

City of Coquitlam, British Columbia



# 2022 Annual Report *Highlights*

*For the year ended December 31, 2022*

Coquitlam



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## Where We Are



We acknowledge with gratitude and respect that the name Coquitlam was derived from the hə́ŋqəmiṇə́m word kʷikʷə́łəm (kwee-kwuh-tlum) meaning “Red Fish Up the River”. The City is honoured to be located on the kʷikʷə́łəm (Kwikwetlem) traditional and ancestral lands, including those parts that were historically shared with the s̓qə́ciyaʔ təməxʷ (Katzie), and other Coast Salish Peoples.



## Coquitlam at a Glance

### A Vibrant Community

Coquitlam is a diverse and active community with a prosperous business sector. The sixth-most populated city in B.C., Coquitlam’s average population growth since 2016 was 7% per year. In terms of overall health and education levels, Coquitlam residents continue to rank among the highest in the province.

<b>159,285</b>	people call Coquitlam home	<b>95%</b>	percentage of Coquitlam School District students who complete high school*
<b>7,134</b>	licensed businesses operate in our community	<b>55,945</b>	total number of dwelling units in Coquitlam
<b>97%</b>	of residents rate the quality of life as “good” or “very good”	<b>69%</b>	of residents own their home*
<b>41</b>	average age of Coquitlam residents*	<b>\$1,190,200</b>	average assessed value of residential property
<b>46%</b>	of Coquitlam residents were born outside of Canada (top three countries: China, South Korea, Iran)*	<b>\$1,044,700</b>	average MLS selling price for a Coquitlam home (including apartments) at Dec. 31, 2022
<b>73%</b>	of residents age 25–65 hold a post-secondary degree, diploma or certificate*	<b>\$113,800</b>	average household income*

\*Based on 2021 Census data

Coquitlam City Council includes the Mayor and eight Councillors who are elected for a four-year term. Members of the current City Council were elected in October 2022 and took office on Nov. 7, 2022.

City Council is responsible for local government leadership and decision-making—responsibilities that include establishing and implementing the priorities of the City of Coquitlam and for overseeing the overall administration of civic business.

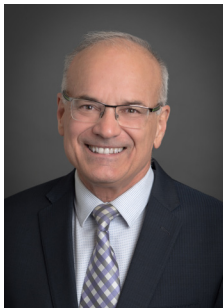
The Mayor and Councillors also serve on many committees, boards and advisory groups on which they provide strategic input and direction on City initiatives, set budget priorities, and advise on regional issues.

**27** Council-in-Committee and Regular Council Meetings

**28** Regular Council Meetings

**12** Public Hearings

**32** Meetings for Seven Advisory Committees



## Message From Mayor Richard Stewart

As you may gather from this year's Annual Report, the City of Coquitlam garnered a number of achievements in 2022.

We are proud to share the results of our work with you – and we also take pride in the results reflected back to us by

our citizens. The City has consistently received top marks in its Community Satisfaction Survey, conducted by Ipsos, which most recently showed that 97 per cent of residents rate Coquitlam's quality of life as good or very good. And in the fall, voters demonstrated their support by re-electing all seven incumbent Council members along with two new Councillors.

Our four guiding themes of equity, diversity and inclusion; reconciliation; sustainability, growth and livability; and pandemic recovery played a significant role in 2022, as we continued to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic.

And underlying all this work was a focus on providing excellent service and value to the people of Coquitlam.

While the pandemic remained a focus throughout 2022, the City continued to work on the completion of key projects, including the opening of the highly anticipated Bettie Allard YMCA, a state-of-the-art, 55,000-square-foot facility located in Burquitlam, which provides local residents with access to a wide range of recreational and fitness programs, as well as community spaces for events and gatherings.

Another major project completed in 2022 was the Maillardville Community Centre. The facility includes the City's first dedicated gymnasium, children's program area with large covered outdoor space, multipurpose rooms, teaching kitchen, sprung-floor fitness studio and much more.

In addition to these projects, we also had several other infrastructure upgrades and public works initiatives in 2022, including road improvements, new sidewalks and pathways, park upgrades and more.

Coquitlam also made strides on other issues that are important to our community. The City continued to deliver on its Housing Affordability Strategy in 2022, bringing more rental housing, support for the homeless and housing grants to the community. We also introduced a Community Engagement Framework that will be crucial in guiding the City in why, when and how we inform and involve the community in decisions being made.

The past year was a banner year for awards, as well. Coquitlam received accolades from a variety of organizations, including our fifth consecutive B.C. Top Employer Award, a Tech Trailblazer Award from the 2022 Granicus Digital Government Awards for automating processes for housing and other applications that were formerly completed manually, a Silver Medal for Excellence by the Planning Institute of BC for the Child Care Partnership Strategy, financial reporting and budget awards from the Government Finance Officers' Association, a Community Excellence Award from the Union of British Columbia Municipalities for efforts to reduce wildlife attractants, an Organizational Safety Excellence Award from the BC Municipal Safety Association, and both provincial and national Communities-in-Bloom awards.

