PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

REPORT

for the

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31

1962

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1963

To Major-General the Honourable GEORGE RANDOLPH PEARKES,
V.C., P.C., C.B., D.S.O., M.C.,
Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of British Columbia.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR:

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Report of the Department of Municipal Affairs for the year ended December 31, 1962.

W. D. BLACK,
Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Victoria, B.C.

Report of the Department of Municipal Affairs

VICTORIA, B.C., January 18, 1963.

The Honourable W. D. Black,
Minister of Municipal Affairs.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit herewith the Annual Report of the Department of Municipal Affairs for the year ended December 31, 1962.

As the real-property tax is the mainstay of municipal finance, we report year by year the changes in assessed values of real property in the municipalities. As a comparison, the 1949 total assessed values of land and improvements were just slightly in excess of 1 billion dollars. By the year 1955 these values had doubled to over 2 billion dollars. The values for the year under review amount to more than 4 billion dollars. This comparison serves to indicate the very substantial growth in the municipal tax base over the past few years. The figure for 1962 represents an increase of about 300 million dollars over 1961 values. This is an increase of 8 per cent, somewhat more than the percentage increase of the previous year. The year-by-year increase in the tax base is more particularly depicted in the following table.

GROWTH IN COMBINED ASSESSED VALUES AND TAXES IN MUNICIPALITIES OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Year	Assessed Values		Assessed Values Actually Taxed		Tax Revenues
	All Properties	Taxable Properties	School	Municipal	
1955	$2,108,458,383	$1,742,081,045	$1,350,856,875	$1,044,040,275	$59,112,580
1956	2,432,313,912	2,035,542,999	1,586,627,603	1,238,390,209	66,418,657
1957	2,765,873,099	2,315,295,651	1,854,677,597	1,415,935,241	78,811,653
1958	3,047,766,854	2,569,271,281	2,053,934,444	1,562,991,738	92,429,190
1959	3,327,118,937	2,805,547,214	2,248,145,499	1,721,746,974	104,819,992
1960	3,569,240,135	3,015,844,390	2,417,467,198	1,843,967,404	116,857,478
1961	3,717,472,643	3,142,969,534	2,508,401,082	1,920,101,216	122,272,311
1962	4,032,288,772	3,407,538,034	2,770,194,168	2,182,411,559	140,000,000[1]

[1] Estimated.

The total assessed values actually taxed for school purposes in the Province in 1962 amounted to $3,559,503,840. Of this total, $2,770,194,168 or 78 per cent represented values within the municipalities.

During 1962 the Inspector of Municipalities approved term borrowing for the municipalities in the total amount of $14,006,884, the major part of which was supported by serial debenture issues. This is a decrease from the amount of borrowing approved by the Inspector for the previous year. This decrease is brought about mainly as a result of the austerity programme of the Federal Government, which resulted in a rapid rise in interest rates on borrowed funds, which in turn made borrowing on a long-term basis an unattractive proposition. Many municipalities with works projected or in hand were severely affected by the rapid deterioration of the bond market in the early summer. Some municipalities experienced difficulty in arranging financing for capital projects, even on a temporary basis. Extreme difficulties were encountered where a contract had already been let for the work and the need for funds pressing. The general recovery of the money market in recent months has eased some of the pressure, and bond sales at the end

of the year were again going forward with interest rates at a generally lower plane than those prevailing earlier in the year. It is hoped that the firming trend shown by the market will continue into the new year to allow the rather considerable backlog of municipal debentures to be marketed. The austerity programme, as reflected in municipal financing, was severely felt by the smaller municipalities, which do not have the resources or credit of the larger units. However, in the majority of cases temporary financing or bond sales have now been arranged.

The amount and the purpose for which new borrowings were approved by the Inspector of Municipalities are set out below. The major part of these new borrowings was or is to be financed by way of debenture issues, although it is significant to report that term bank loans and financing by the metropolitan water and sewer boards played an increasingly important role in municipal financing during the year. Borrowing by the City of Vancouver is not subject to the approval of the Inspector of Municipalities and therefore is not included in this table.

DISTRIBUTION OF AUTHORIZED DEBENTURE DEBT BY PURPOSES FOR THE YEAR 1962

Purpose	Cities	Districts	Towns	Villages	Local Districts	Total
Sewers and drainage	$2,033,000	$4,982,000	$2,998	$143,100		$7,161,098
Streets and sidewalk improvement	290,033	1,994,105		90,000		2,374,138
Hospitals	27,700	1,400,000				1,427,700
Consolidated local improvement	107,000	1,216,448				1,323,448
Civic projects	727,500	539,000		6,000		1,272,500
Waterworks		89,000		237,000		326,000
Parks		67,000				67,000
Protection to persons and property	25,000	30,000				55,000
Totals	$3,210,233	$10,317,553	$2,998	$476,100		$14,006,884

The total debenture debt as at December 31, 1961, of all municipalities, including the City of Vancouver, is illustrated by the following table:—

TOTAL AUTHORIZED DEBENTURE DEBT AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1961

	Issued, Sold and Outstanding	Unissued and Unsold	Total
Cities (excluding Vancouver)	$45,925,615	$12,064,522	$57,990,137
Districts	50,008,211	6,859,926	56,868,137
Towns	3,253,199	642,040	3,895,239
Villages	5,944,758	461,000	6,405,758
Local districts	58,000		58,000
Totals	$105,189,783	$20,027,488	$125,217,271
Vancouver	153,185,108	700,000	153,885,108
Grand totals	$258,374,891	$20,727,488	$279,102,379

Provincial guarantees authorized under the provisions of the *Municipalities Assistance Act* were reduced in number this year. However, Provincial guarantees in the total amount of $5,382,500 were approved, a significant amount and representing a large percentage of the over-all borrowing by the municipalities during 1962. The borrowings which were guaranteed during the year, including borrowings by the City of Vancouver, are summarized below.

