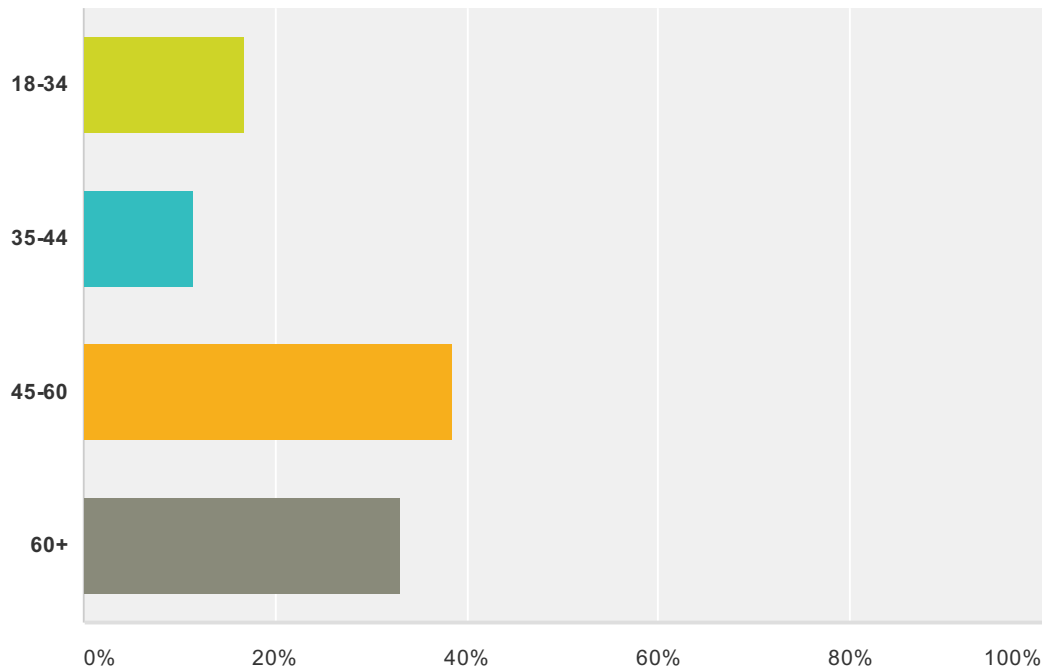


Q1 How old are you?

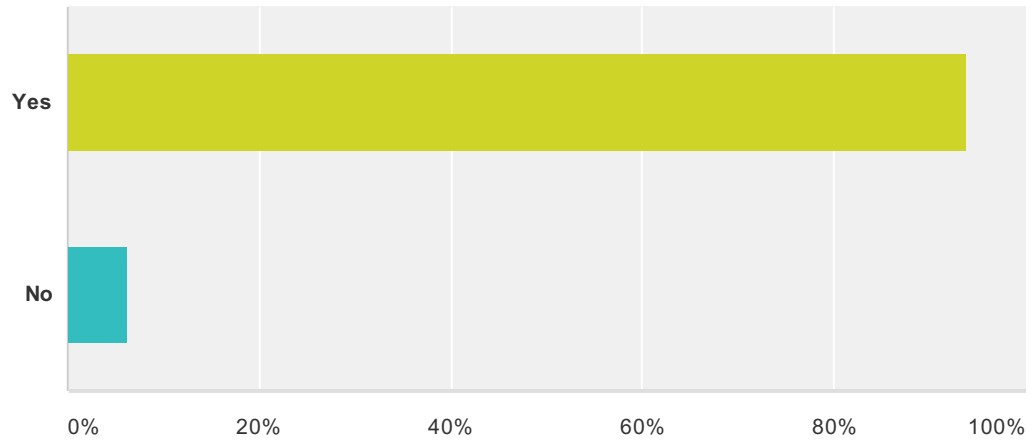
Answered: 420 Skipped: 18



Answer Choices	Responses	
18-34	16.90%	71
35-44	11.43%	48
45-60	38.57%	162
60+	33.10%	139
Total		420

Q2 Are you a resident of the City of Port Alberni?

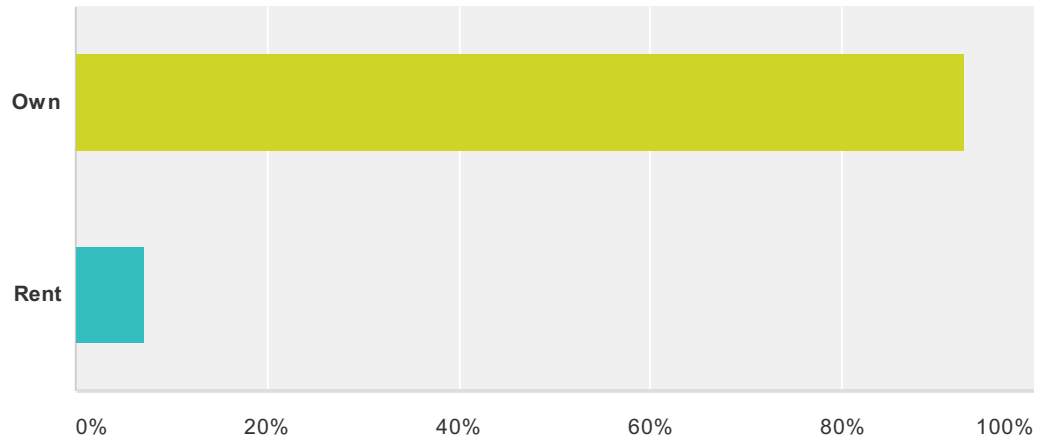
Answered: 437 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	93.82%	410
No	6.18%	27
Total		437

Q3 If you are a City resident, do you own or rent your home?