These awards are a testament to the hard work and dedication of our city staff, as well as our commitment to building a strong and sustainable community. We are incredibly proud of these achievements, and we look forward to continuing to push the boundaries of excellence in municipal government, on behalf of our residents.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Stewart".

Richard Stewart  
Mayor



# Financial Overview



The Consolidated Financial Statements include the 2022 results for the City's General Fund and Utility Funds as well as the Coquitlam Public Library.

The year 2022 resulted in a surplus on a consolidated basis and reflects the City's continued high level of community growth and development. The successful delivery of public services and capital infrastructure projects is expressed both through the presented financial results as well as through the variety of key indicators that measure the City's performance and are highlighted in the annual report.

The City's financial position remains strong with an increase in financial assets resulting from additions to capital reserves that include land sales as well as development related revenues that are used to fund city infrastructure and amenities related to growth. This is evidenced by the increase in Fees and Charges and Municipal Land Sale revenue. The financial assets are partially offset by liabilities that include deferred revenues related to the collection of Development Cost Charges as well as monies on deposits for particular purposes, including performance security deposits from development. The City's long-term debt with the Municipal Finance Authority continues to decline through annual payments and the outstanding balance at the end of 2022 was \$12.2 million or approximately \$76 per capita, which is a decrease of \$10 per capita from 2021. This debt is related to capital projects required under the Development Cost Charges Capital Program and therefore the repayment is not supported by taxpayers.

Council has adopted a variety of financial policies and principles that have built a strong foundation of financial governance, long-term sustainability and flexibility to respond to unplanned events. These policies, together with new revenue sources and reserves, sound land and investment management, low debt burden and prudent management of taxes and spending have built the financial resilience that has greatly assisted the City in managing the ongoing inflationary and supply chain pressures that have arisen in recent years.

The financial results of 2022 reinforce this balanced approach and demonstrate that the City has been successful in effectively managing our growing community and positioned the City well to manage future budgetary and financial challenges.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Hunt, CPA, CMA  
General Manager and Chief Financial Officer

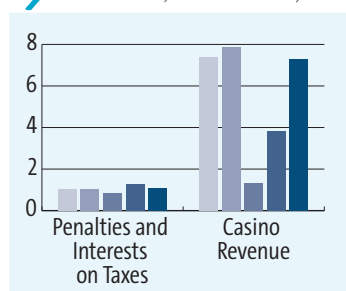
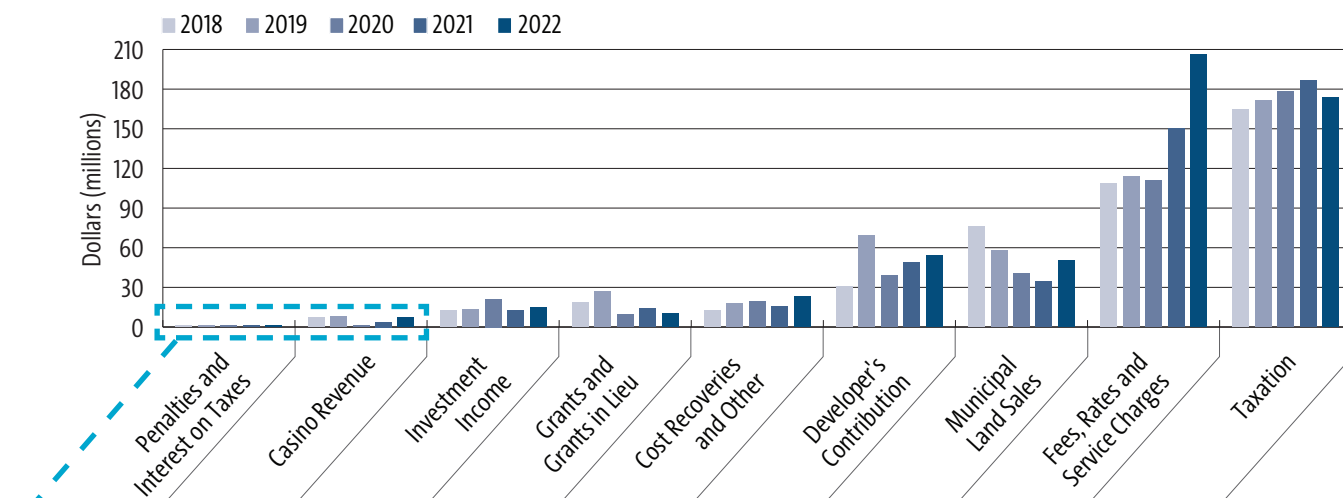
*The above is an excerpt. To read the full Letter of Transmittal, view page 34 of the 2022 Annual Report at [coquitlam.ca/annualreport](https://coquitlam.ca/annualreport).*