Municipalities Assistance Act Guarantees Approved during 1962

Cities (excluding Vancouver)	$418,000
Districts	519,500
Towns	----------
Villages	245,000
Local districts	----------
Total	$1,182,500
Vancouver	4,200,000
Grand total	$5,382,500

A summary of the amount of the debentures guaranteed by the Province under the *Municipalities Assistance Act* and under the *Village Municipalities Assistance Act* outstanding as at December 31, 1962, is indicated below.

Outstanding Debentures Guaranteed by the Province as at December 31, 1962

	Village Municipalities Assistance Act	Municipalities Assistance Act	Total
Cities (excluding Vancouver)	$516,500	$11,907,500	$12,424,000
Districts	323,500	8,049,850	8,373,350
Towns	2,247,000	572,000	2,819,000
Villages	2,996,200	2,429,500	5,425,700
Local districts	----------	57,000	57,000
Totals	$6,083,200	$23,015,850	$29,099,050
Vancouver	----------	18,364,000	18,364,000
Greater Victoria Water District	----------	871,000	871,000
Greater Nanaimo Sewerage and Drainage District	----------	2,133,000	2,133,000
Greater Nanaimo Water District	----------	180,000	180,000
Greater Vancouver Water District	----------	23,254,000	23,254,000
Grand totals	$6,083,200	$67,817,850	$96,916,900

It is conservatively estimated that the liability represented by guaranteed debenture issues is supported by the revenues of self-liquidating utilities or enterprises with an appraised value in excess of 115 million dollars. Guaranteed debt is first, of course, a direct obligation of the issuing municipality.

In addition to the amounts mentioned in the above table, there is also outstanding under the *Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Act* debentures totalling $33,990,500.

The Department of Finance of the Federal Government has advised the Department that as at January 1, 1963, all semi-annual repayments have been met on loans authorized under the provisions of the *Municipalities Improvements Assistance Act, 1938*. The total amount outstanding on these loans is $138,240.22, comprising one city, $12,336.81; two district municipalities, $34,524.69; one village, $4,626.29; one improvement district incorporated under the *Water Act*, $12,090.08; and the Greater Vancouver Water District, $74,662.35. The principal amounts of all loans authorized under the *Municipalities Improvements Assistance Act, 1938*, to British Columbia municipalities and other corporations totalled $2,146,759.70.

The sewer financing assistance programme offered by the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation under the provisions of the *National Housing Act* has continued to have an expanding influence in the financing of municipal sewage-disposal schemes. The programme which was due to terminate on March 31, 1963, has been extended by the Federal Government for a further term and will continue to be of real benefit to those municipalities constructing or extending sewage treatment and disposal facilities during the coming year. This programme has offered a below-market interest rate for borrowing on a long-term basis and significant debt-cancellation benefits to those municipalities participating.

Short-term borrowing for capital projects proved to be of major importance during 1962 as an added means of financing where the issue and marketing of debenture issues proved to be a problem through high interest requirements. These undertakings, normally by means of a bank loan, are for a maximum term of five years, and the borrowing limit for this category of debt is fixed for each municipality on the basis of its population. Borrowings under this provision amounted to $206,940 during 1962. The borrowing must first be approved by the Inspector of Municipalities, but does not require the assent of the owner-electors as in the case of ordinary term borrowings.

It was found necessary to hold one public inquiry during 1962 into an application for a certificate of approval to a debenture by-law. The certificate was granted. This was the first time it was necessary to hold such an inquiry since the year 1959.

Twenty certificates of self-liquidation were granted to seventeen municipalities in respect of eleven utility systems and nine sewer systems during the year under review. A number of the certificates were provisional, which will eventually be replaced by subsisting certificates after the municipality has proved by actual operation that the new utility or enterprise is on a self-liquidating basis. To date there have been ninety-nine certificates of self-liquidation issued to seventy municipalities, a number of which have received more than one certificate. The majority of municipalities have now established their utilities and other municipal enterprises on a self-liquidating basis, thereby gaining additional borrowing power under the formula established by the *Municipal Act*.

Reserve funds for various purposes at the end of 1961 amounted to $13,914,-629. This represents an increase of approximately 4 per cent or $61,590 over the previous year. These funds are available for capital expenditures, subject to approval of the Minister of Municipal Affairs. These reserves comprise statutory funds, such as receipts from the sale of tax-sale properties or other municipal lands and special-purpose reserves, made up of contributions from current revenue or general revenue fund surplus.

The year 1962 marked the third year of the award of the Minister of Municipal Affairs' shield to the municipalities having the highest percentage turnout of electors at the annual election. The municipalities receiving the awards for the December, 1961, elections in the three categories were: Cities and towns—Cranbrook, with a turnout of 76.6 per cent; districts—Kitimat, with a turnout of 70.9 per cent (Kitimat also won the award in 1961); villages—Natal, with a turnout of 79.1 per cent. This was the first annual election for Natal. The percentage returns were high, as the year 1961 was generally a mayoralty year. These awards have proved to be of value in encouraging the municipalities to make an effort to increase their percentage turnout of electors. The interest in the competition is reflected in the prompt return of the election results to the Department.