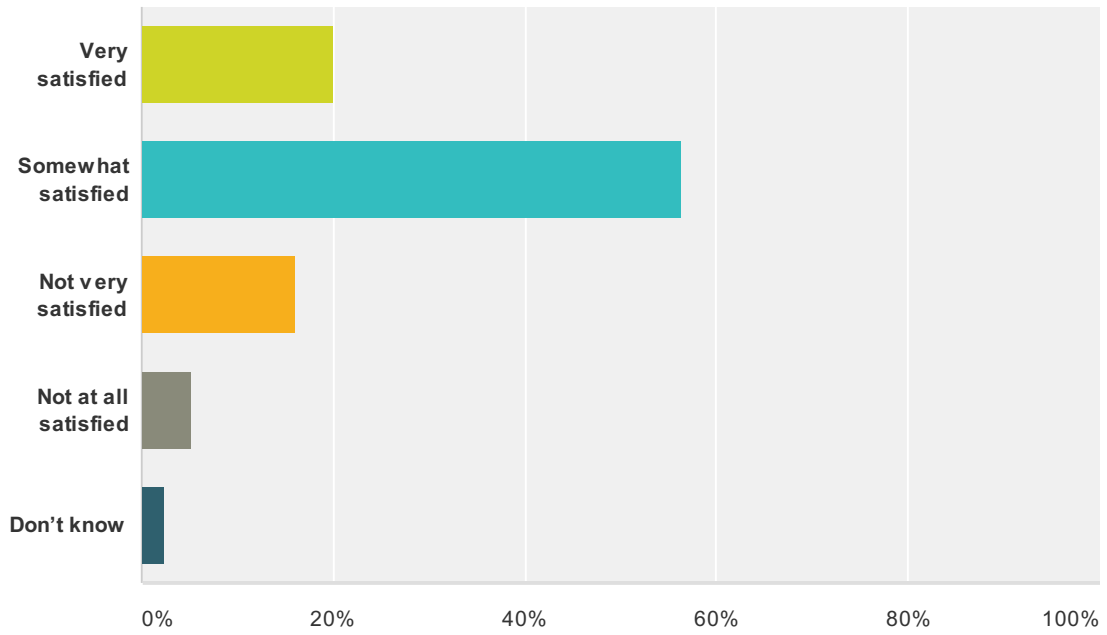
Answered: 402 Skipped: 36



Answer Choices	Responses	
Own	92.79%	373
Rent	7.21%	29
Total		402

Q4 Overall, how would you rate your satisfaction with City Services?

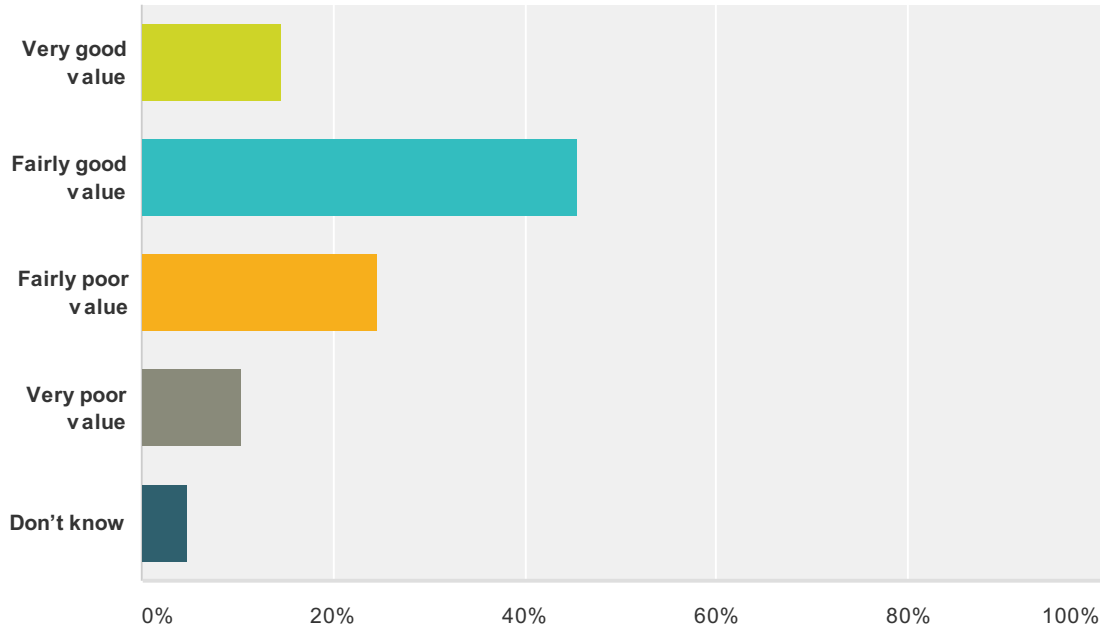
Answered: 423 Skipped: 15



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Very satisfied	20.09%	85
Somewhat satisfied	56.26%	238
Not very satisfied	16.08%	68
Not at all satisfied	5.20%	22
Don't know	2.36%	10
Total		423

Q5 A portion of your property tax bill is made up of levies collected for other public agencies, including the School District, BC Assessment, Regional District and Regional Hospital. Thinking about the portion of your property taxes that pay for municipal services, would you say you receive...