*Financial data used to prepare this information is taken directly from the Consolidated Financial statements for highlight purposes only. This information is presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices (GAAP). For a copy of the full 2022 Annual Report, including the Audited Financial Statements, go to [coquitlam.ca/annualreport](https://coquitlam.ca/annualreport) or contact the City of Coquitlam Finance Division at 604-927-3030.*

# Financial Overview

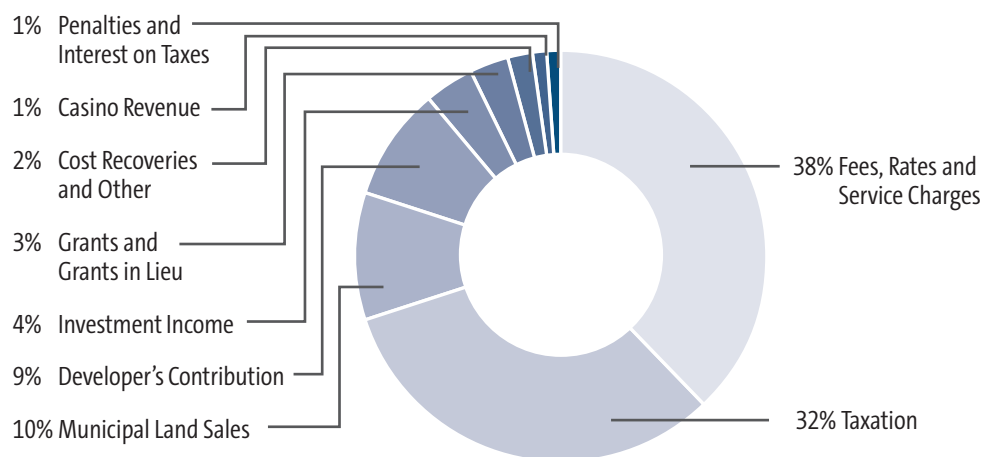
## Revenues

Revenue by Source (\$) 2018–2022



\*In 2022, there was a change in classification from a Sewer Parcel Tax to a Sewer User Rate

Revenue by Source (%) 2022



## Revenue

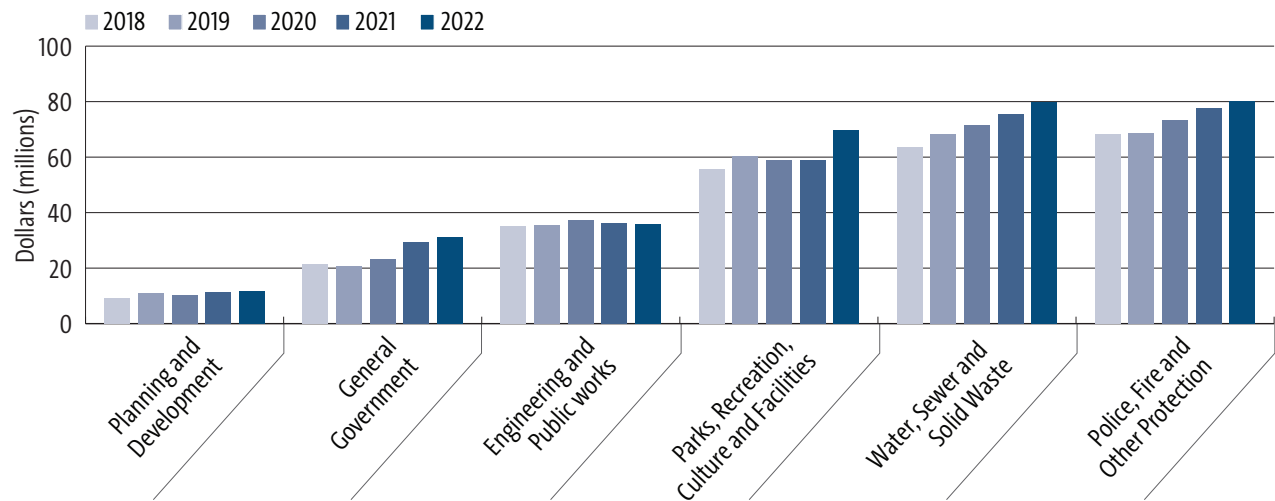
Last Five Fiscal Years Comparison (in '000)

