35	134	3,415	-6	4	3
Fort St. James	15	-34	73	2,261	-28	15	5
Fort St. John	73	26	38	1,383	-7	71	54
Fraser Lake	37	-10	52	1,770	-1	38	36
Fruitvale	20	-4	25	720	12	145	151
Gibsons	31	15	14	1,244	5	123	132
Gold River	-2	-6	4	1,798	-2	87	89
Golden	101	-3	107	1,708	8	13	19
Grand Forks	30	-4	36	2,176	9	33	52
Granisle	48	2	45	2,977	10	11	25
Greenwood	32	0	32	1,733	8	54	78
Harrison Hot Springs	80	25	44	1,740	8	43	64
Hazelton	-1	-11	11	1,957	-3	67	66
Highlands	96	31	50	750	-2	103	91
Hope	43	-2	46	1,048	17	83	124
Houston	9	-20	37	1,528	-16	62	29
Hudson's Hope	30	1	29	2,536	-1	25	30
Invermere	52	27	19	1,371	3	102	112
Kamloops	39	8	28	1,208	0	101	99
Kaslo	3	13	-9	1,017	-11	153	142
Kelowna	87	23	52	1,461	3	51	57
Kent	64	8	51	1,142	1	68	73
Keremeos	95	29	51	963	1	79	81
Kimberley	67	2	64	2,005	-1	21	23

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Kitimat	6	-17	27	2,322	1	35	39
Ladysmith	47	25	18	1,020	2	135	133
Lake Country	96	26	55	1,142	-1	64	59
Lake Cowichan	9	11	-2	948	-1	150	149
Langford	255	53	132	703	-5	18	16
Langley City	34	5	27	858	-10	132	98
Township of Langley	111	17	80	1,011	-7	44	31
Lillooet	52	-16	81	1,470	2	26	31
Lions Bay	185	-4	198	1,679	11	5	6
Logan Lake	18	-5	24	1,389	5	91	108
Lumby	91	8	77	983	-12	50	24
Lytton	105	-30	192	5,599	-13	1	1
Mackenzie	-10	-34	36	1,798	-19	49	18
Maple Ridge	76	20	47	856	0	98	94
Masset	40	-7	50	3,578	9	8	14
McBride	49	-3	54	1,952	-6	27	21
Merritt	31	-3	35	1,169	6	92	109
Metchosin	129	5	118	638	10	29	42
Midway	7	3	4	1,503	-6	118	100
Mission	46	16	26	985	13	125	146
Montrose	23	-4	27	959	11	124	144
Nakusp	20	-10	34	1,774	11	53	84
Nanaimo	31	17	12	987	-1	143	137
Nelson	22	6	15	2,621	6	30	48
New Denver	79	-5	89	1,455	6	24	35
New Hazelton	25	-21	59	2,036	-13	23	13
New Westminster	36	18	15	1,489	3	97	110
North Cowichan	49	11	34	857	0	122	116
North Saanich	53	5	46	979	-7	88	70
North Vancouver City	62	12	45	1,229	-4	72	58
North Vancouver District	58	3	54	1,253	2	58	63
Oak Bay	28	0	29	1,300	-2	90	86
Oliver	56	5	48	1,195	4	69	79
Osoyoos	80	21	49	1,231	-7	65	46
Parksville	12	12	0	869	10	152	153
Peachland	58	10	43	1,284	3	70	76
Pemberton	95	47	32	1,546	-3	66	
Penticton	48	4	42	1,922	-5	41	33
Pitt Meadows	116	21	80	959	0	47	43
Port Alberni	1	-1	1	1,193	4	144	147
Port Alice	-2	-28	37	2,181	12	32	60
Port Clements	11	-10	23	1,395	-16	93	45
Port Coquitlam	47	9	34	962	4	114	118
Port Edward	27	-19	56	3,053	-6	9	7
Port Hardy	3	-19	27	1,512	1	75	82
Port McNeill	5	-10	17	798	6	147	148
Port Moody	77	40	27	1,096	5	115	121
Pouce Coupe	38	-3	43	1,481	-18	57	22
Powell River	-14	3	-16	1,489	-3	146	140
Prince George	22	-1	23	1,229	0	110	105
Prince Rupert	-35	-16	-23	1,576	4	148	150
Princeton	39	13	23	1,113	-7	121	93
Qualicum Beach	19	24	-4	956	0	151	152
Quesnel	7	-2	10	1,298	-5	126	111
Radium Hot Springs	67	85	-10	1,862	3	113	123
Revelstoke	79	-5	89	2,088	13	12	26
Richmond	49	15	29	1,135	-1	107	102
Rossland	-2	-3	1	1,361	-1	133	125
Saanich	35	6	27	864	2	131	129
Salmo	11	-7	20	886	-5	139	122
Salmon Arm	41	11	27	951	5	128	130
Sayward	31	-13	51	2,777	-32	14	4

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Sechelt	75	24	41	900	-2	<b>106</b>	95
Sicamous	74	4	67	1,237	9	<b>46</b>	69
Sidney	22	3	18	1,096	-2	<b>129</b>	117
Silverton	28	-11	44	2,143	16	<b>28</b>	62
Slocan	92	19	62	1,692	-11	<b>31</b>	17
Smithers	14	-5	19	1,448	2	<b>94</b>	104
Sooke	272	19	214	659	15	<b>6</b>	9
Spallumcheen	33	-2	36	684	8	<b>134</b>	141
Sparwood	33	-3	38	2,080	0	<b>37</b>	38
Squamish	74	27	38	1,185	-6	<b>84</b>	68
Stewart	68	-25	126	5,347	58	<b>2</b>	11
Summerland	74	1	72	1,855	3	<b>20</b>	28
Surrey	96	32	49	746	13	<b>108</b>	131
Tahsis	-27	-44	30	4,029	5	<b>7</b>	12
Taylor	-25	29	-42	3,174	-8	<b>55</b>	53
Telkwa	41	1	41	1,236	20	<b>76</b>	127
Terrace	4	-5	9	1,084	4	<b>140</b>	145
Tofino	109	30	60	2,102	-13	<b>19</b>	10
Trail	19	-7	28	1,708	0	<b>61</b>	65
Tumbler Ridge	-23	42	-46	2,868	4	<b>80</b>	115
Ucluelet	61	1	59	2,444	3	<b>16</b>	20
Valemount	18	-13	36	1,877	-28	<b>45</b>	8
Vancouver	51	15	31	1,373	2	<b>78</b>	90
Vanderhoof	59	-10	77	1,319	11	<b>36</b>	56
Vernon	73	14	52	935	-1	<b>82</b>	77
Victoria	38	10	26	1,398	0	<b>85</b>	88
View Royal	128	31	74	798	-2	<b>63</b>	51
Warfield	32	0	32	957	1	<b>119</b>	114
Wells	64	27	30	2,627	12	<b>22</b>	47
West Vancouver	52	4	46	1,608	0	<b>48</b>	50
Whistler	67	13	48	5,420	-22	<b>3</b>	2
White Rock	49	5	41	1,094	5	<b>86</b>	103
Williams Lake	35	-6	43	1,593	-5	<b>52</b>	40
Zeballos	-10	-28	25	2,950	-9	<b>17</b>	15