Answered: 422 Skipped: 16

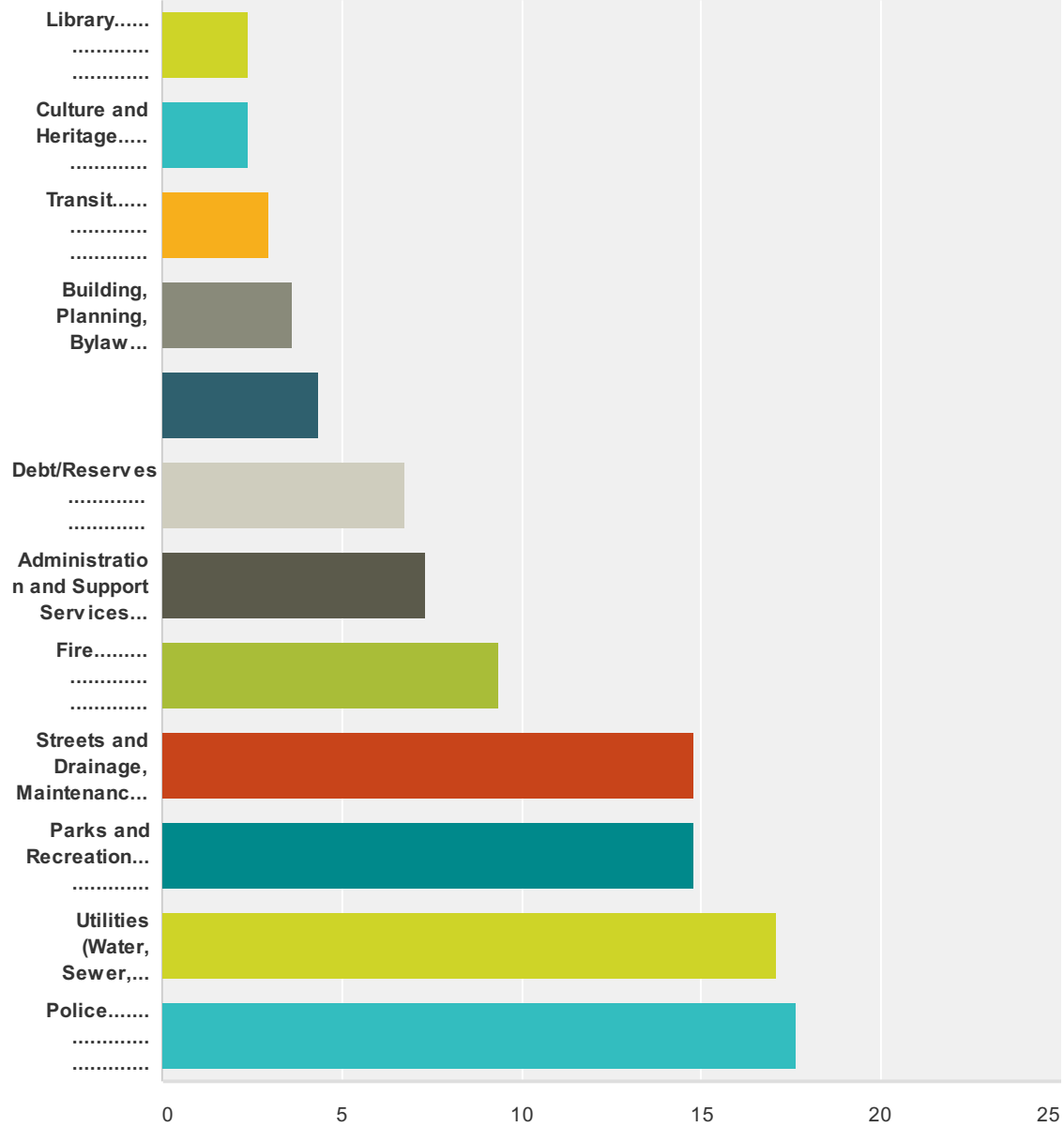


Answer Choices	Responses
Very good value	14.69% 62
Fairly good value	45.50% 192
Fairly poor value	24.64% 104
Very poor value	10.43% 44
Don't know	4.74% 20
Total	422

Q6 We would like to know what services you value most, so we'd like you to tell us how you would distribute \$100 across the City's departments. We have provided the current approximate distribution of \$100 across our various departments next to the input field. How would you allocate these amounts? Please just use whole numbers, no other characters or decimals. (Sum or total needs to add up to \$100).

Answered: 342 Skipped: 96

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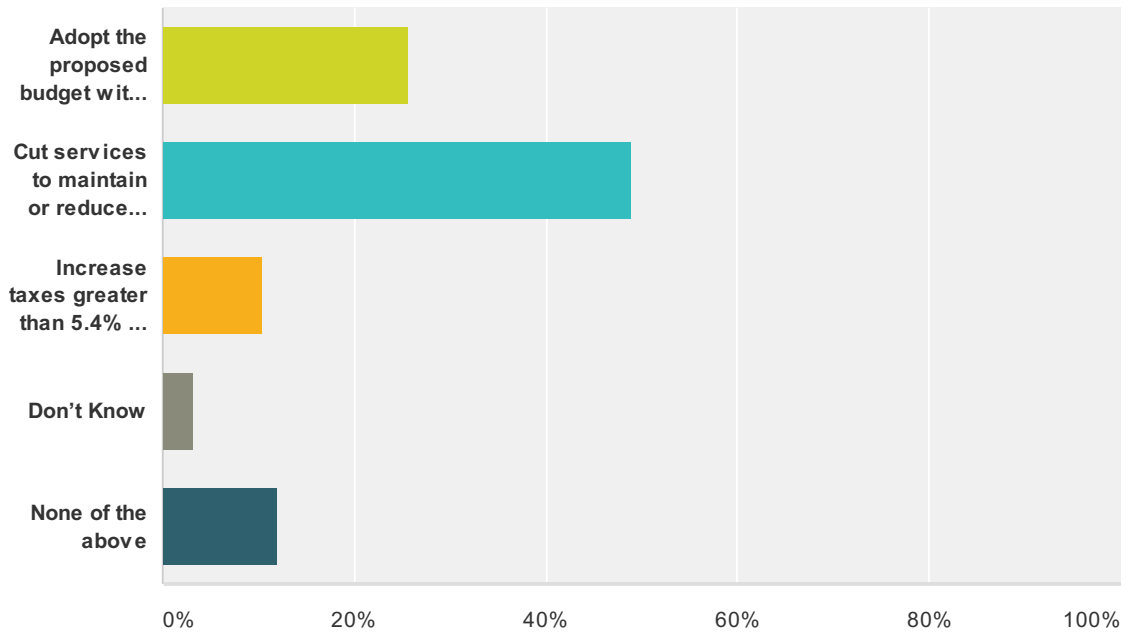
Answer Choices	Average Number	Total Number	Responses
Library.....\$2	2	769	323
Culture and Heritage.....\$2	2	774	322

