



**A NEW POOL FOR COWICHAN
COSTS AND WHO PAYS SUMMARY**

Costs:

	<i>North Cowichan</i>	<i>Duncan</i>
Amount to be financed	\$15,000,000	\$1,500,000
Total increase in taxation to cover debt and operating costs	\$1,310,926	\$101,268
Annual tax increase for a \$200,000 home	\$96	\$45
Annual tax increase for a \$200,000 business	\$204	\$74

Who is Paying These Costs?

The District of North Cowichan and City of Duncan are proceeding with the process to allow for the new aquatics centre to be built and operated. Other sources of funds, such as support from other Cowichan municipalities and electoral districts, federal and provincial grants, sponsorships and donations will be pursued.

Why Only Duncan and North Cowichan:

Since 1984 attempts have been made to engage all communities within the Cowichan Valley Regional District to support regionally used sports and recreation facilities. Efforts in this regard have not been successful. Specifically, since 1994, initiatives to upgrade and / or replace the existing Aquannis Centre have been undertaken together with an attempt to engage more funding partners. These efforts have also been unsuccessful. The District of North Cowichan and City of Duncan are committed to continuing to work toward bringing other partners on board for the new aquatics facility project. Aquatic users from non-tax-paying areas will be subject to significant fee differentials as part of a two-tiered user pay system.

What does a “Two-Tier Fee System” mean?:

In addition to the delayed registrations system currently in place, residents living outside of Duncan and North Cowichan will pay more to use the new facility to make up for this difference in tax contributions. This differential will be significant and likely more than what the annual tax increase would be to help fund the construction and operation of the facility. For example, residents outside of Duncan and North Cowichan will pay more for:

- General admission;
- Aquafit and other exercise programs;
- Fitness centre use;
- Fees to teams, like swimming, diving and synchronized swimming teams; and
- Swimming lessons.

Residents whose elected representatives agree to partnership agreements to provide contributions to capital and operating costs will be exempt from a two-tier system.