

Additional Information

Recently Sold Property

New Property Owners are responsible for payment of their annual property taxes by the due date to avoid a 10% penalty, whether or not they receive a Property Tax Notice

Mortgages

If your taxes are paid through your mortgagor, please advise your mortgagor to contact the Band. If you qualify for the FN Grant, you must fill out and return the grant application provided on the tax notice; and indicate which mortgagor will be remitting your taxes to the Band on your behalf.

Minimum Taxes Due

Current year property taxes must be greater than \$350 before claiming a FN Financial Need Grant or greater than \$100 before claiming a FN Over 65 or Handicapped Grant.

Verification

The Band's collector will require satisfactory documentation evidence showing eligibility of the applicant or the residence, for cross-checking purposes. It is an offense to make false application for a FN Grant; therefore, eligibility will be verified.

This pamphlet is for information purposes only!

Call 250-828-9784

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TK'EMLÚPS TE SECWÉPEMC
LANDS, LEASING & TAX
DEPARTMENT

First Nation Grant



Explanation of the First Nation Grant

The First Nation (FN) Grant is designed to help homeowners reduce their property taxes. There are two categories of grants:

- ◆ The FN Financial Need Grant may reduce your taxes by as much as \$570
- ◆ The FN Over 65 or Handicapped Grant may reduce your taxes by as much as \$845.

The FN Grant must be claimed prior to December 31st in the current calendar year when the taxes are payable.

Properties registered in the name of a corporation are not eligible for the grants.

The FN Grant does not apply to arrears, penalties, delinquent taxes or penalties on them.

A spouse, child, grandchild, father, brother or sister of a qualifying deceased owner may be eligible for the grants in the year the death occurs.

A spouse, in addition to its ordinary meaning, includes a man or woman not married to each other but who have lived together as husband and wife for a continuous period of not less than two years before:

- a. The death of either of them, or
- b. The filing by either of them of an application for grant.

Spouse does not include a husband or wife who is separated and living apart and who:

- a. Has entered into an agreement under which the husband and wife have agreed to live apart, or

is subject to an order of the court recognizing the separation.

Qualifying for the First Nation Financial Need Grant

If, when paying your taxes, you qualify and wish to obtain the grant, you must date, sign, and submit the grant application provided on the back of the tax notice. The grant application must be completed each year in which you are eligible.

A FN Grant cannot be claimed if the applicant together with his/her spouse is claiming a home owner grant on any other residence in the Province of British Columbia in the calendar year.

The FN Grant is not available unless the dwelling described on the tax notice is the permanent residence of the applicant and the applicant is the registered owner, which means where you live and conduct your daily activities. The FN Grant does not apply to second, rental and/or other owned properties.

Where an applicant is unable to apply in person, the applicant's committee may make the application or a person appointed in writing as the applicant's attorney.

Qualifying for the First Nation Over 65 or Handicapped Grant

If you qualify for the grant and wish to obtain it, you must mark the spot applicable on the grant application that describes your qualification, and include proof of eligibility. If over 65 years of age, please state your birth date.

A medical certificate for a handicapped person is required if the claim for the FN Over 65 or Handicapped Grant is made by that person or by the spouse or relative of that person (relative being child, grandchild, brother, sister, grandparent, step parent, or person standing in loco parentis.)

The medical certificate, for a handicapped person from a medical practitioner, will be used as confirmation that the applicant has a permanent physical disability or not. Permanent disability status only requires initial submission of the medical certificate, but must submit the grant application each calendar year. Disabilities not considered permanent disability may be eligible for a grant for the current year applying for. Each calendar year, a disability, not permanent, must submit a medical certificate along with the grant application.

Important

If you qualify for the FN Grant, remember to:

- ✓ Date and sign the application on the back of your property tax notice.
- ✓ Submit your completed application by the tax due date, to avoid a late penalty on the grant amount.

A payment is not required to claim your grant.