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Transit.....\$3	3	947	322
Building, Planning, Bylaw Enforcement including SPCA.....\$2	4	1,177	327
Economic and Community Development.....\$1	4	1,420	325
Debt/Reserves.....\$5	7	2,187	323
Administration and Support Services (Clerks, Finance, IT, Human Resources).....\$9	7	2,361	323
Fire.....\$10	9	3,013	322
Streets and Drainage, Maintenance and Reconstruction.....\$12	15	4,865	329
Parks and Recreation.....\$16	15	4,912	332
Utilities (Water, Sewer, Garbage).....\$18	17	5,562	326
Police.....\$20	18	5,748	326
Total Respondents: 342			

Q7 Due to increased costs the City’s draft 2014 budget includes a 5.4% increase for residential taxpayers. Recognizing that the City must balance taxation and service delivery levels we would like know which of the following would you like the City to pursue?

Answered: 377 Skipped: 61



Answer Choices	Responses
Adopt the proposed budget with a 5.4% tax increase to maintain services at current levels	25.73% 97
Cut services to maintain or reduce current tax levels	48.81% 184
Increase taxes greater than 5.4% to enhance or expand services	10.34% 39
Don't Know	3.18% 12
None of the above	11.94% 45
Total	377

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Q8 Please describe the service(s) you feel should be reduced or discontinued.

Answered: 172 Skipped: 266

#	Responses	Date
1	we should close heritage park as it is just a money pit	2/13/2014 10:59 AM
2	First department downsized, Parks & Rec cut.	2/12/2014 12:52 PM
3	Parks and recreation (reduce) fire hall part regular part	2/11/2014 6:35 PM
4	m	2/11/2014 2:41 PM
5	city hall costs and staffing - contract out services reduce department sizes. abandon emphasis on decaying parts of town	2/10/2014 10:26 PM
6	Recreation we can't subsidize the whole valley other areas need to contribute. Administration reduce costs. Quit raising residential taxes every year people are moving out of city due to high taxes.	2/10/2014 8:26 PM
7	firefighters! no more than 5 paid positions,mcclains mill get rid of it!!	2/9/2014 7:49 PM
8	i think that everyone who works at the city needs to take a pay cut! over paid and under worked	2/8/2014 12:32 AM
9	revert fire dept to volunteer	2/7/2014 8:57 AM
10	Less administration, consider two week garbage pickup,	2/6/2014 8:06 PM
11	Why are you spending any money on a roger creek crossing. It is completely unnecessary. spend money on a light at Maebell. this will help traffic flow and aid in slowing highway traffic down to city speed limits.	2/6/2014 3:22 PM
12	Mcleans Mill and train. reduce wages on council Courses on time management for city workers, way to much wasted time, as per their comment	2/6/2014 1:37 PM
13	McLean Mill and I think the number of management and their wages should be reviewed and possibly reduced.	2/5/2014 8:26 PM
14	Privatize parks and rec and some municipal services if increased efficiencies are to be gained, Cut hours for library and museum, Curtail or eliminate some bus routes. Keep raises for mayor and council to 2% per year.	2/5/2014 5:48 PM
15	Decrease wages (we all have to take cuts!). Cut back on staff (lots of people not doing a days work). Stop with expenses of signs etc. that are already a given. Also why continue to operate McLean's Mill when it continues to be in the "red"? As well as the "Lighthouse" and the info centre and the new school. The old one could have been brought up to specs for a lot less money.	2/5/2014 4:20 PM
16	cut fire dept to two members on site with others on call as required on night shift and others employed at the hall to fill in on days.	2/5/2014 3:29 PM
17	police	2/5/2014 1:09 PM
18	Mcleans mill, library,	2/5/2014 9:25 AM
19	McLean Mill, Administration, City owned vehicles, also I do not agree with the recent proposed referendum on the Roger Creek crossing	2/5/2014 9:21 AM
20	heritage	2/4/2014 9:21 PM
21	share reduction equally amongst all services	2/4/2014 8:22 PM
22	fire, multi plex, council pay and mayor	2/4/2014 3:01 PM
23	Parks and Rec.....administration including City Council salaries	2/4/2014 1:18 PM
24	Reduce management staff. eliminate full time paid firemen. Cut city employee benefits. Hold a wage freeze for five years	2/3/2014 2:32 PM