The course in municipal administration being offered by the Faculty of Commerce and Business Administration of the University of British Columbia under the

sponsorship of the Department is now in its ninth year. The total enrolment for the 1962/63 course-year is made up of thirty-seven first-year students, twenty-nine second-year students, twenty-five third-year students, twenty-two fourth-year students, and seven in special one-year assessors' course. It is gratifying to note that 131 students have now completed the four-year course in either municipal administration or municipal finance, or both. The annual institute was held at the University, during which the year-end examinations took place. The results of the examinations were as follows: Completed first-year, 26; second-year, 19; third-year, 19, and fourth year, 23. Diplomas in both the junior and senior categories were granted by the University to all students successfully completing the second or fourth year of the course. The Board of Examiners established under Part XXVI of the *Municipal Act* is playing an increasingly active role in the advancement of municipal administration, largely through the interest shown in in-service training offered by the University. During 1962 the Board granted thirty certificates of proficiency, bringing to 151 the number now issued to municipal officials; six junior certificates in administration, seven senior certificates in administration, eleven senior certificates in finance, and six certificates in property appraisal were issued.

The twenty-third annual conference of the Municipal Officers' Association of British Columbia was held again in Victoria on June 4, 5, and 6, 1962. The conference was well attended, with a large percentage of the municipalities represented, and, as in previous years, proved to be of value both to the representatives of the municipalities and to the members of the Department. Many facets of municipal administration and municipal functions were dealt with by individual addresses or panel discussions.

The Union of British Columbia Municipalities held its fifty-ninth annual convention in September at Kamloops. This convention was attended by the undersigned and the Supervisor of Municipalities.

Two communities were incorporated as village municipalities in 1962. These were Chetwynd and Valemount. Chetwynd was incorporated on the 25th day of September, 1962, and has an estimated population of 925 and an area of 958 acres. Valemount was incorporated on the 13th day of December, 1962, with an estimated population of 511 and an area of 640 acres. A number of communities throughout the Province showed interest in incorporation, and it is anticipated that possibly two or three new villages will be incorporated during the coming year. Sparwood, a neighbour community of the Village of Natal, held its incorporation plebiscite late in the year and will likely be incorporated as a village municipality early in the new year. Incorporation plebiscites were also held at Bella Coola and Clinton. In both instances the question failed to meet the required three-fifths majority by a small margin. There were no changes of status during 1962, and none are immediately indicated, although a number of municipalities now have a population sufficient to allow them to rise to another status. This, in particular, is the case in some of the larger villages. The boundaries of the Villages of Sidney, Hazelton, Ashcroft, and Princeton and the Cities of Cranbrook and Fernie were extended in 1962. Details of these extensions are illustrated by the following table, which shows the increase in area as well as the increase in population:—

ADJUSTMENTS IN AREA AND INCREASES IN POPULATION, 1962

Municipality	Area (in Acres)			Population		
	Before Extension of Area	Contained in Area Added	After Extension of Area	Before Extension of Area	Contained in Area Added	After Extension of Area
Cities						
Cranbrook	516.00	665.00	1,181.00	5,549	1,085	6,634
Fernie	336.50	226.00	562.50	2,661	5	2,666
Villages						
Sidney	578.00	277.50	855.50	1,558	316	1,874
Hazelton	27.63	46.66	74.29	410	46	456
Ashcroft	228.40	59.90	288.30	868	2	870
Princeton	546.00	1.31	547.31	2,163	4	2,167

The *Local Services Act* has again proved to be a very workable means of providing needed community services in unorganized territory. A number of local areas were established this year, as follows:—

LOCAL AREAS ESTABLISHED, 1962

Name	Purpose	Date
Robson Local Area	Home nursing	February 1st.
Spences Bridge Local Area	Fire protection	February 1st.
Simon Fraser Local Area	Home nursing	March 8th.
View Royal Local Area	Public comfort-stations	April 19th.
Campbell River Local Area	Home nursing	May 28th.
Nanaimo Local Area	Home nursing	May 28th.

In addition to the above, minor boundary adjustments were made to two previously established home nursing local areas.

There was also activity in community planning areas in 1962, which is a further function under the *Local Services Act*. Details of this and of other activities of the Regional Planning Division of the Department follow in the report of the Director.

We have continued to work with the other Provincial departments in the matter of providing adequate garbage-disposal facilities for residents in unorganized territory. All the Provincial health units have been contacted, and information obtained as to the problems in each area. From this it has been possible for us to suggest ways of overcoming some of the problems, and it is pleasing to note that many areas now have satisfactory facilities and that several local organizations have been willing to take on increased responsibility in maintaining the disposal-sites. This has, in part, been made easier by the co-operation of the Department of Lands in leasing Crown land for this purpose. In the process of formation at the present time are the areas around Campbell River, Prince George (John Hart Highway), and Shuswap Lake. The main obstacle encountered has been the difficulty in finding organizations or local groups who are able to establish and operate the facilities required. It would appear that some other solution to the problem must be sought in such instances.

