

Budget 2026 Introduction

October 21st, 2025

// 2026 Budget Session #1: Objectives and Agenda

Council's input and direction around alignment with Council's Strategic Plan is critical in developing budget

Staff will incorporate this direction into future presentations of the budget

Overview

- Milestones
- Strategic Plan
- How to Engage
- Budget process
- BC Assessment
- Preliminary Market Assumptions

Upcoming Sessions

- Operating Budget, Utilities will all follow at next session
- Capital, 5 Year Plan, Reserves, Tax Implications, Sources of Funding will follow at later sessions



// Milestones

- Determine Strategic Priorities* 
- Align Council Strategic Priorities / Budget Direction for 2026-2030
- Engagement
 - Public
 - Staff
 - Council
- Development of Service Objectives/Plans
- Budget Timeline Finalized -Rolled out today (Oct 21st, 2025 to Council) 
- Develop Draft Budget
 - Timeline: September to March
- Council Review/ Approval Process
 - Timeline: October through May 14, 2026

* <https://www.pemberton.ca/government/council-meeting-information/strategic-plan>

// Strategic Plan: Vision and Values

Village of Pemberton Vision

Pemberton is a healthy, inclusive, and safe community. A place where the land and people are honoured, its unique culture thrives, and the community flourishes.

Council's Guiding Values

- We come with open minds, ask questions first, listen to understand, and engage in respectful and informed dialogue
- We encourage new ideas and innovative problem-solving
- We are forward thinking, considering the issues of the day and looking toward to the future
- We are fiscally responsible and efficient with our resources
- We are attuned to the local community and to external forces