City of Port Alberni 2014 Budget Survey

25	parks & rec, police	2/3/2014 12:03 PM
26	terminate the McLeans Mill, review need for management staffing and wages, raise bus fares to 2.25, raise echo user fees by 10-15%	2/2/2014 12:23 AM
27	City workers salaries and benefits	2/1/2014 3:40 PM
28	Admin costs/Parks & Rec/Fire	2/1/2014 1:23 PM
29	Privatize Macleans mill Fire dept make mostly volunteer like Parksville, Duncan etc.	2/1/2014 11:17 AM
30	The parks and rec the planning dept The commisionaire The fire dept The arena the IT dept The	1/31/2014 9:02 PM
31	parks and rec should be more user pay. Facilities that cannot come close to paying for itself should be closed (Glenwood eg). there is a lot of wasteful spending on pie in the sky thoughts (second crossing, criuse ship destination, transportation hub, rail etc)	1/31/2014 11:14 AM
32	Create hybrid fire department with volunteer as well as full time firefighters. Negotiate union contracts within annual inflation rates and reduce services in recognition of the shrinking number of taxpayers as our population continues to stagnate. Invest money in proper infrastructure projects to enhance the desirability for both tourists and prospective residents. Learn financial accountability and elect a council with the courage to make the tough changes necessary to ensure the future growth and vitality of our community.	1/31/2014 10:48 AM
33	Any and all raises to senior administration should be cut! If they want more money they should go somewhere else!!!!	1/31/2014 9:05 AM
34	22 firefighters!!! give your heads a shake, maclains mill subsidy! give your heads a shake who gets a 26thousand dollar raise as Watson did last year! are you guys for real! now you are wanting a raise for city councillors and mayor! don't run for PUBLIC office, move out! DISGUSTING!! CAN YOU TELL HOW ANGRY AND UPSET WE THE PEOPLE OF PORT ALBERNI ARE!!!	1/31/2014 8:16 AM
35	Too much being spent on policing and parks and recreation. In a recession we have to expect less employ other crime reduction strategies: ubran farming.	1/30/2014 1:41 PM
36	Management positions should be reduced at City Hall. Other levels of government and companies are having to reduce staffing to maintain current levels of spending. Also, consider leasing equipment rather than purchasing it outright.	1/30/2014 12:55 PM
37	Must have a partial fire dept. We can't afford McLeans mill	1/30/2014 12:42 PM
38	Too much being spent on policing and parks and recreation. In a recession we have to expect less. Employ other crime reduction strategies: urban farming. Do not raise taxes, implement cuts to salaries for departement heads. This will show resolve and drive home ownership as baby boomers retire across an increasingly cold country, with climate change extreames on the rise.	1/30/2014 11:43 AM
39	Fire dept must be at least partial volunteer Merge parks and rec with the city workers Macleans Mill is too expensive. It's not even in the city limits. SPCA should have an increase.	1/29/2014 9:42 PM
40	no discontinuation but a small reduction in fire and parks and rec and policing	1/29/2014 3:13 PM
41	Reduce spending on city works equipment.	1/28/2014 6:16 PM
42	parks and rec manager needs to be eliminated.also to much over all managment	1/28/2014 12:36 PM
43	S P C A, Policing, Fire Dept should be a joint paid and volunteer	1/28/2014 10:57 AM
44	library museum mclean mill	1/28/2014 12:37 AM
45	City administration salaries to be cut . no pay raise for council. Second time this term the salary review has come up.	1/27/2014 5:48 PM
46	mcleans mill_ fire dept_ parks and rec—city works	1/27/2014 3:02 PM
47	Firehall could be part volunteer, Courtenay doesn't have a fully paid fire dept. City managers are paid too much for this size of town. Our mill rate is ridiculously high, then you add our water, garbage etc to the whole tax bill and it's the highest on the island. It makes living in town very expensive, especially if you have a house worth over \$300,000.00. Much, much more than other communities on the island. Roll up your sleeves and quit jacking up our taxes every year.	1/27/2014 2:06 PM
48	Continual "feasibility studies".	1/27/2014 1:14 PM
49	Garbage pick up every two weeks Charge more user fees for transit,recreation, etc.Fire services too high.	1/27/2014 12:54 PM

City of Port Alberni 2014 Budget Survey

50	city haa staff	1/27/2014 12:21 PM
51	Management	1/27/2014 11:34 AM
52	Parks & Rec	1/27/2014 10:05 AM
53	administration	1/27/2014 9:07 AM
54	We can no longer afford the level of fire service we currently have. Please start making the transition to a composite fire service with both career and paid on-call volunteer members.	1/27/2014 8:57 AM
55	Within the city management, fire department \$ could use some reduction do not like \$3500.00 in taxes to be paid on the estate of my father no grants available. I am a senior.	1/27/2014 8:24 AM
56	cuts in people using trucks for their own use.cut adm.fire dept.getting paid same as Victoria.	1/27/2014 8:08 AM
57	volunteer fire dept	1/26/2014 9:37 PM
58	Stop support of the Industrial Heritage Society. They have \$230,000 in wages and no breakdown of who gets paid what.We are subsidizing them for wages. If they really cared about the industrial society they would volunteer for free like other societies do.	1/26/2014 9:28 PM
59	,administration costs are far to high, and a volunteer fire dept. would save a million dollars	1/26/2014 9:22 PM
60	Discontinue the city's support of Alberni Pacific Railway and McLean Mill.	1/26/2014 9:11 PM
61	fire city works and staffing	1/26/2014 8:51 PM
62	Keep some full time fire fighters and use volunteers, moratorium on purchasing new vehicles, combine some managerial positions and reduce some positions, especially the senior positions.	1/26/2014 7:23 PM
63	This is your job and why you were elected. But you need to focus on the 10 things cities are supposed to deliver and looks at getting out of things such as automotive shops etc.	1/26/2014 6:56 PM
64	Stop buying brand new city vehicles and adding extra RCMP in a shrinking tax base... In other words live within your means and start thinking about tax payers	1/26/2014 6:55 PM
65	fire dept. parks and rec. reduce every dept. by 5 %	1/26/2014 4:56 PM
66	I think the city workers and staff are being paid enough and do not need any more raises.	1/26/2014 1:38 PM
67	Need for part Professional, part Volunteer Fire Department is way overdue, due to lost IndustrialTx Base. We have about 5 more RCMP, than our City Population dictates - time to use attrition and see what average number of Cops looks like. We really need Council and City Management to look at reducing costs, without greatly affecting services. I believe there are many opprtortunities. I have listed 2 major ones that I think would save more than 1.5 Million dollars, when fully implemented.Can we offload MacLean's mill to the Heritage Society. I see too many people wanting to spend money, which will lead to more tax increases. I believe we may pay the highest municipal taxes , based on assessed property values in Canada. Now, I understand that it's services we pay for, but this fact should concern City Council and City Management more seriously than it appears. I also think if you're going to give one part of town, tax savings on business improvements, you should give it all Business areas.	1/26/2014 11:50 AM
68	Administration costs	1/26/2014 8:41 AM
69	PENSIONS AND PAY OF WORKERS	1/25/2014 2:30 PM
70	water fee, reduce garbage fee, reduce heritage amt.(ie:McLean mill & museum)	1/25/2014 2:07 PM
71	middle and upper management	1/25/2014 1:07 PM
72	please provide list of services that are currently financed	1/25/2014 10:35 AM
73	Parks and Recreation is too expensive. Many current services could be delivered more efficiently and and for less cost if privatised in whole or part.	1/25/2014 8:12 AM
74	freeze on city staff and salaries, cut administrative expenses	1/25/2014 8:11 AM
75	municipal staffing levels	1/24/2014 10:46 PM
76	police, fire,museum library	1/24/2014 8:59 PM
77	discontinued: nothing reductions: administration, maintenance, parks and rec	1/24/2014 8:53 PM
78	Reduce Police Costs, Projects such as the Community Beach, board walk, ring road.	1/24/2014 7:08 PM

