

Budget 2024/2025 Recap

- 2025/26 General Operating Budget \$4,004,090
- 2025/26 Capital Budget \$15,982,845 with projected \$10,048,413 in external funding
- 2025/26 Fire Department Operating Budget \$882,680
- 2025/26 Fire Department Capital Budget \$632,945
- 2025/26 Electric Utility Operating Budget \$3,322,184
- 2025/26 Electric Utility Capital Budget \$155,000
- 2025/26 Water Utility Operating Budget \$968,130
- 2025/26 Water Utility Capital Budget \$185,870 with projected \$40,000 in external funding
- 2025/26 Bayview Cemetery Budget \$15,114; Park Cemetery Budget \$35,358

Projects and Initiatives in Support of Council's 2025-2029 Strategic Plan

- Continuing to improve the Town's Asset Management Program to support Council decision-making on capital projects.
- Community beautification initiatives with Mahone Bay Tourism & Chamber of Commerce and Communities in Bloom.
- Utilizing Canada Mortgage & Housing Corporation Housing Accelerator funding obtained by the Town to support the development of new housing stock in Mahone Bay.
- Environmental initiatives including the development of an Urban Forest Management Plan and canopy restoration projects.
- Increased grants and subsidies for for community organizations delivering cultural and recreational programming for residents.
- Stormwater initiatives to explore opportunities to reduce flood risk in Ernst Brook watershed.
- New shared services with neighboring municipalities including occupational health & safety and procurement, and additional capacity for our Regional Emergency Management Organization.

Municipal Tax Rate Comparison

The following are compared tax rates based on \$260,000 of assessed value.

	<u>Bridgewater</u>	<u>Lunenburg</u>	<u>Mahone Bay</u>
Property Tax	\$4,810	\$3,578	\$2,915
Fire Tax	\$0	\$0	\$569
Sewer	\$565	\$735	\$0
Infrastructure Charge	\$0	\$0	\$300
Stormwater Charge	\$0	\$0	\$202
Total Single Family	\$5,375	\$4,313	\$3,986

What's Behind the Budget? The Strategic Plan

The Town of Mahone Bay 2025-2029 Strategic Plan is the document that captures the intentions for this Council's term.



Starting in February 2025, Council began discussions about what they heard from residents and what the Town has learned from public engagement. From that information, Council and staff along with facilitators, worked together to identify five Strategic Pillars for this Council's term. The plan is reviewed each year with the next annual review of the strategic plan planned for late winter 2026.

The Strategic Pillars, as well as the actions that will make those priorities a reality, serve as a guide for Council at budget time and throughout all decision making processes.

Our Vision

A welcoming and dynamic community that cherishes its rich heritage, nurtures meaningful connections between people and place, encourages creativity, and promotes active living. We are adaptable to the evolving needs of our residents while enhancing our natural environment for future generations.

Our Mission

To provide high-quality municipal services with a balanced approach that respects both efficiency and the realities of governance. Through responsible decision-making, clear communication, and community engagement, we work to support a thriving and resilient Mahone Bay.

Our Core Values

Are deeply ingrained principles that guide Town Council and Staff in the timely and collaborative delivery of services and ensuring support for an optimal quality of life in our community.

Community Connectedness - Fairness & Belonging - Public Safety & Security - Environmental Stewardship - Integrity & Civic Pride - Responsible Leadership

Strategic Pillars

Strategic pillars are the key areas of focus, or priorities that an organization chooses to achieve its long-term vision.

Council aims to balance economic prosperity with environmental and community well-being, ensuring Mahone Bay remains vibrant and livable in the present and the future. To achieve this the following Strategic Pillars have been adopted:

- Community and Partner Engagement
- Responsible Financial Stewardship
- Future-Ready Infrastructure
- Planned Services and Managed Growth
- Resilience and Adaptability

Be sure to read the full Town of Mahone Bay 2025 - 2029 Strategic Plan on the Town website at www.townofmahonebay.ca

Tax Rates

The approved 2025/2026 residential and commercial tax rates have increased by 1%. Residential has increased to \$1.121 per \$100 of assessed value, and Commercial has increased to \$3.081 per \$100 of assessed value.



The fire rate has also been increased by \$0.005 bringing it to \$0.219 per \$100 of assessed value, completing the shift of the full cost of fire protection services to the fire rate.

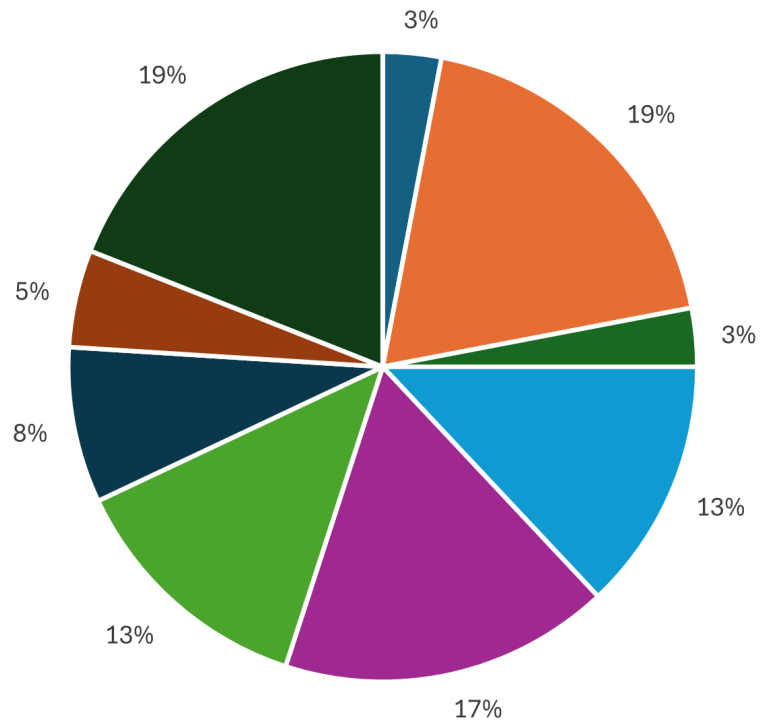
The infrastructure charge, which contributes to everything from roadwork to wastewater mains to stormwater management to recreational facilities, remains at \$502.23. The infrastructure charge is a uniform tax for all residents and commercial property owners of the Town.