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Taxation	\$ 164,596	\$ 171,378	\$ 177,967	\$ 186,821	\$ 173,315
Fees, Rates and Service Charges	108,895	114,054	110,509	150,383	206,551
Municipal Land Sales	76,126	57,882	40,736	34,497	54,349
Developer's Contribution	30,448	69,190	39,104	49,138	50,654
Cost Recoveries and Other	18,553	26,671	9,686	14,086	10,582
Grants and Grants in Lieu	12,701	13,318	21,218	12,534	14,685
Investment Income	12,701	17,960	19,111	15,497	23,412
Casino Revenue	7,376	7,861	1,341	3,803	7,299
Penalties and Interest on Taxes	1,043	1,054	829	1,298	1,082
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 432,439</b>	<b>\$ 479,368</b>	<b>\$ 420,501</b>	<b>\$ 468,057</b>	<b>\$ 541,929</b>

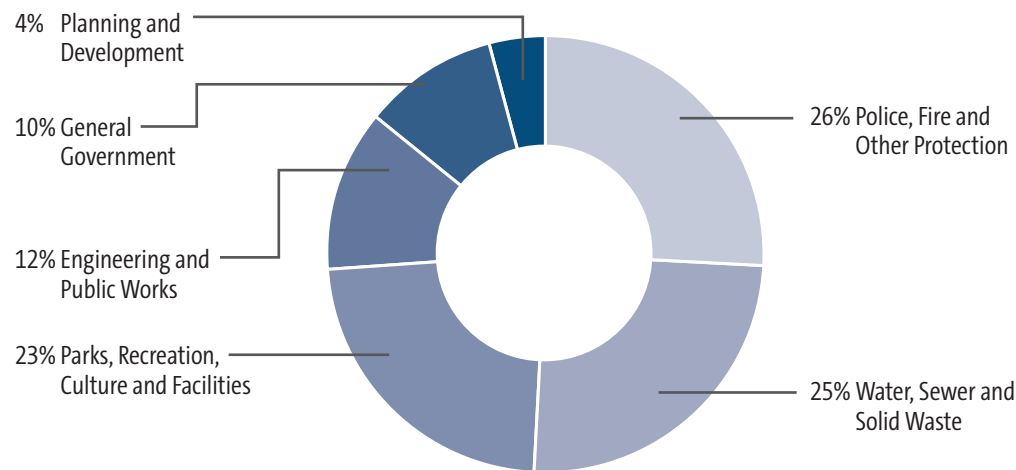
# Financial Overview

## Expenses

Expenses by Function (\$) 2018–2022



Expenses by Function (%) 2022



## Expenses

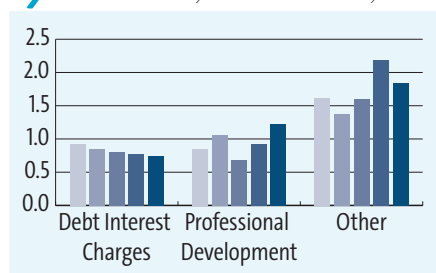
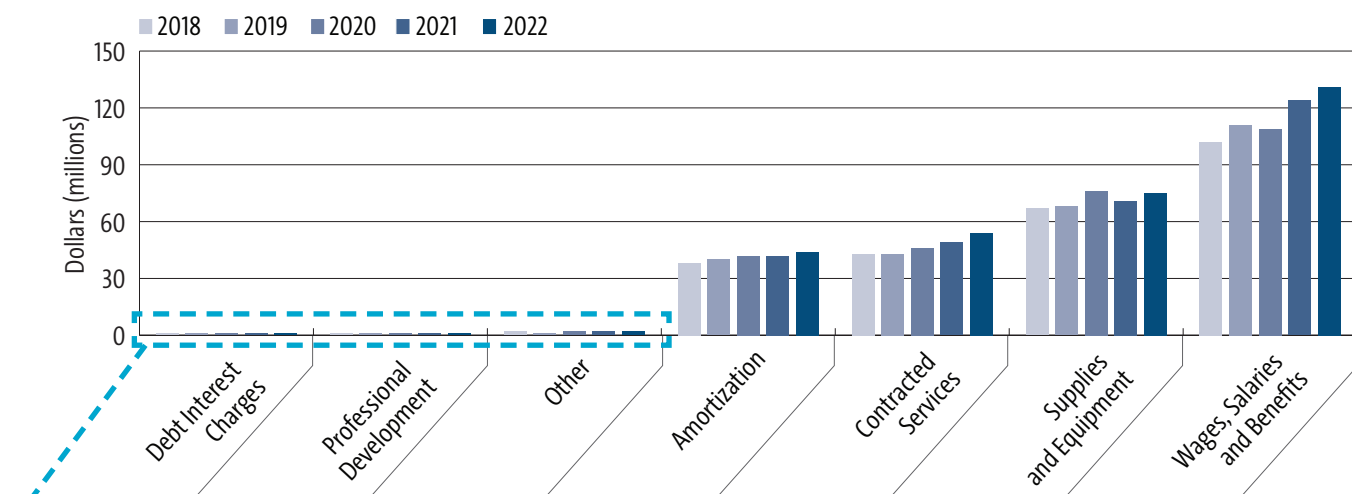
Last Five Fiscal Years Comparison (in '000)