City of Port Alberni 2014 Budget Survey

79	Human Resources, Police clerical and reporting	1/24/2014 6:11 PM
80	A general over all reduction in civil servants wages and benefits/pensions much the same as private industry has done in previous years to keep the companys afloat and not go bankrupt.	1/24/2014 2:25 PM
81	eliminate economic development department. reduce library, parks and rec, and administration. (parks and rec should be paid through increased users fees, not property taxes)	1/24/2014 2:23 PM
82	Garbage collection could be reduced or privatized. Fire department could be combined with volunteers. Fewer consultant expenditures	1/24/2014 11:19 AM
83	Parks & Rec, City Admin including freeze on salaries and reductions through attrition	1/24/2014 10:33 AM
84	too many empty parks, fire department way too costly. many city services could be contracted out. city employees wages and benefits cost too much. city should sell of some holdings.	1/24/2014 10:08 AM
85	Maclean Mill	1/24/2014 9:31 AM
86	administration, reduce equipment budget, eliminate useess and costly consultants and studies	1/24/2014 8:40 AM
87	Stop planting tress and bushes that only make more work for city staff and damage sidewalks, plug drains. Stop providing city funds to keep programs open that have a long history of losing money because of the high overhead and administration costs. Stop spending money on high price consulting firms to tell Port Alberni people what we need.	1/24/2014 7:54 AM
88	across the board.	1/23/2014 8:03 PM
89	maclean mill reduce to 0 cost. parks and rec to reduce the rest. spend no money on trains.	1/23/2014 7:12 PM
90	cut staff at city hall, example: Some one who has a Honda dealership in Alberta, with 150 employees, has a IT man in for 8 hours a month, why couldn't this be contracted out. Elimate the excess fat. When I go into city hall, it seems to be an over load of employees. It's call empire building.	1/23/2014 6:54 PM
91	McLeans's Mill reduced, Parks and Rec reduced, number of city workers at City Hall,	1/23/2014 6:15 PM
92	fire	1/23/2014 6:11 PM
93	Fire department structure should be set up as a volunteer fire department as per other communties. We should be preventative focused so need less policing. I am in favour of things that build community and families so decreasing the policing need.	1/23/2014 6:07 PM
94	Parks and Rec.	1/23/2014 5:13 PM
95	Volunteer or combined volunteer/full time service to cut at least 50% of tax burden. As usual you have failed to have the option in section 7- cut over spending in all departments with no service cuts, eg stop mangers from moming coffees at MacDonalds, lunches at Little Bavaria, stop labour practices like all employees spending 2-3 hours going to yard for coffees and lunch with all the equipment! Etc., etc., etc.!,	1/23/2014 4:10 PM
96	Reduce police numbers. Hire local for all mundane duties. Change to volunteer fire service: this service can work in other cities it can work here. City Hall Pay Roll: \$100.000+ pa, is obscene and unwarranted. Initiate a new pay scale max \$60.000 All top positions.(find new employment) if unhappy. CUPE: unions are important however benefits need to be re visited and repealed.	1/23/2014 3:12 PM
97	culture and heritage admin	1/23/2014 3:07 PM
98	Fire Department	1/23/2014 1:16 PM
99	Reductions are shown in my allocation of the budget	1/23/2014 1:14 PM
100	reduce garbage collection, fire	1/23/2014 1:09 PM
101	city hall staffing macleans mill consultants	1/23/2014 10:42 AM