The deed transfer tax remains the same at 1.5%. Deed transfer tax is charged on dwelling units at the time of sale.

Community Grants

MBTCC (Festivals)	\$2,500
MB Founders Society	\$500
MB Centre Society	\$1,000
MB Music Association	\$3,000
MB United Soccer Association	\$12,000
Bay Area Legends T-Ball	\$1,000
Visitor Information Centre	\$2,500
Faerie Houses	\$1,900
55+ Games	\$250
Second Story Women's Centre	\$250
Coastal Action	In-kind
MICA	\$1,000
Program Registration Support	\$3,000
South Shore Summer Theatre	\$1,000
Total	\$28,900

2025/26 Budget Expenditures



- Legislative Expenses
- General Government Services
- Taxation Rebates & Reductions
- Protective Services
- Public Works
- Wastewater
- Community Services & Environmental Development
- Recreation, Cultural Services
- Education & Tax Rebates

To read the Town of Mahone Bay's full 2025/2026 budget, visit www.townofmahonebay.ca/finance



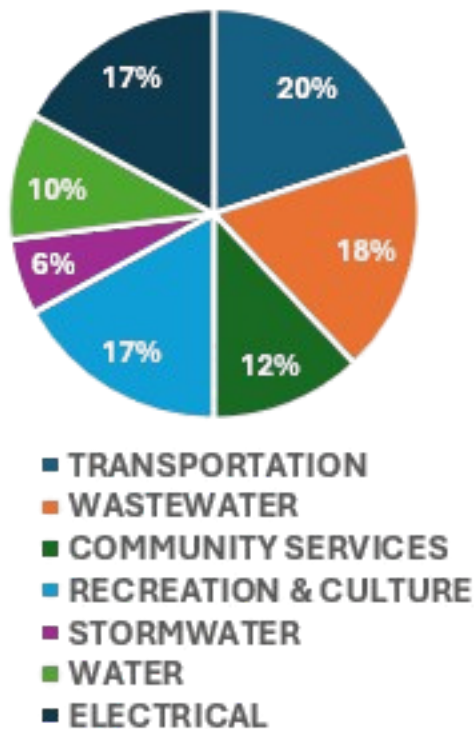
THE EDGEWATER PROJECT

Project Budget 2025-26

A once-in-a-generation opportunity, Mahone Bay's biggest capital project this year, the Edgewater Street Project, is moving ahead with strong support from Provincial and Federal partners.

Project costs are budgeted to be: \$14,915,274 with \$14,225,827 in the 25/26 fiscal year. Costs are assigned to different municipal budget line categories as follows:

EDGEWATER PROJECT COSTS



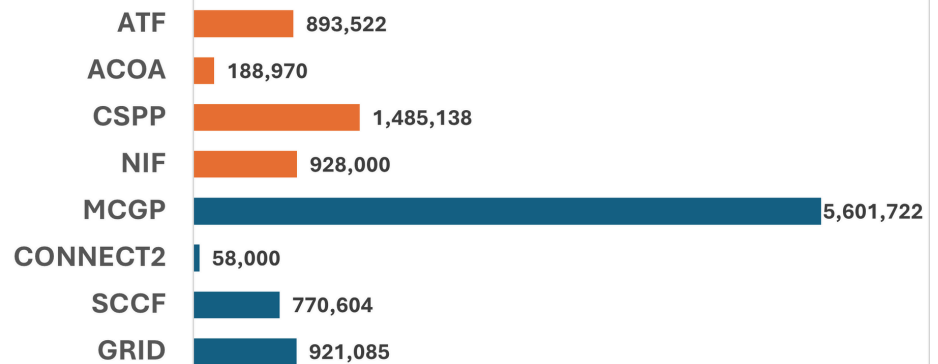
Construction Is Transformation

This project upgrades existing Town services and extends these to Kedy's Landing, eliminates existing straight pipes; protects our harbour; revitalizes public spaces; improves active transportation, accessibility and safety; helps fight coastal erosion and supports future growth. It's a major step toward a cleaner, greener, more connected Mahone Bay.

Partners Multiply Value

FUNDING PARTNERS

FEDERAL | PROVINCIAL



**** SCCF & NIF grants include non-capital costs**

Thanks to strong provincial and federal partnerships, the Town's 35% investment has helped attract over \$10 million in external funding this year. Every Town dollar has leveraged nearly two additional dollars into the project to make up the remaining 65% of the overall budget.

There is a typical loan process in place to cover the municipal contribution to any major project. Municipalities secure short-term Temporary Borrowing Authorization from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and once the project is completed, short-term financing is replaced with a lower-interest, government-backed long-term debenture from the Municipal Finance Corporation (MFC) to repay the bank.