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### Unpaid Utilities Fees Transferred to Province of BC

The Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) has received a significant number of inquiries about outstanding utilities and curbside collection fees that have been added to their property taxes as per notices recently mailed out by the Province of BC.

Residents of the Cowichan region who receive water, sewer and/or curbside collection services from the CVRD receive bills via direct mail from the CVRD for these services. Throughout the year, residents can make payments for these services to the CVRD directly, either online or in person at the head office on Ingram St. in Duncan.

Under the *Local Government Act*, the CVRD is required to transfer to taxes, any outstanding account balances as of December 31 to the Province of BC. This includes our water, sewer and curbside collection services. The Province of BC, through the Surveyor of Taxes, bills these outstanding amounts to taxpayers. Once this happens, residents are no longer able to make payment to the CVRD directly, and must settle their account through payment to the Province of BC.

Please note that these bills have not gone to collections, and payments to the Province may be made online through the [Province of BC website](#), through a financial institution or at a local Service BC centre. Please note that the Province of BC will send a statement at the end of each month, should the outstanding balance continue to be unpaid, and daily interest is charged from January 1, 2021 until the payment is made.

We apologize for the inconvenience this may cause residents who did not settle their accounts prior to December 31.