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
General Government	\$ 21,448	\$ 20,585	\$ 23,232	\$ 29,231	\$ 31,065
Police, Fire and Other Protection	68,288	68,685	73,381	77,593	80,303
Engineering and Public Works	34,988	35,475	37,362	36,278	35,961
Planning and Development	9,186	11,096	10,183	11,520	11,703
Parks, Recreation, Culture and Facilities	55,645	60,320	58,853	58,825	69,630
Water, Sewer and Solid Waste	63,636	68,242	71,461	75,596	79,672
<b>Total Expenses by Functions</b>	<b>\$ 253,191</b>	<b>\$ 264,403</b>	<b>\$ 274,472</b>	<b>\$ 289,043</b>	<b>\$ 308,334</b>

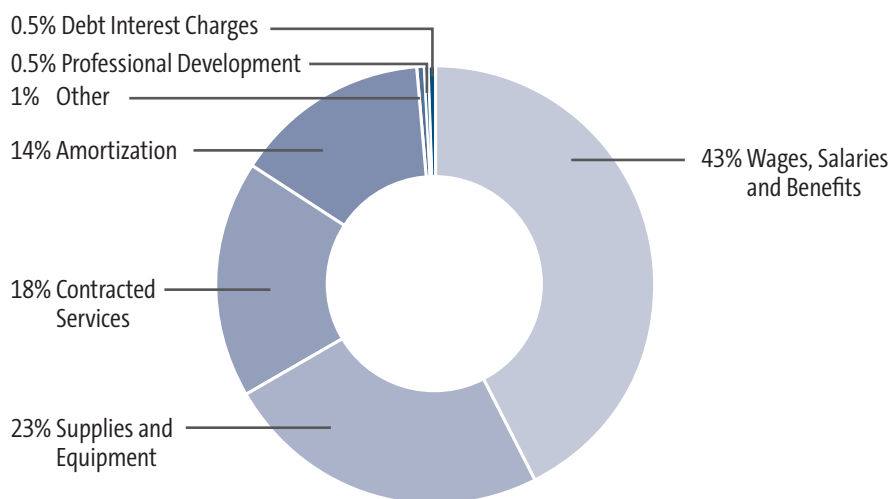
# Financial Overview

## Expenses

Expenses by Account (\$) 2018–2022



Expenses by Account (%) 2022



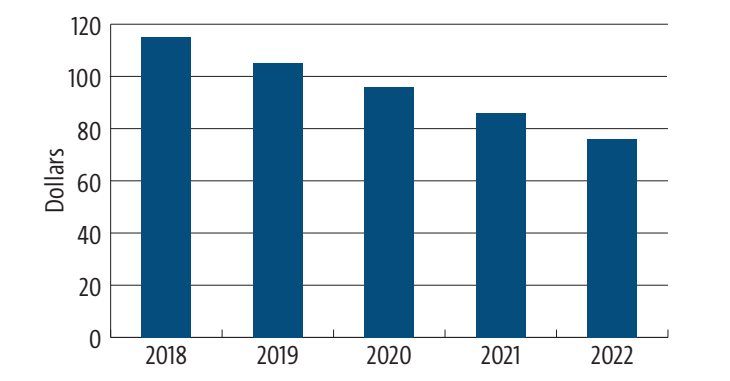
## Expenses

Last Five Fiscal Years Comparison (in '000)

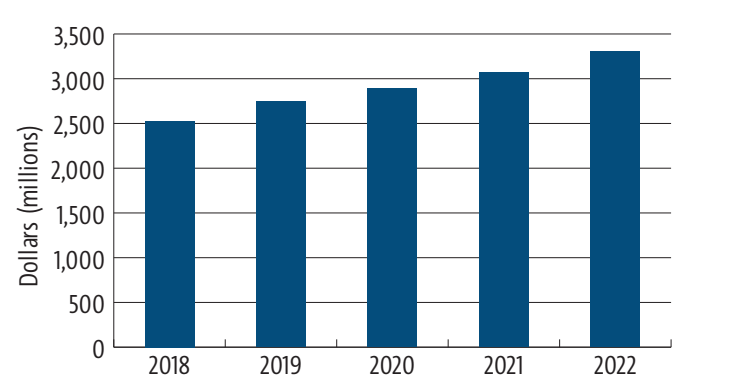
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Wages, Salaries and Benefits	\$ 98,914	\$ 102,325	\$ 110,508	\$ 108,692	\$ 123,527
Professional Development	872	848	1,058	675	917
Contracted Services	41,243	42,812	42,906	45,536	48,640
Supplies and Equipment	62,823	66,547	68,157	75,625	71,257
Other	1,228	1,609	1,367	1,598	2,191
Debt Interest Charges	1,044	924	847	810	782
Amortization	36,562	38,126	39,560	41,536	41,729
<b>Total Expenses by account</b>	<b>\$ 242,686</b>	<b>\$ 253,191</b>	<b>\$ 264,403</b>	<b>\$ 274,472</b>	<b>\$ 289,043</b>