City of Port Alberni 2014 Budget Survey

102	I think that culture and heritage should be discontinued. The City cuts large cheques to McLeans Mill. Workers at the McLeans Mill and the library should have lower wages or be on a volunteer basis. I feel the museum is not necessary. It is not a used amenity. Although firemen put their life on the line, this service should be reduced to an on call basis. These workers are overpaid to sit around the majority of the time. Perhaps, they could diversify their duties to improve the city while waiting for calls. The money contributed to the Police should be reduced slightly. There service is esstential to a town where there is high volumes of domestic disputes. However, it has come to my attention that we have a lot of new police vehicles in town. I do not feel that we need more or new ones at this point.	1/23/2014 10:25 AM
103	Fire hall should be volunteer the Parksville_ Qualicum area has 40000 people and are served by volunteer fire departments and so should the library	1/23/2014 9:58 AM
104	Parks and Rec has too many recreation programmers, they seem to get hired as casuals, then snuck on to the full time list.. eg. Kathy Bagley, Nathan Kwan, etc I also think the multiplex is costing too much, lets see more money into a new pool instead. And take a look at management, like a study pointed out, the city has too many management positions.	1/23/2014 9:00 AM
105	Fire department should be a composite of career and paid on-call volunteer members. Museum should be operated by a non-profit society that the City would provide an annual grant to. The annual grant to the IHS should be reduced dramatically. The City should reduce transit services. Council should reduce the wage increases they provide through collective agreements negotiations. Put in more river rock gardens that require less maintenance from staff	1/23/2014 8:38 AM
106	culture (signs downtown), education (new high school, aboriginal), sewers(already paying for), hospital (paying MSP), garbage(prepaid), administration (can't even get through on the phone to city hall) police administration	1/23/2014 8:35 AM
107	For town of this size we cannot afford fire department. Other communities much larger such as Courtenay does not have one. Have fire personnel replace city workers through attrition. We cannot afford to keep going this way. No more equipment replacement and no new fire personnel till this issue is looked at closely. Cheaper to pay higher fire insurance than maintain department. .	1/23/2014 12:15 AM
108	garbage	1/22/2014 9:51 PM
109	heritage.. mcleans mill should be self sufficient!! Reduce admin costs, reduce police/fire costs, some people are being paid way too much in this day when we can't get decent wage increases ourselves.	1/22/2014 8:15 PM
110	city works payrolls,engineering,fire crews,	1/22/2014 6:24 PM
111	fire dept, parks & rec, managemnet wages and positions	1/22/2014 6:11 PM
112	Fire department. Use volunteers	1/22/2014 5:49 PM
113	Snow removal when streets are not plugged	1/22/2014 5:39 PM
114	stop wasting money on needless studies, reduce city staff this is not 1970.	1/22/2014 5:39 PM
115	to much spent on fire hall and mcleans mill shouldnt put money there we cant afford this	1/22/2014 3:29 PM
116	fire protection is way out of had	1/22/2014 3:25 PM
117	mclean mill,economic development,vehicles	1/22/2014 3:20 PM
118	Wages are becoming very high in my opinion, especially when bundled with vacation, benefits, pensions etc. The hourly wage rate is very generous for many unskilled positions within the city, and further exaggerated with the benefits. Many counter clerk (echo centre, city hall, multiplex, pool etc) would easily function with \$15/hr positions (which is still \$30,000/yr) instead of +\$25/hr.	1/22/2014 2:49 PM
119	Combine general administrative services of the RCMP, City Hall and Fire Department where overlap occurs. Reduce Management positions through attrition to a Supervisory or Lead Hand concept.	1/22/2014 2:24 PM
120	City hall staff should be pared back.	1/22/2014 9:31 AM
121	No more stupid beach ideas and learn to live with no tax increases.	1/21/2014 10:13 PM
122	Fire, ambulance & police all show up in emergency tripling service cost. IE, too many people doing nothing most of the time. Firemen should double as paramedics like they did before.	1/20/2014 12:18 PM
123	heritage reorganization all City departments Fire	1/20/2014 11:50 AM

City of Port Alberni 2014 Budget Survey

124	As the Burden of Taxes are being shifted from industry to the Homeowner, many whom simply cannot afford these increases, UNNECESSARY Spending must be eliminated. A Glaring example of this is PARKS & REC. There is NO NEED for that Gross level of spending !!! (as a Good place to Start !).	1/20/2014 1:13 AM
125	REDUCE administration positions,excess managers and salaries, smaller buses (quick dart buses), subsidies to industry(i.e.mill), REDUCE streetlights, Reduce Firefighting Dept. or use Large % of volunteers. Reduce the greed in City of P.A staff. We need a healthy, happy pop. in P.A. not a good life for only a few people. Port Alberni needs help...this is the place for populate and uneducate...frankly if we had otherwise it would threaten some peoples jobs,attitudes and their cushy life.	1/19/2014 11:32 AM
126	ADMINISTRATION, PARKS/REC, INCREASE MAINTENACE ROADS ETC. REDUCE TOP SALARYS, IECITY MANAGER	1/19/2014 11:32 AM
127	Reduce salaries at City Hall! All employees must live in the city limits. Recognize that comparing city hall salaries in relation to city size is ridiculous as the folks living here have an average income of \$25,000 yearly. Port Alberni is NOT Parksville. Combine some positions...ie...we do not need one whole positon for Human Resources...we pay far too much for the museum...the expensive new garbage truck was to cut costs and we have yet to see any benefits from that investment in terms of our rising taxes. Stop catering to the dreams of the few with good paying jobs in this town... to the detriment of those barely making ends meet. Stop catering to a city hall and chamber of commerce that behave like some kind of rich country club wanabes. Stop the huge waste on money on consultations, trips overseas, out of town meetings and conventions and use that money fix the crumbling downtown areas. Start being REAL and acknowledge the reality of Port Alberni today.	1/19/2014 11:15 AM
128	All non essential services, until the economy improves.	1/19/2014 10:19 AM
129	The Fire dept The Arena The over use of consultants	1/18/2014 11:05 PM
130	Most of the city staff	1/18/2014 12:52 AM
131	Fire protection should be reduced. Parks and recreation should be reduced. McLeans Mill should be given a 5 year timelibe to become profitable.	1/17/2014 9:29 PM
132	Heritage, library, mcleans mill	1/17/2014 8:33 PM
133	Horticulture, staffing levels, signage, development of 3rd Avenue area	1/17/2014 7:38 PM
134	I feel that tax payers money is not properly utilized by distributing it to McLeans's Mill, the train station and the museum. I feel workers are highly over paid in these places of business as well as the fire department. I feel seniors would have an interest in volunteering at these businesses. I think the City should look at having a volunteer fire department or on call basis. A significant amount of money is spent here that could be spent elsewhere. Port Alberni firemen are the highest paid firemen on Vancouver Island. I feel that the City is lacking in their Economic Development department. I suggest that they benchmark to similar cities and try to find more investors. They should be hosting more Chinese delegations. I feel the City is doing a positive job with the trails, garbage pickup, the new pier and other miscellaneous cleanup around town.	1/17/2014 7:26 PM
135	Lay off 60% of employees & contract out for others, dispose of our own garbage, end recycling subsidy, eliminate "economic development" staff, eliminate "city manager" position, sell off some vehicles, put sewer & water maintenance out to tender, eliminate subsidies to groups and council/staff trips abroad...	1/17/2014 5:56 PM
136	we should not subsidise the RCMP so much/ fire department is to top heavy in pay/ and we do not need the city engineer when it can be contracted out at a very competitive rate. city works yard should be more as a maintanece yard and put out for bid road work and projects as then contractors will carry the responsibility of delays and over runs and not the tax payer. it's called simple math. the king is robbing his own people and the people are not surviving.	1/17/2014 12:45 PM
137	Reduce the number of employees, use available free online services for IT. Have management employees take a 5.4% decrease	1/17/2014 9:56 AM
138	part paid and voulenteer fire dept.	1/17/2014 8:55 AM
139	parks and rec; transit; police& fire	1/17/2014 8:00 AM
140	Museum	1/16/2014 10:52 PM
141	Administrative & support, Fire Dept, Parks & Rec	1/16/2014 8:47 PM