The most significant changes and additions enacted by the 1962 Session of the Legislature which affected municipalities are as follows:—

Three major amendments were made to the *Municipal Act*. The first dealt with the licensing of commercial vehicles. This is an innovation in that commercial vehicles are licensed by means of a uniform procedure rather than on an individual basis, as was previously the case through municipal trades licensing. The effect of this new procedure is a common licence issued by participating municipalities which

is valid throughout the Province. This replaces the previous trades licence practice of multiple licensing where commercial vehicles operate in more than one municipality. The licence fee has been standardized, and receipts from this source are centrally deposited with the Department for disbursement, after deducting administration costs, to the participating municipalities on a *per capita* basis. The Department is charged with the administrative responsibility for this function and is in the process of setting up and organizing the programme. This additional activity has added materially to the responsibilities of the staff. The programme goes into effect in 1963 with the majority of the municipalities participating in the scheme.

The second important amendment concerns special ditching powers for district municipalities to enable this class of municipality to deal effectively with drainage problems. This entailed the inclusion of a further subdivision within the *Municipal Act* dealing with this specific function. Municipalities are now excluded from the provisions of the *Ditches and Watercourses Act,* except where co-operation is required between a municipality and property-owners in unorganized territory.

The third major amendment was the complete rewriting of Division (1) of Part XXIV of the *Municipal Act,* dealing with urban areas. The amendments made, I feel, have greatly improved the workability of this Division and provide greater local powers and responsibilities for urban boards. The Division as rewritten is designed to make the establishment of urban areas a more attractive and practical solution for administration problems on the local level in the municipalities of large area and decentralized population cores. Other amendments to the *Municipal Act* of a more general nature involved specific administrative matters, borrowing for utilities, zoning and subdivision control, and parks. Amendments were made to the *Local Services Act,* which is under the direct jurisdiction of the Department. This Act was amended to broaden the scope of the legislation to include recreational or community facilities. Certain municipalities were affected by specific amendments to the *Municipalities Enabling and Validating Act.* These municipalities were Cache Creek, Surrey, Matsqui, Oak Bay, Peachland, Richmond, Port Moody, Delta, and Vancouver.

The *Greater Campbell River Water District Act,* enacted at the 1962 Session of the Legislature, was proclaimed on the 1st day of August, 1962, establishing the member communities of the Village of Campbell River and the Improvement Districts of Willow Point and Quinsam as the Greater Campbell River Water District. This followed the separate endorsement of the move by the owner-electors of the three communities.

The work in the Department has continued to expand, and this year added burdens were placed on the staff through the Department being charged with the responsibility for the general administration of the licensing procedures for commercial vehicles. In addition, the Municipal Winter Works Incentive Programme and the Sewer Financing Assistance Programme have continued to expand, adding an increasing volume of work detail. The ever-enlarging activities of the municipalities, both in the field of finance and in general administration, continue to utilize the services of the Department to the full.

I would again like to express my thanks to all municipal officials of this Province, both elected and appointed, for their courtesy and assistance, to the executive and staff of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities, to the executive of the Municipal Officers' Association, to all other Government officials, and to you, Sir, for your support and encouragement.

J. E. BROWN, F.C.I.S.,
Deputy Minister and Inspector of Municipalities.

REPORT OF THE SUPERVISOR OF MUNICIPALITIES

VICTORIA, B.C., January 17, 1963.

J. E. Brown, Esq.,
Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs.

SIR,—The field of municipal administration continues to expand and become more complex as the population of the municipalities increases, bringing with it ever more urgent demands for more services such as roads, sewers, water, etc.

When one considers that the general revenue of the municipalities increased from $68,000,000 in 1951 to $184,000,000 in 1961, and that the debenture debt increased from $160,000,000 to $279,000,000 over the same period, it is apparent that the additional demands placed on the staff in the performance of their duties have been great. Commensurate with the development of the municipalities and their expansion has been the requirement for greater knowledge by the staff to deal with the many problems as they arise. The members of the staff have met this situation by enrolling for special courses of study from time to time to help them keep abreast of the latest developments in the fields of administration and finance. This latter effort has been recognized in that the Board of Examiners has seen fit to grant certificates of proficiency in municipal finance and in municipal administration to Mr. Smith and in municipal administration to Mr. Woodward of the Department.

The following is a compilation of some of the major activities of the Department during 1962:—

(1) One hundred and eight-five visits were made to municipalities. The number of municipalities actually visited was 121, some receiving more than one visit.

(2) Two hundred and fifty-two Minutes of Council were prepared and subsequently approved by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

(3) Eighty-four certificates of approval for municipal loan by-laws were issued. A few of these were cancelled during the year due to the subsequent amendment of the by-law concerned. A new certificate to the by-law as amended was issued if required.

(4) Sixty-two debenture issues were examined and subsequently certified by the Inspector of Municipalities, consisting of 11,787 debentures of a total par value of $11,605,082.41.

(5) Seven hundred and seventeen by-laws were examined and registered. Of this amount, eighty-one were town by-laws, 632 were village by-laws, and four were local district by-laws. Many of the by-laws required advice and correspondence, resulting in resubmission in revised form.

(6) Several hundred draft by-laws and similar documents were submitted for review and comment, involving a considerable amount of correspondence.

(7) Publication of the Annual Report of Municipal Statistics.

(8) Editing the financial and statistical returns of the municipalities to ensure conformity with statutory and other requirements. This phase of administration involves considerable correspondence with municipal officials and auditors.

(9) By correspondence and by personal visits to the various municipalities, encouraging the adoption of good financial, accounting, and administrative procedures.