# Financial Overview

Coquitlam Debt per Capita (\$) 2018–2022



Accumulated Consolidated Surplus (\$) 2018–2022

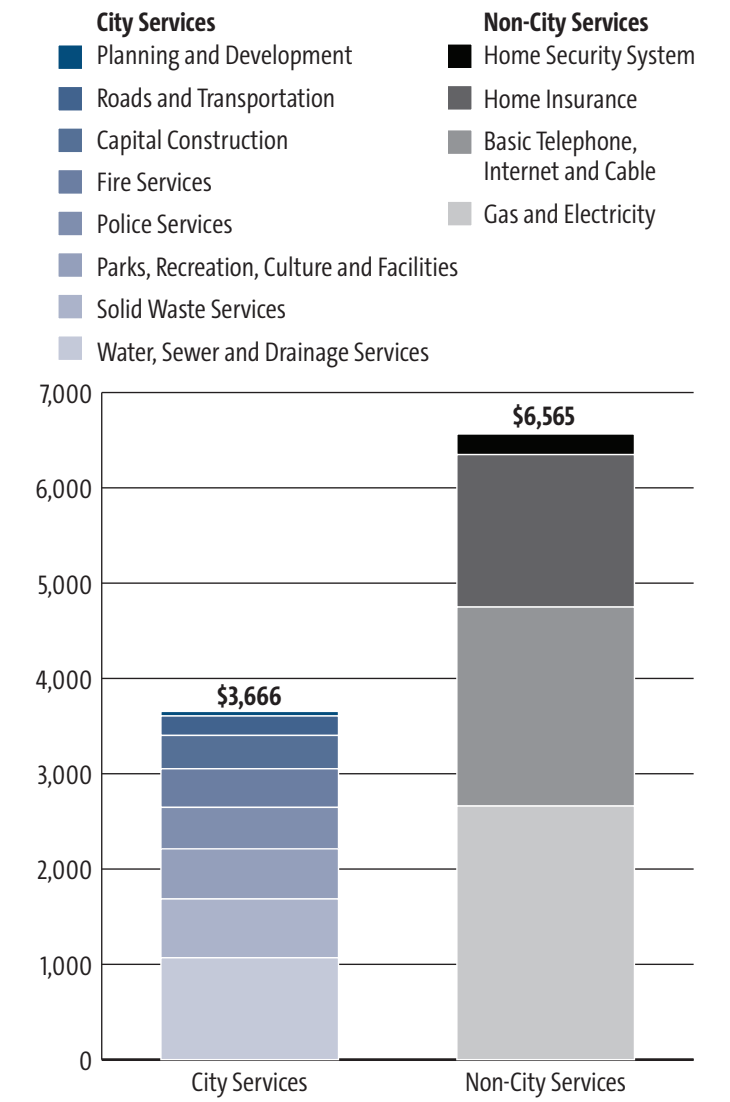


Major Employers in Coquitlam with 150 or more Employees\*

Name	Employers
SD43 (Includes staff in TriCity)	Education
City of Coquitlam	Local Government
McDonald’s Restaurant	Restaurant
The Real Canadian Superstore	Retail Sales
Hard Rock Casino	Entertainment
Ikea	Retail Sales
Save on Foods	Retail Sales
Factors Group of Nutritional Companies Inc.	Manufacturing
Douglas College (Coquitlam Campus)	Education
Waste Management	Industrial
Safeway	Retail Sales
Vancouver Horror Nights	Entertainment
Superior Poultry Processors Ltd.	Industrial
Walmart Supercentre	Retail Sales
WN Pharmaceuticals Ltd	Pharmaceutical
Tim Hortons	Restaurant
Shoppers Drug Mart	Retail Sales
Cineplex Cinemas Coquitlam and VIP	Entertainment
GFL Environmental Inc.	Industrial
T & T Supermarket	Retail Sales
Fleetmind Seon Solutions Inc.	Manufacturing
McKesson Canada	Pharmaceutical
Associated Labels and Packaging	Manufacturing
Starbucks Coffee	Restaurant
GFR Pharma Ltd	Pharmaceutical

*Note: This list is organized in order of Coquitlam’s largest employers as provided in the business license application.*

Comparison of the Average 2021 Annual Tax Bill for all City Services to Other Standard Household Costs



Please visit [coquitlam.openbook.questica.com](https://coquitlam.openbook.questica.com) to explore the City’s Annual Report expenses and revenues and more using our financial information visualization tool.



