



## RURAL PROPERTY TAX INFORMATION

for Occupiers of Crown Land

Ministry of  
Provincial Revenue

Real Property Taxation Branch  
Surveyor of Taxes Office

The **Surveyor of Taxes office** is the province's rural property taxation agency. We bill and collect taxes on over 320,000 taxable properties located outside municipal boundaries using assessment information provided by BC Assessment.

Annual property taxes are in addition to the rental fee Ministry of Agriculture and Lands charges for use of Crown land, and are a condition of your Crown land lease, licence, permit, right of way or easement.

Property taxes on Crown land are calculated in the same manner as on privately-owned land, by applying tax rates to the *assessed current market value* of the property (land and improvements), set by BC Assessment.

When a Crown tenure is acquired by way of an assignment, the new occupier assumes liability for all unpaid property taxes. Before agreeing to an assignment, be sure to ask about the status of the property tax account, as you will be responsible for any balance owing.

**Rural Property TAX DUE DATE:**  
**July 2**

### PLEASE NOTE:

Under the *Taxation (Rural Area) Act*, there is no authority to pro-rate property taxes. For this reason:

- In the year a Crown land tenure is acquired, property taxes will not be levied; and
- In the year a Crown land tenure is terminated by cancellation, expiry or simple abandonment, the full amount of property taxes levied is due and payable, regardless of the date occupation ceases.

Please contact your local  
**BC Assessment** office with any  
changes to your Crown lease.

### PAYMENT OPTIONS:

Property taxes are payable to the Minister of Finance. There are several ways to pay your taxes:

- *By Mail* - Send your tax payment to the Surveyor of Taxes. Be sure the envelope is postmarked on or before the due date, or you will be charged the late penalty. Use the return envelope provided with your tax bill.
- *In Person* - Pay at branches of most Canadian financial institutions. You can also pay in person at local Government Agents offices, or at the Surveyor of Taxes office in Victoria at 1802 Douglas Street.
- *By PC/Telephone Banking* – Check with your financial institution for details. If you use this method of payment, please complete and mail your home owner grant application to the Surveyor of Taxes or Government Agents office.

For further information, refer to our website: [www.rev.gov.bc.ca/rpt/](http://www.rev.gov.bc.ca/rpt/) or call us toll-free through Enquiry BC at 1-800 663-7867 and request a transfer to 387-0613.