In view of its increased importance to investment houses, financial institutions, and others, we are continuing in our efforts to ensure that the financial and other

statistical information contained in the annual edition of Municipal Statistics is accurate and on a comparable basis with prior years. We have continued to receive excellent co-operation from municipal officials and auditors in submitting financial and other statements promptly, thereby facilitating its early publication.

For the fifth consecutive winter the Government of Canada has provided an incentive for municipalities to undertake winter works for the relief of unemployment. The incentive is the offer to pay one-half of the direct labour cost of approved projects of a capital nature. The programme period is initially the same as the 1961/62 season, that is October 15th to April 30th. There were no basic changes in the regulations or in the type of project which may be undertaken on a shareable basis under the current programme.

In addition to the incentive offered by the Federal Government, the Government of this Province has again agreed to pay to municipalities 25 per cent of the approved direct labour costs relating to accepted projects. The Province, in addition, has agreed to pay a further 25 per cent of the wages of any person employed on an accepted project who has been continuously in receipt of welfare assistance from on or before July 1, 1962, to the date of being engaged on the project.

An indication of the growth of the programme may be gained from the following:—

	Cost of Projects	Man-days Work	Payroll
1959/60 as at January 15, 1960	$7,000,000	183,000	$3,000,000
1960/61 as at January 15, 1961	20,000,000	392,000	7,000,000
1961/62 as at January 15th, 1962	26,500,000	426,000	8,333,333
1962/63 as at January 15, 1963	25,000,000	413,000	7,500,000

These are estimated figures of the municipalities for the programme period. As of January 15, 1963, approvals had been given to 529 projects, whereas the total number for last year's programme was 537 projects. It is anticipated that additional applications will be received this year following the consideration of municipal budgets by the Councils in 1963.

The following tabulation gives a summary of the British Columbia municipalities participating in the Winter Works Programme as at January 15, 1963, according to the records of this office:—

Number of men	6,000
Man-days work	413,000
Total cost of projects	$24,768,000
Federal share (payroll cost)	$3,766,000
Provincial share (payroll cost)	$1,918,000
Municipal share (payroll cost)	$1,879,000
Total payroll under offer	$7,563,000

Nature and Total Cost of Projects

Waterworks	$2,068,000
Sewers	7,667,000
Drainage	646,000
Roads	2,293,000
Sidewalks	1,150,000
Buildings	3,708,000
Parks	1,170,000
Other	1,716,000

Municipalities Participating		*Number of Accepted Projects*	
Cities	29	Cities	215
Districts	26	Districts	152
Towns	4	Towns	18
Villages	38	Villages	104
Other	25	Other	40
Total	122	Total	529

Table 1 shows the final summary of the Municipal Winter Works Incentive Programme for the year 1961/62 as issued by the Department of Labour, Ottawa, and Table 2 indicates the same information for the current programme as at January 11, 1963.

All classes of municipalities continue to maintain a high rate of collection of taxes. The city and district municipalities collected in excess of 95 per cent of the curernt levy, the villages over 93 per cent, and the towns over 90 per cent.

Correspondence was directed to any municipality where the arrears of taxes were in excess of 10 per cent of the current levy in an effort to determine whether appropriate steps were being taken to improve the position. It is felt that improvements could be made in administrative procedures in some of the municipalities involved, and this matter will receive our continued attention.

A review of the municipal tax-collection picture across Canada reveals that the percentage collection of current taxes in British Columbia municipalities ranks among the highest in Canada, and that the percentage of arrears of taxes is among the lowest. There are, of course, economic factors which have contributed to the establishment of this favourable position. However, it should also be pointed out that the municipal treasurers and collectors are continuing to develop techniques which are proving to be successful in effecting and maintaining a high rate of tax collection, and they are to be congratulated for their efforts in this regard.

Tables 3 and 4 reveal further information relative to tax collections in British Columbia municipalities for the years shown.

By reference to Table 5 it will be seen that after correcting for both population and price there has been between 1921 and 1961 an increase of 95 per cent in revenues in the case of cities, 205 per cent for Vancouver, and 113 per cent for districts. The classification of town did not exist prior to January 1, 1958. In the case of villages the percentage increase over 1931 has been 205 per cent. Subject to the inherent limitations of the data, this the extent to which today's citizens are paying for increased or better community services compared with forty years ago in the cities and districts and thirty years ago in the villages.

The amount of revenue collected by the various municipalities varies quite widely. Table 6 gives an approximate idea of this range. Generally, the amount of revenue collected is the result of the interplay between the cost of providing a certain level of desired services and the willingness of the taxpayer to be taxed. In part this tendency to collect (or spend) is related to size. The larger the community, the greater the *per capita* revenues required, although obviously size is not the only factor.

It may be generally concluded that the municipalities now depend upon local taxation to a much smaller extent than was the case thirty-five years ago. At that time roughly 90 per cent of their revenues came from taxation. Today it is approximately 66 per cent or less.

J. D. Baird, F.C.I.S.,
Deputy Inspector and Supervisor of Municipalities.

TABLE 1.—MUNICIPAL WINTER WORKS INCENTIVE PROGRAMME, 1961/62—REPORT, WEEK ENDED JUNE 1, 1962

(Cost figures shown in thousands of dollars.)