# Performance by Strategic Goal

How did we do in 2022? The list below sets out our five strategic goals and some of our 2022 achievements.



## **Safe and Complete Neighbourhoods**

### **Develop complete, well-connected neighbourhoods.**

- Approved and implemented the Child Care Partnership Strategy

### **Support a multi-disciplinary approach to public safety.**

- Continued to implement actions from the Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan to reduce wildfire risk and improve the City's response and recovery.

### **Encourage a mix of housing in our neighbourhoods to improve housing affordability.**

- Continued to be a municipal leader by implementing the Housing Affordability Strategy; over 15,000 rental units are currently in development or under construction in Coquitlam.
- Released the Housing Needs Assessment Report highlighting current and anticipated housing needs based on growth trends and residents' experiences.

### **Enhance travel in and between neighbourhoods by building multi-modal transportation options and improving the quality of streets as a place for people.**

- Completed the Gatensbury Street Improvement project, improving multi-modal accessibility and safety between Como Lake and the Port Moody border.



## **Local Economy and Local Jobs**

### **Focus on neighbourhood commercial development and revitalization.**

- Completed community engagement and data gathering for developing the City's draft Economic Development Strategy.

### **Support the retention, expansion and attraction of business to strengthen Coquitlam's economic base.**

- Completed a call-out with Project Greenlight, working to build a responsible future by supporting local technology solutions and ideas to grow a Coquitlam-made technology sector.

### **Facilitate vibrancy in sport, culture and recreation to enhance economic growth through partnerships, events, festivals, and business development.**

- Held the summer concert series featuring artists that highlighted Coquitlam's cultural diversity.

### **Leverage community assets to drive investment and job creation.**

- Implemented a strategy for leveraging unused civic land parcels to generate community value while the parcels await their intended purpose.

### **Create trade and investment opportunities by building our international relationships and promoting our cultural diversity.**

- Held the *Embracing Inclusivity and Resilience – A Path Forward* Cultural Summit and Arts Night.

### **Advance the region's transportation network by supporting local infrastructure projects that allow people and goods to move more efficiently.**

- To understand barriers across various transportation modes, completed phase 1 of the Strategic Transportation Plan's update that will guide improvements over the coming years.
- Amended City bylaws to support the City's E-Mobility Strategy and encourage diversity in the transportation network.





# Performance by Strategic Goal



## **Healthy Community and Active Citizens**

**Create a balanced offering of programs and services accessible to all ages, abilities, genders, interests, income levels and cultures.**

- Introduced the Parks Operations People program to provide youth with summer employment at City parks.
- Delivered specialized programs, such as Youth Week and the Coquitlam Sports Fair, to encourage participation in the City's recreation activities.

**Encourage all citizens to be active through a wide-range of recreational activities in our facilities, parks and trails.**

- To meet growing demand for pickleball services, introduced 4 new indoor pickleball courts at Place Maillardville Community Centre and 3 at the Burquitlam YMCA as well as 8 outdoor pickleball courts at Bramble Park.

**Develop a system of parks, recreation and open space that contributes to the ecological, social and economic wellbeing of Coquitlam residents.**

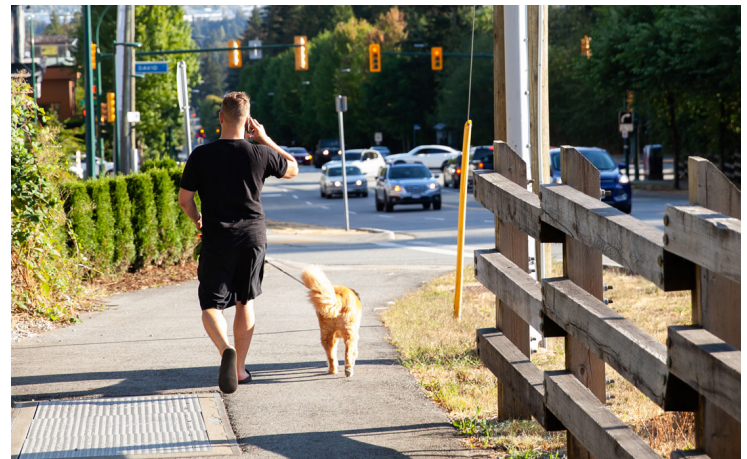
- Restored over 4,800 square metres of parkland and planted over 5,500 native plants and shrubs in City Parks.
- Completed Sheffield Park, providing Burke Mountain with new playgrounds, a water-play area and pathways across a two-acre multi-level site.
- Completed the new 22,000 sq ft. Maillardville Community Centre, double the size of the previous community centre to meet growing community needs.