// 2025 Priorities: Strategic Plan



**Plan &
Manage
Growth**



**Be
Prepared**



**Protect Our
Environment**

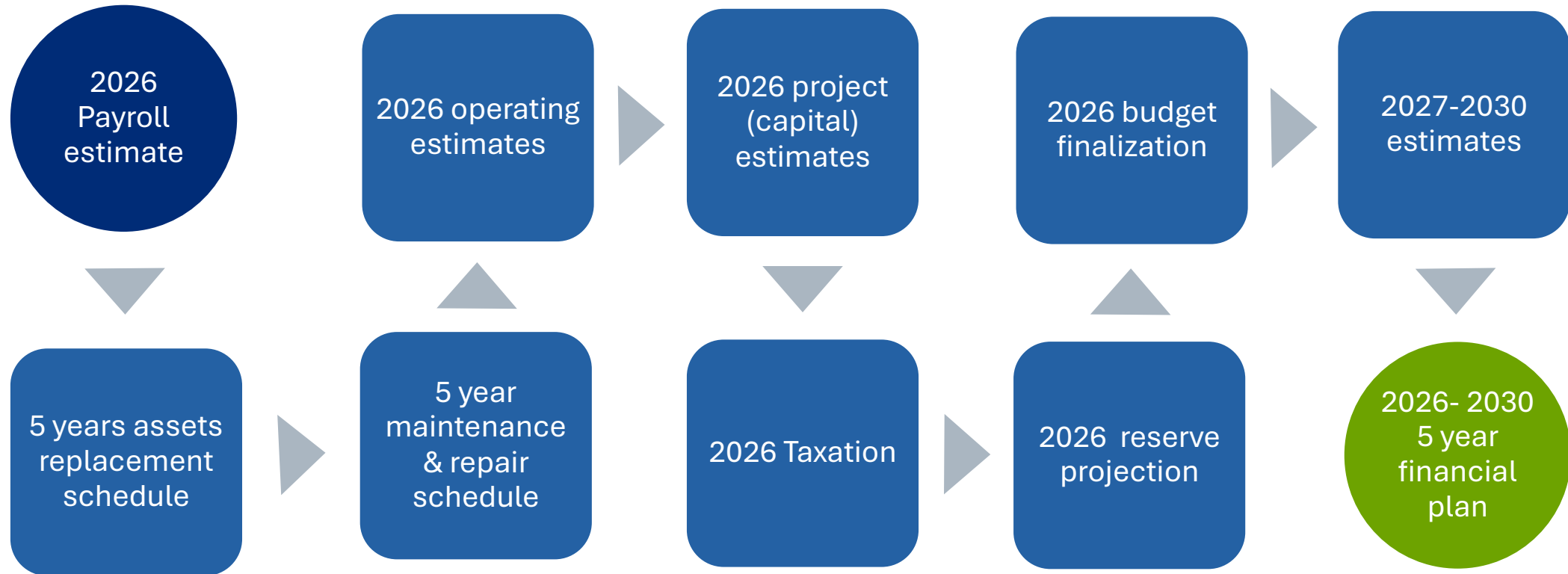


**Cultivate
Trust**



**Operate with
Excellence**

// 2026 Budget Process



// Get Involved

- Attend Committee of the Whole Budget Sessions
- Review resources and recordings on www.Pemberton.ca
- Write to Council & Staff
- Attend the Spring Public 2026 Budget Information Session
- Email accounting@pemberton.ca



**Have additional questions? Contact the Village of Pemberton
Finance Department at: accounting@pemberton.ca**

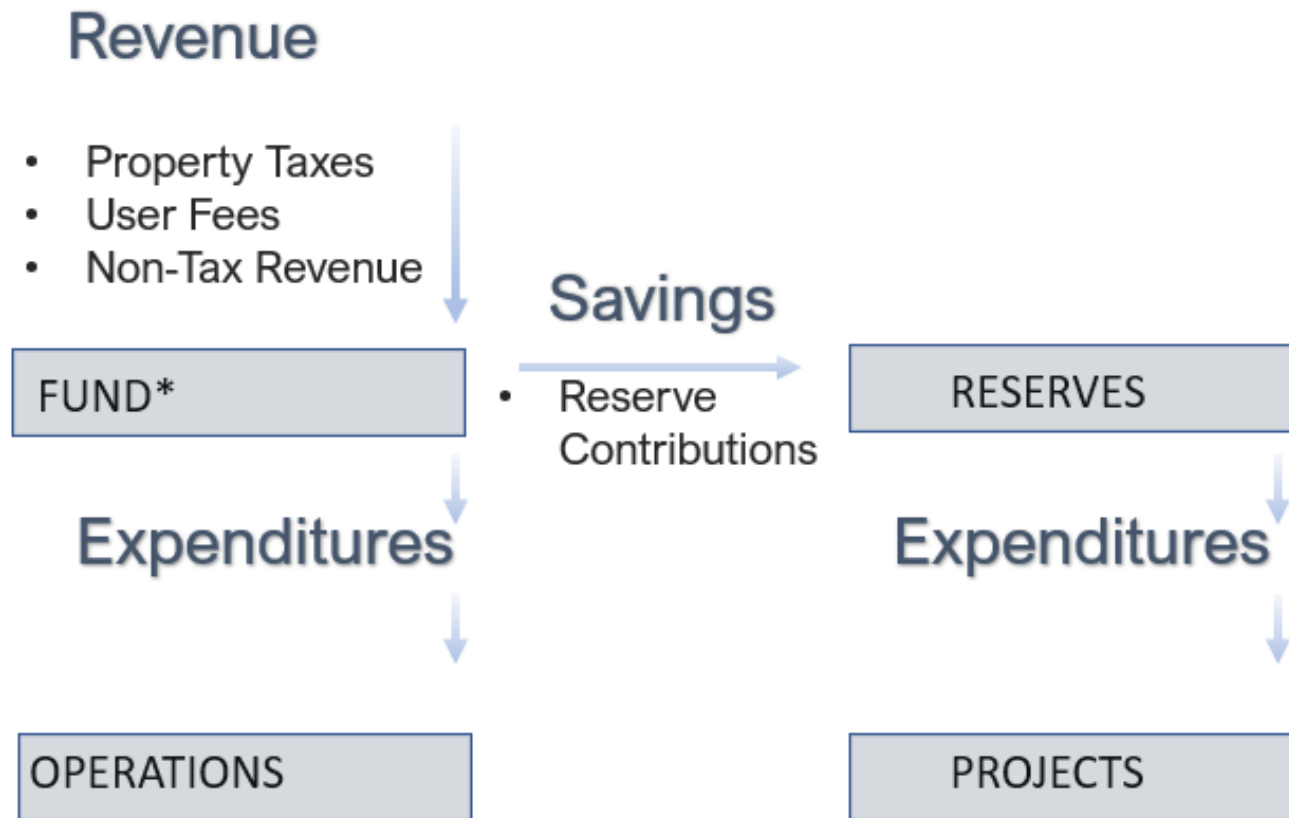
// Where are revenues, taxes & collections directed?