	Canada	B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.	Que.	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I.	Nfld.	Yukon	N.W.T.	Indian Bands
Applications received	8,323	752	920	1,413	278	1,511	2,588	265	69	54	389	7	19	58
Applications accepted	8,247	748	917	1,400	276	1,503	2,548	263	68	53	389	6	18	58
Applications rejected, pending, or withdrawn	76	4	3	13	2	8	40	2	1	1	.....	1	1	.....
Estimated total cost of projects	318,941	32,288	31,665	21,493	8,786	85,424	127,178	4,600	1,552	1,126	4,415	23	51	340
Estimated total direct payroll cost of projects	100,833	11,763	9,143	6,205	2,914	25,021	41,306	1,638	639	429	1,513	9	42	211
Estimated cost of projects during period of programme	244,763	26,326	25,385	15,942	6,915	60,179	101,517	3,879	910	851	2,467	23	51	318
Estimated direct payroll cost of projects during period of programme	81,395	10,028	8,061	4,771	2,265	17,895	35,080	1,389	367	263	1,020	9	42	205
Estimated Federal Government share of direct payroll costs	40,417	5,004	3,995	2,370	1,132	8,899	17,371	694	184	131	509	4	21	103
Estimated number of men to be hired during period of programme	145,471	8,576	13,303	17,136	3,887	21,867	65,254	4,099	897	804	8,329	23	179	1,117
Estimated man-days work to be provided during period of programme	5,784,374	518,212	541,828	389,468	180,025	1,138,481	2,698,527	130,913	32,970	30,471	97,927	474	2,930	22,148
Number of municipalities participating in programme	2,745	145	237	517	71	356	937	84	24	30	283	3	12	46

Source: Department of Labour.

TABLE 2.—MUNICIPAL WINTER WORKS INCENTIVE PROGRAMME, 1962/63—REPORT, WEEK ENDED JANUARY 11, 1963

(Cost figures shown in thousands of dollars.)

	Canada	B.C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.	Que.	N.B.	N.S.	P.E.I.	Nfld.	Yukon	N.W.T.	Indian Bands
Applications received	5,609	528	670	1,033	228	1,095	1,653	141	51	33	79	.....	21	77
Applications accepted	5,530	525	668	1,025	208	1,094	1,609	140	51	33	79	.....	21	77
Applications rejected, pending, or withdrawn	79	3	2	8	20	1	44	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Estimated total cost of projects	305,702	24,828	26,349	14,497	15,110	108,513	109,059	2,382	1,517	595	2,492	.....	41	319
Estimated total direct payroll cost of projects	89,804	8,854	8,056	4,706	3,633	28,849	33,274	802	447	156	765	.....	37	225
Estimated cost of projects during period of programme	226,065	20,356	23,091	11,267	8,769	72,333	84,671	2,041	1,041	594	1,533	.....	41	308
Estimated direct payroll cost of projects during period of programme	69,289	7,535	7,358	3,749	2,251	18,529	27,941	696	292	156	520	.....	37	225
Percentage of payroll cost to total cost during period of programme	30.6	37.1	32.0	33.5	25.8	25.6	33.0	34.1	28.1	26.3	33.9	.....	90.2	73.0
Estimated Federal Government share of direct payroll costs	34,246	3,751	3,574	1,874	1,121	9,195	13,769	348	146	78	260	.....	18	112
Estimated number of men to be hired during period of programme	101,870	6,119	10,552	13,663	2,896	17,606	45,823	1,368	552	476	1,291	.....	251	1,273
Estimated man-days work to be provided during period of programme	4,734,177	413,021	486,516	300,683	154,564	1,096,575	2,102,375	61,336	27,282	14,876	48,289	.....	2,514	26,146
Participating local authorities	2,208	127	208	473	60	296	844	47	27	20	39	.....	10	57

Source: Department of Labour.

TABLE 3.—PERCENTAGE TAX COLLECTIONS

	Percentage of Current Levy Collected	Total Collections as a Percentage of Current Levy	Outstanding Taxes as a Percentage of Current Levy
Cities (Except Vancouver)			
1939	81.10	99.10	40.16
1946	94.13	100.46	7.85
1957	95.02	100.38	6.87
1958	95.24	100.02	6.53
1959	94.67	99.28	6.92
1960	94.97	99.92	6.84
1961	95.12	100.12	6.81
Vancouver			
1939	91.00	103.10	30.06
1946	95.74	100.57	5.90
1957	95.41	100.74	6.82
1958	95.20	99.36	6.62
1959	95.08	99.35	6.88
1960	95.43	99.47	6.98
1961	95.07	99.63	7.43
Districts			
1939	77.60	95.80	34.81
1946	92.32	99.28	9.45
1957	95.67	100.93	5.74
1958	95.83	100.00	5.36
1959	95.43	99.46	5.73
1960	95.40	99.68	6.10
1961	95.17	99.96	6.41
Towns			
1958	89.55	97.06	13.62
1959	88.69	98.00	15.18
1960	90.41	101.53	13.28
1961	90.61	99.73	13.70
Villages			
1939	76.50	98.30	38.71
1946	92.45	99.90	11.90
1957	91.58	99.94	11.23
1958	91.70	99.26	11.19
1959	91.69	99.60	10.99
1960	93.83	101.96	8.78
1961	93.43	99.26	8.75

Table 4.—Outstanding Taxes as a Percentage of the Current Levy of Cities, Districts, Towns, and Villages for the Years Shown