**Support community learning through partnerships that provide formal and informal opportunities for life-long learning.**

- Launched the Tree Spree campaign, a tree-planting and public education initiative, significantly increasing the number of native tree plantings.

**Develop plans and capital assets to ensure the capacity of parks, recreation and culture services throughout the city, now and in the future.**

- Continued to advance the Major Recreation and Cultural Facilities Road Map.





# Performance by Strategic Goal



## **Sustainable Services, Environment and Infrastructure**

**Demonstrate responsible public stewardship through environmental sustainability practices.**

- Increased the amount of public electrical vehicle chargers to 31, leading to a 171% increase in charging minutes.
- Approved the Environmental Sustainability Plan, which integrates new greenhouse gas emission targets with forward-looking climate action initiatives to ensure long-term resiliency of the community.

**Explore service improvements and partnerships with community organizations.**

- Collaborated with kʷikʷəḷ̓əm First Nation on a federal and provincial grant application to secure funding towards coordinated dike improvements and flood prevention measures.

**Support the continued viability and sustainability of community organizations in their implementation of services, events, and programs to the community.**

- Completed the Burquitlam YMCA, offering a 55,000 sq ft. indoor community amenity space featuring child-minding services, 1.4 acres of public open space inclusive of a resigned Burquitlam Park, and housing with up to 100 non-market rental suites.
- Provided \$280,775 in Spirit of Coquitlam grants across 34 projects led by local non-profit and community-based organizations

**Manage the City's assets and infrastructure in a manner that promotes financial and environmental sustainability.**

- Completed work on the Stoney Creek Water Quality Improvement initiative to reduce inflow and infiltration and mitigate contaminant entry.



## **Excellence in City Governance**

**Explore service improvements through investment in technology, people and process improvement.**

- Awarded the Silver Medal for Excellence in Policy Planning by the Planning Institute of BC (PIBC) in recognition of the City's innovative use of impact assessments and targets for childcare spaces tied to growth and community need through its Child Care Partnership Strategy.
- Approved the Child Care Incentive Policy and Child Care Partnership Reserve Fund aimed at incentivizing and funding childcare spaces for the community.

**Support, encourage and empower employees by living the City's organizational values, recognizing success and fostering a positive work environment.**

- Adopted new leave procedures for Council to remove barriers disproportionately preventing underrepresented equity-deserving groups from pursuing local government office.
- Received 2022 BC Top Employer Award for the fifth year in a row.

**Maintain prudent financial and human resource policies and practices with a focus on long-range planning budgeting.**

- Improved fairness and clarity to sewer billing by removing the sewer parcel tax on property tax notices and including sewer charges on annual utility bills.
- Updated the *Development Cost Charges Bylaw* to streamline single-family home fees and charge on a per-unit basis for multi-family buildings to fairly capture the costs from development and population growth.

**Encourage citizen and neighbourhood engagement that allows all residents to contribute to the affairs of the community.**

- Adopted the Community Engagement Framework, providing City-wide guidance on how to inform and involve the community in City decision-making.
- Completed the 2022 General Location Election for Council.



# Key Achievements

## Citizen Satisfaction



**97%**  
Citizen perception of quality of life  
(good/very good)



**95%**  
Parks, Trails  
and Green Space



**94%**  
Recreational  
and Cultural  
Opportunities



**93%**  
Sports Fields



**96%**  
City Services



**89%**  
Taxpayer confidence  
(good/very good  
value for taxes)



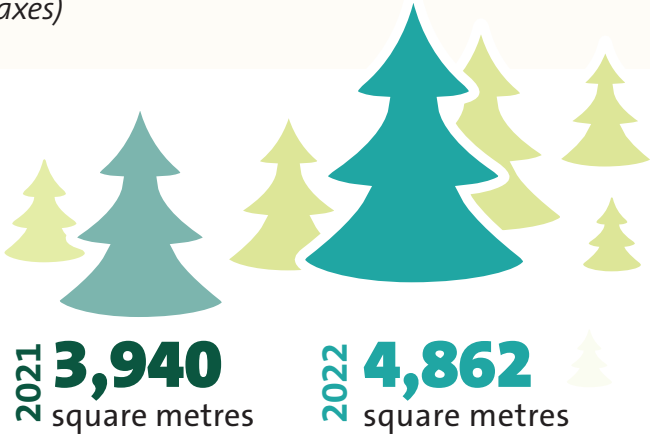
**98%**  
Public Works

*\*2021 Ipsos Citizen Satisfaction Survey data*



**4 km** of new multi-modal pathways for a  
total of **665 km** across the City of Coquitlam

New buildings **connected to QNET:**  
(metres of **fibre** added to the **network**)



**Natural areas restored**



2021: **76** 2022: **112**  
Business Improvement and  
Stop-Doing List Initiatives Completed

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**Coquitlam**