Tax revenues and collections fund various services, programs, reserves, including:

- Public Works and Parks
- Fire Services
- Development Services
- Governance
- Administration & Financial Services
- Airport
- Water & Sewer
- Transit
- Projects
- Reserves



// Funding: Balanced Budgets



*Funds (Municipal) have different revenues streams and distinct objectives (including General, Water, Sewer) and are subject to restrictions including various Funding Agreements (Contractual)

// BC Assessment: Property Taxes

BC Assessment determines the assessed value of property based on a valuation date of July 1st of each year. Assessment notices are mailed in January detailing the property's assessed value, classification, and tax exemption status.

Local tax authorities set property tax rates in early spring, and apply these rates to the assessed property value, minus any applicable tax exemptions.

YOUR PROPERTY ASSESSMENT RELATIVE TO YOUR PROPERTY TAXES



<https://info.bcasessment.ca/services-and-products/Pages/ThePropertyTaxEquation.aspx>

// BC Assessment: Continued

The most important factor is not how much your assessed value has changed, but how your assessed value has changed relative to the average change for your property class in your municipality or taxing jurisdiction.

You can find your municipality or taxing jurisdiction's average change listed on your annual assessment notice or via BC Assessment's online [interactive map](#).

	Your Property's Value Change	Property Tax Impact
1.	 LOWER than Average Change for Property Class	Taxes Likely DECREASE*
2.	 SIMILAR to the Average Change for Property Class	Taxes Likely DO NOT CHANGE*
3.	 HIGHER than Average Change for Property Class	Taxes Likely INCREASE

* assumes there are no changes in the distribution of budget funding between property class for your taxing jurisdiction and/or any other taxing agency.

Learn more about [Property Assessments and Property Taxes: a not-so complicated relationship](#).

<https://info.bccassessment.ca/propertytax>

// Preliminary Market Conditions/Assumptions

- Village of Pemberton (VOP) continuing to experience pressures again, including many double digit % cost increases and additional surcharges (amplified by geography)
 - VOP challenging and rejecting many bids, ensure competitive options and in some cases deferring activity
- Aging infrastructure and equipment requires increased maintenance (15 year plan recommended to bolster reserves per Asset Management Strategy rolled out in 2023)
- Increasing construction cost pressures- Impact observed across project proposals
- Increased replacement cost for aging infrastructure
- The Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 1.9% on a year-over-year basis in August, up from a 1.7% increase in July.

Discussion

Budget 2026 Community Engagement

Check-In Survey Results Review

// Why We Tried Something New

- Municipal budgets are complex and technical, making them often hard for residents to engage with in detail.
- Many residents share views on taxes, but not always on specific service areas.

A New Way to Engage

- To make participation easier, staff introduced **short, topic-based “Check-In Surveys.”**
- This approach let residents focus on topics that mattered most to them.



// Check-In Surveys

Five short online surveys were launched as part of the 2026 Budget engagement process. Each one focused on a different service area:

1. Parks and Sport Amenities
2. Recreation Services
3. Snow Removal
4. Roads and Sidewalks
5. Pemberton Regional Airport

This format allowed residents to choose the topics that were most relevant to them.