	0–9.99	10–19.99	20–29.99	30–39.99	40–49.99	50–59.99	60–69.99	70–79.99	80–89.99	90–99.99	100 and Over	Number of Municipalities
1921—												
Cities	1	4	10	3	8	3	—	1	—	2	2	34
Districts	2	3	7	7	3	2	—	—	—	—	1	25
1929—												
Cities	2	16	8	3	2	—	—	1	2	—	—	34
Districts	4	6	6	7	1	—	2	—	—	1	—	27
1933—												
Cities	—	1	6	11	6	3	3	1	1	—	2	34
Districts	2	—	2	6	1	7	—	1	2	1	5	27
1939—												
Cities	—	4	13	10	2	3	—	—	—	—	2	34
Districts	3	1	10	4	5	1	1	1	—	—	1	27
1946—												
Cities	21	10	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	34
Districts	15	11	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27
1958—												
Cities	23	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	33
Districts	24	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30
Towns	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Villages	26	25	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	56
1959—												
Cities	24	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32
Districts	27	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30
Towns	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Villages	34	18	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	58
1960—												
Cities	26	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32
Districts	24	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30
Towns	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Villages	41	12	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	57
1961—												
Cities	26	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32
Districts	25	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30
Towns	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Villages	43	10	—	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	58

TABLE 5.—PER CAPITA OF MUNICIPAL REVENUES BY MAJOR SOURCES FOR THE YEARS SHOWN

Year	Municipal Taxation		Provincial Grants[1]	Utilities[2]	Licences, Fines, and Other Revenue	Total Revenue	Total Revenue Corrected for Changes in Prices	
	For Schools	Total					Amount	Change[3]
Cities (except Vancouver)								
1917	$6.42	$27.85	.....	.....	$4.00	$31.85	.....	.....
1921	11.55	37.60	$0.57	$0.56	7.82	46.55	$57.60	100
1931	13.35	31.80	3.29	1.47	9.39	45.95	67.75	117
1941	9.35	28.20	3.05	3.67	8.03	42.95	61.95	107
1951	19.80	43.15	20.45	8.60	15.80	88.00	77.50	134
1961	34.64	87.53	28.65	7.86	20.93	144.97	112.21	195
Vancouver								
1917	7.05	30.80	.....	.....	2.35	33.15	.....	.....
1921	12.03	46.60	.52	.....	6.03	53.15	65.75	100
1931	12.95	44.80	2.79	.....	4.91	52.50	77.35	117
1941	11.95	38.40	4.35	.31	5.54	48.60	69.75	106
1951	21.10	54.00	19.60	.93	10.97	85.50	75.25	114
1961	42.65	117.03	29.68	.19	27.51	174.41	134.99	205
Districts								
1917	4.55	24.80	.....	.....	3.00	27.80	.....	.....
1921	8.27	27.60	.51	.....	6.24	34.35	42.45	100
1931	9.62	21.80	3.12	.....	6.83	31.75	46.75	110
1941	5.75	16.20	2.23	.....	1.27	19.70	28.25	67
1951	18.15	34.20	15.50	.76	6.54	57.00	50.20	118
1961	37.26	85.70	19.92	1.10	10.01	116.73	90.35	213
Towns[4]								
1961	28.25	66.04	28.06	.....	16.91	111.01	85.92	100
Villages								
1931	.....	5.60	3.78	.....	4.04	13.42	19.80	100
1941	.....	5.81	.99	.17	2.08	9.05	13.10	66
1951	.....	11.14	11.13	1.20	8.43	31.90	28.10	142
1961	24.82	50.32	15.85	.69	11.15	78.01	60.38	305

[1] Does not include Provincial grants for schools.
[2] Utility surplus appropriated for general revenue purposes.
[3] This column represents relative change in adjusted *per capita* revenue.
[4] The classification of town did not exist prior to January 1, 1958.

TABLE 6.—DISTRIBUTION OF PER CAPITA REVENUES FOR CITIES, DISTRICTS, TOWNS, AND VILLAGES FOR THE YEARS 1951 AND 1961

1951

Per Capita Revenues	Cities	Districts	Towns	Villages
$0– $9.99	----	----	----	2
10– 19.99	----	----	----	7
20– 29.99	----	1	----	10
30– 39.99	1	1	----	13
40– 49.99	3	4	----	7
50– 59.99	4	10	----	2
60– 69.99	8	6	----	----
70– 79.99	7	2	----	----
80– 89.99	4	2	----	----
90– 99.99	5	----	----	----
100–109.99	3	----	----	----
110–119.99	----	----	----	----
120–129.99	----	----	----	----
130–139.99	----	1	----	----
140–149.99	----	----	----	----
150–159.99	----	----	----	----
160–169.99	----	----	----	----
170–179.99	----	----	----	----
180–189.99	----	----	----	----
190–199.99	----	----	----	----
200 and over	----	1	----	----

Personal income for British Columbia: Total, $1,568,000,000; *per capita,* $1,346.
Personal income for Canada: Total, $15,824,000,000; *per capita,* $1,061.

1961

$0– $9.99	----	----	----	----
10– 19.99	----	----	----	----
20– 29.99	----	----	----	----
30– 39.99	----	----	----	2
40– 49.99	----	----	----	1
50– 59.99	----	----	----	8
60– 69.99	----	----	----	15
70– 79.99	2	4	----	13
80– 89.99	2	6	1	5
90– 99.99	2	3	----	3
100–109.99	4	7	----	4
110–119.99	3	1	1	2
120–129.99	2	2	1	1
130–139.99	3	----	1	----
140–149.99	2	1	----	3
150–159.99	4	2	----	1
160–169.99	4	----	----	----
170–179.99	2	1	----	----
180–189.99	1	----	----	----
190–199.99	1	----	----	----
200 and over	----	3	----	----

Personal income for British Columbia: Total, $2,947,000,000; *per capita,* $1,809.
Personal income for Canada: Total, $28,049,000,000; *per capita,* $1,538.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR, REGIONAL PLANNING DIVISION

VICTORIA, B.C., January 16, 1963.