// How We Reached the Community

To reach as many residents as possible, the surveys were promoted through a variety of communication channels, including:

- Social media posts
- Website blog posts
- Community Newsletter (online)
- An article in Pique Newsmagazine
- Printed posters with QR codes at the PDCC and on community notice boards

This broad approach helped increase awareness and participation.



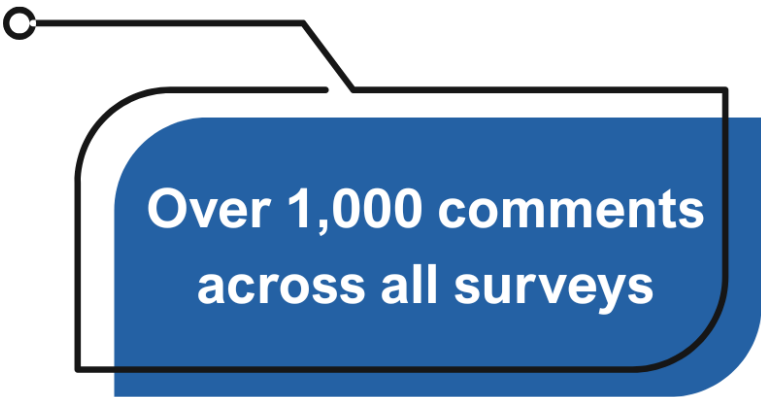
// Engagement Snapshot

Overall, 359 total survey responses were received, representing just over 10 percent of Village of Pemberton's population.

Participation was above average for small Canadian municipalities, which typically see 5 to 15 percent engagement.

Participation across surveys:

- Parks and Sport Amenities (*121 contributions*)
- Recreation Services (*83 contributions*)
- Snow Removal (*64 contributions*)
- Roads and Sidewalks (*57 contributions*)
- Pemberton Regional Airport (*34 contributions*)



**Over 1,000 comments
across all surveys**

// Survey Snapshot: Parks & Sport Amenities

Community Feedback: Parks & Sport Amenities

- **Strong appreciation** for existing parks and open spaces. Residents value access to nature.
- **Top concerns:** maintenance, shade, seating, dog park access, and public washrooms.
- **Recurring requests:** more shaded areas, water fountains, playgrounds, and accessible amenities for families.
- **Boardwalk at One Mile Lake Park** identified as a major safety concern.
- **Desire to preserve natural feel** while improving infrastructure and usability.



// Survey Snapshot: Parks & Sport Amenities

Sports Facilities: Strengths & Opportunities

- **Positive:** Fields and bike park highly valued; great community pride in Den Duyf Park amenities.
- **Improvement needs**
 - Better maintenance at tennis courts, skatepark, and Meadows field.
 - Lighting and parking access around sports amenities.
- **Future opportunities**
 - Strong interest in a recreation centre, pool, and ice rink.
 - Requests for pickleball courts, expanded skatepark, and indoor options.



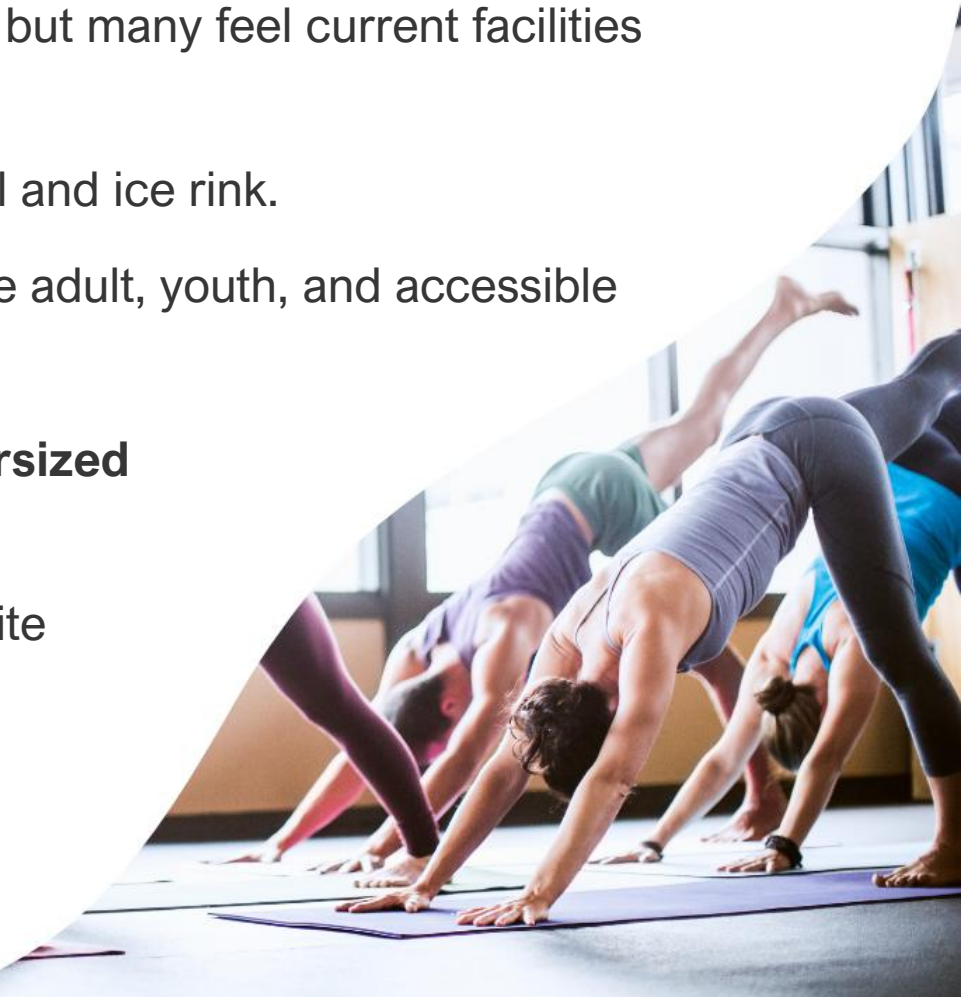
// Survey Snapshot: Parks & Sport Amenities

Community Amenities & Future Planning

- **Public washrooms:** Key pain point with requests for more, and cleaner, permanent facilities.
- **Waste management:** More bins, recycling, and compost options requested.
- **Shade & seating:** Repeated theme across all open spaces.
- **Future priorities**
 - Expand indoor recreation (pool, rink, climbing).
 - Improve trails, connectivity, and safety.
 - Add leafy trees and native landscaping for shade and biodiversity.
 - More arts, culture, and family events.

// Survey Snapshot: Recreation Services

- Residents are **generally satisfied** with recreation opportunities, but many feel current facilities are reaching their limits.
- **Top priorities:** expanding facilities, particularly a swimming pool and ice rink.
- **Accessibility and programming gaps** identified, including more adult, youth, and accessible options.
- Fitness centre frequently described as **overcrowded and undersized** for the community's growth.
- Continued appreciation for staff and existing programming despite limited space.



// Survey Snapshot: Recreation Services

Expanding Programs and Activities

Desired program growth:

- More sports and fitness options, plus arts, culture, and community events.
- Strong calls for youth and early childhood activities, especially swim and skating lessons.
- Increased interest in adult evening classes and low-cost outdoor programs.

Community engagement:

- Desire for more community-wide events and festivals.
- Requests for live music, art workshops, and educational seminars.
- Support for partner events (e.g., with the library or local artists).

Facilities & infrastructure:

- Support for better trail maintenance and shaded, comfortable recreation areas.
- Emphasis on facilities that foster community connection, not just sports.



// Survey Snapshot: Recreation Services

Pemberton & District Community Centre

Overall sentiment: Strong appreciation for staff and accessibility.

Top concerns:

- Fitness Centre is too small and struggles with capacity.
- Demand for pool and ice rink continues to grow.
- Requests for expanded programming, including evening and adult options.
- Desire for earlier openings (5–6 am) and later weekend hours.
- Calls for simplified online booking and easier access to schedules.