J. E. Brown, Esq.,
Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs.

SIR,—The Division continued last year to expand and improve its community planning services throughout the Province. Planning assistance to those municipalities beyond the boundaries of the Lower Mainland Regional Planning Board and the Capital Region Planning Board who showed an interest in implementing plans prepared by the Division and to those who have requested that plans be prepared continued throughout the year.

At the close of the year there were twenty-one community planning areas in operation in unorganized territory throughout the Province. The following changes took place during the year in respect of such areas:—

Community Planning Area Number 21 was disestablished when the Village of Chetwynd became incorporated with the same boundaries as the area.

Community Planning Area Number 16 was established at Sicamous, a growing community of about 1,000 on the Trans-Canada Highway between Salmon Arm and Revelstoke.

Community Planning Area Number 12 was enlarged to include the land around Pouce Coupe and along the Alaska and John Hart Highways.

Community Planning Area Number 13 was enlarged to include the communities of Belcarra and Ioco and other places north-west of Port Moody on Burrard Inlet and Indian Arm.

During the year the staff planners completed community plans for two municipalities and gave advice on request to those places where we had previously done work. These plans, when finalized, will form a positive guide from which reasonable land-use controls such as zoning can be established. The staff are also developing similar plans for community planning areas. While the plans in the area around Nanaimo are being made, the staff are working closely with the Advisory Planning Commission for the area. The staff of the Capital Region Planning Board are doing similar work in Community Planning Area Number 5, North Saanich, on our behalf. In Community Planning Area Number 7, around Prince George, two members of the staff held a public exhibit for four days in the Provincial Government Building. Many people living in the area came to see the proposed plans, and the staff had an opportunity to explain the proposals to individuals and record their reactions to them.

The total value of construction in all of the community planning areas was $17,353,350, the highest annual amount reported by the Division. This resulted from the trend of increased construction in the Province last year and the increased coverage of our services in unorganized territory.

The value of construction, number of dwelling units built, and the population of the community planning areas is shown in the following table:—

	Dwelling Units Built, 1962	Dwelling Units Built since Areas Established	Total Value of Construction, 1962	Approximate Population of Area, 1961
Community Planning Area Number 1 (around Kelowna)	137	1,304	$2,504,340	10,000
Community Planning Area Number 2 (around Vernon)	45	460	799,610	4,600
Community Planning Area Number 3 (View Royal)	175	495	408,771	3,400
Community Planning Area Number 4 (Langford-Metchosin)	66	85	1,017,548	11,200
Community Planning Area Number 5 (North Saanich)	35	521	610,870	3,300
Community Planning Area Number 6 (around Nanaimo)	179	1,801	3,222,153	14,000
Community Planning Area Number 7 (around Prince George)	103	825	1,190,164	9,200
Community Planning Area Number 8 (around Kamloops)	115	859	1,646,536	5,200
Community Planning Area Number 9 (around Quesnel)	11	189	131,130	500
Community Planning Area Number 10 (Connaught Heights, D.L. 172, next to New Westminster)	-----	70	11,810	1,450
Community Planning Area Number 11 (around Alberni)	1	7	47,500	200
Community Planning Area Number 12 (around Dawson Creek)	10	228	193,179	1,800
Community Planning Area Number 13 (Woodhaven near Ioco)	9	28	88,870	400
Community Planning Area Number 14 (North of Campbell River to south of Courtenay)	119	127	3,423,157	13,400
Community Planning Area Number 15 (around Fort St. John)	45	151	798,957	3,400
Community Planning Area Number 16 (Sicamous)	6	6	200,970	1,000
Community Planning Area Number 17 (Fort Nelson)	-----	32	375,030	2,500
Community Planning Area Number 18 (West Bench, near Penticton)	-----	-----	-----	200
Community Planning Area Number 19 (Hudson Hope)	4	4	297,425	700
Community Planning Area Number 20 (Crooked River, 60 miles north of Prince George)	2	2	17,570	10
Community Planning Area Number 21 (Chetwynd)	3	6	211,408	925
Community Planning Area Number 22 (Chase)	8	8	156,352	1,000
Others	-----	62	-----	-----
Totals	1,073	7,270	$17,353,350	88,385

Total value of construction to date, $94,425,580.

A change has been made in the make-up of the building inspection staff. There is now a Chief Building Inspector, eight full-time inspectors, and four part-time inspectors looking after either larger areas or a number of smaller areas, instead of the former procedure of having part-time inspectors looking after small areas.

Last January the Chief Building Inspector, in co-operation with officials from the National Research Council, the Canadian Institute of Timber Construction, and the Department of Health Services and Hospital Insurance, held a two-week course on advanced building construction at Parksville. It is gratifying to report that in addition to our full-time building inspectors, twenty-nine municipalities and two Federal agencies sent their building inspectors to the course.

DON SOUTH, M.T.P.I.C.,
Director, Regional Planning Division.

Printed by A. SUTTON, Printer to the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty
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1963

1,060-163-5176