Looking ahead:

- Broaden recreation options beyond fitness.
- Maintain affordability while improving facilities.
- Explore flexible hours and space reconfiguration to meet demand.



// Survey Snapshot: Snow Removal

- General satisfaction with snow and ice management. Crews recognized for hard work and responsiveness.
- Main routes praised for being cleared promptly and effectively.

Key challenges:

- Snow pushed into driveways creating barriers.
 - Icy sidewalks and crosswalks posing risks for strollers, seniors, and wheelchairs.
 - Slower clearing on secondary roads and sidewalks
-
- Residents understand the complexity of winter operations but see room for better planning and equipment use.



// Survey Snapshot: Snow Removal

Community Feedback: Winter Trails & Facility Maintenance

- Overall satisfaction with trail and facility maintenance; many note improvements in recent years.
- Requests for more frequent trail plowing on Friendship Trail and Valley Loop Trail.
- **Accessibility concerns:**
 - Slippery melt-freeze surfaces and icy bridges/stairs.
 - Poor traction in some areas; suggestion to use gravel instead of salt.
- Residents value trail access for year-round walking and commuting, emphasizing safety and connectivity.
- Support for keeping civic facilities and downtown routes as top priorities.

// Survey Snapshot: Snow Removal

Ongoing Improvements and Community Feedback

Community appreciation: Snow removal crews described as “*amazing*,” “*hardworking*,” and “*responsive*.”

Key improvement themes:

- **Driveway berms:** cause accessibility challenges, especially for seniors and families.
- **Winter parking enforcement:** needed to support effective plowing.
- **Pedestrian routes:** improve clearing at crosswalks and business entrances.
- **Equipment efficiency:** suggestions to use graders and review snow placement methods.

// Survey Snapshot: Roads & Sidewalks

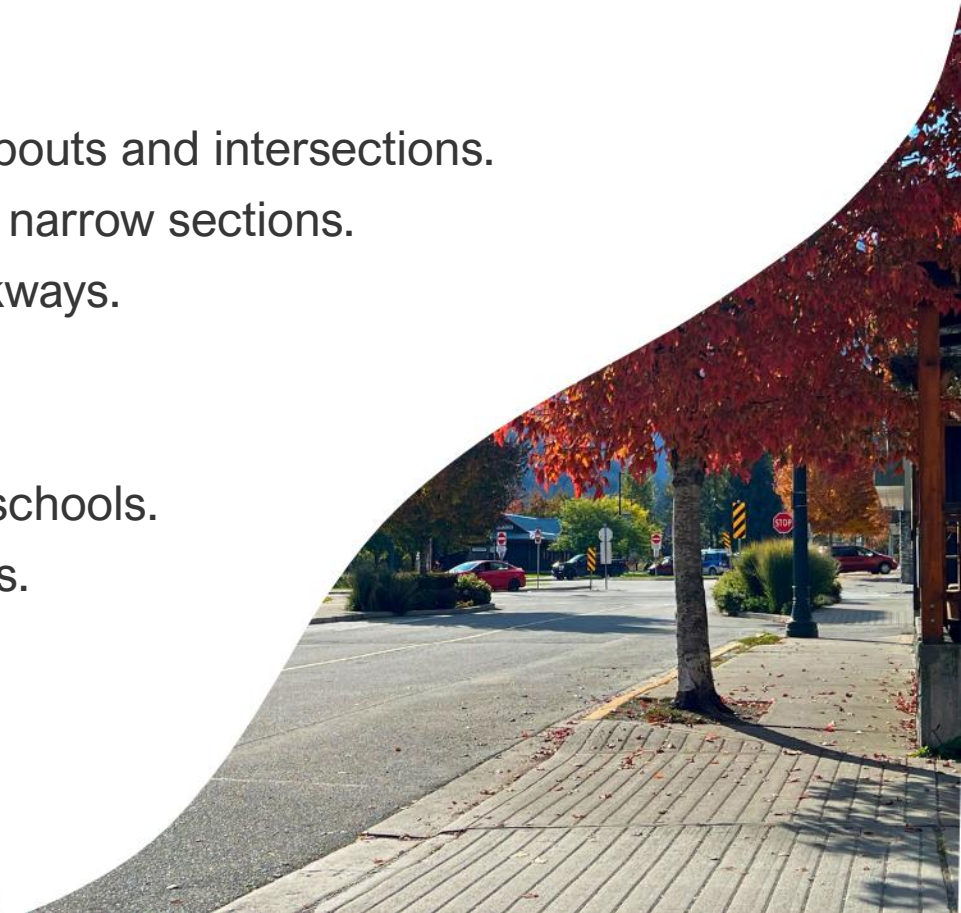
Mixed overall satisfaction: residents appreciate maintenance efforts but identify infrastructure gaps.

Top concerns:

- Potholes and uneven road surfaces, especially near roundabouts and intersections.
- Lack of sidewalks in certain neighbourhoods; incomplete or narrow sections.
- Accessibility issues such as missing ramps and narrow walkways.

Safety priorities:

- Crosswalks at Portage Road, Cottonwood Street, and near schools.
- Requests for raised crosswalks and traffic calming measures.
- Bike lanes to support growing cycling activity.



// Survey Snapshot: Roads & Sidewalks

Focus Areas for Roads and Sidewalks

Roads:

- **Repaving and pothole repair** remain top priorities.
- **Emergency access** and preparedness concerns raised due to limited routes in and out of Pemberton.
- **Drainage improvements** and traffic calming also suggested.

Sidewalks:

- **Add sidewalks** where none exist; prioritize **high-use pedestrian areas**.
- Improve **accessibility standards** — concerns about gravel surfaces and narrow paths.
- Address **Friendship Trail safety** (narrow width, highway crossings).
- Expand **multi-use trails** and safer alternatives to the highway for pedestrians and cyclists.

// Survey Snapshot: Roads & Sidewalks

Improving Safety and Accessibility

Pedestrian and cyclist safety identified as a leading concern.

- Calls for improved crosswalk visibility, raised crossings, and speed reduction downtown.

Sidewalks and accessibility:

- Concerns about narrow or missing sidewalks and placement of accessible parking.

Trail maintenance and connectivity:

- Improve Friendship Trail conditions and highway crossings.
- Support safe routes for children biking or walking to school.

Community appreciation:

- Village crews praised for snow clearing and general upkeep.



// Survey Snapshot: Pemberton Regional Airport

Community Feedback: Airport Conditions

Runway condition: concerns about cracks, dips, and vegetation growth.

Maintenance suggestions:

- Low-cost seasonal upkeep using local staff or student programs.

Signage and access: unclear parking and gate information.

Public awareness:

- Many residents do not use the airport or see it as a community amenity.
- Some view it as primarily serving private or commercial operators.

Economic impact:

- Concerns about taxpayer costs versus public benefit.
- Suggestions to explore business or tourism opportunities to offset maintenance.



// Survey Snapshot: Pemberton Regional Airport

Operations, Access, and Maintenance

- **Winter access:** mixed views; many support clearing only for helicopter/emergency use.
- **Fuel access:** vital for emergencies; communication needed when pumps are down.
- **Leasing and fees:** confusion about rates and lot availability; requests for transparency.
- **Ideas to boost use:** fly-in tourism and under-wing camping.

// Survey Snapshot: Pemberton Regional Airport

Governance & Long-Term Role

- Calls for greater transparency on budgets and airport value.
- Some suggest reducing public spending or focusing on emergency/heliport operations.
- Desire for public engagement on the airport's future and potential economic opportunities.



Budget 2026



Thank you Pemberton!

We appreciate everyone who took the time to share their voice in this year's Budget 2026 Check-In Surveys.

Your input helps guide Pemberton's future.