City of Port Alberni 2014 Budget Survey

142	Stop the money going to McLeans Mill, cut services at the pool and transit	1/16/2014 7:15 PM
143	Crime rates are falling, so should police costs. Forget about salary increases for city council...too many residents get no increases at all. General cuts across the board, with special attention to reducing administrative costs.	1/16/2014 5:45 PM
144	wages	1/16/2014 4:57 PM
145	reduce things that don't give value for money or are not taken advantage of to the fullest.	1/16/2014 3:28 PM
146	City management, human resources department, business development department, reduce public works department by contracting out road and sewer projects	1/16/2014 1:34 PM
147	Fire: Payed + volunteers Combine HR with other admin position	1/16/2014 1:03 PM
148	Fire department - part paid part volunteer	1/16/2014 12:42 PM
149	new development (ie; a pier at canal beach) outside gym (should be user funded) parks & rec	1/16/2014 12:35 AM
150	McLeans Mill, Library and Transit.	1/16/2014 12:01 AM
151	McLeans mill can stop being a drag on resources, contract out more for jobs that require expensive equipment maintained even when the jobs are far and few that the equipment gets used for. stop warehousing and storing alot of product for 'in case ' work that needs material only periodically.	1/15/2014 6:14 PM
152	Bylaw officer, upper management salaries	1/15/2014 6:14 PM
153	Administrative, garbage, recycling	1/15/2014 4:59 PM
154	fire, city works and city hall.	1/15/2014 4:30 PM
155	City works	1/15/2014 4:11 PM
156	Utilities/roads services. Tender projects to private contractors, with city engineering oversight. Sell heavy equipment, create call list of private contractors for short notice work.	1/15/2014 3:40 PM
157	wages	1/15/2014 3:00 PM
158	Stop recruiting unnecessary businesses to town. ie: liquor stores and hotels, restaurants entice more clothing, home goods, gift stores to draw the residents to shop locally.	1/15/2014 2:36 PM
159	parks and rec police fire	1/15/2014 2:34 PM
160	The McLean mill.	1/15/2014 2:33 PM
161	Cut heritage. The mill is not worth the money, unless it can be self-sufficient.	1/15/2014 2:27 PM
162	I think our policing costs and fire costs are out of line for our community. I value our parks and recreation programs however I would sacrifice programs for a new pool facility. I also think that we need to stop dreaming about ring roads and truck traffic diversion and spend our money maintaining our infrastructure which is suffering. We are living beyond our means and dipping into the land reserves is not sustainable. If it comes down to making a choice about cutting infrastructure and utilities or keeping programs we need to be careful and balanced but we do have to cut. If we cut too many programs we will become an undesirable place to live. For myself I could live with fewer road repairs in exchange for maintaining a balance. We could direct funds to essentials like water and sewer over road repair for example. Parks and Recreation facilities could we find a balance whereby we could maintain a reasonable level of facilities and programs while reducing what we currently have.	1/15/2014 11:57 AM
163	Library - discontinued Museum - discontinued McLeans Mill - discontinued Fire - reduced Snow Removal - reduced	1/15/2014 11:56 AM
164	City workers, I constantly see 3-4 workers doing a two man job. We'll two people just stand there and watch. This could be done a lot more effective.	1/15/2014 11:50 AM
165	mcLeans mill/museum, contract some city works services/equipment. Fire dept to semi pro/volunteer	1/15/2014 11:44 AM
166	Fire dept should be cut.	1/15/2014 11:43 AM
167	Heritage	1/15/2014 10:01 AM
168	Culture and Heritage, Parks and Recreation ,Library and Transit	1/15/2014 8:40 AM
169	The city should save money by not supporting Maclean's Mill	1/15/2014 8:20 AM

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170	Fire department McLean Mill	1/14/2014 9:00 PM
171	Parks and Rec,	1/14/2014 7:25 PM
172	Fire and Culture and Heritage	1/14/2014 3:57 PM

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Q9 Please describe the service(s) you would like to see enhanced or created.

Answered: 34 Skipped: 404

#	Responses	Date
1	water mains etc replaced before they break roads redone in a timely manner	2/12/2014 9:27 AM
2	Economic development.	2/3/2014 9:23 AM
3	Community safety improvements and more bylaw enforcement	1/31/2014 8:09 AM
4	economic development and expand the arts community - do this and you increase the tax base, real estate values go up and so does the tax base	1/30/2014 8:52 PM
5	Repaired and repave streets program and better recycling like compost material pick up	1/30/2014 6:31 AM
6	waterfront/trails/upper 3rd ave	1/27/2014 8:34 PM
7	Old streets need repaving 6th ave. keep upgrading water and sewer where needed.	1/27/2014 11:25 AM
8	Local food support/promotion Energy conservation incentives for building owners Bike lanes/infrastructure (connector/path to Eastside of the Island)	1/25/2014 3:56 PM
9	roads sidewalks	1/25/2014 2:46 PM
10	Economic development, parks and rec, infrastructure maintenance and improvement (sewers, water lines, recycling, etc.), emergency services (firefighters).	1/25/2014 10:26 AM
11	We need to repair and resurface more streets	1/24/2014 12:43 PM
12	Road resurfacing	1/23/2014 9:00 PM
13	1. Old roads and sewers replaced. 2. A new pool/recreation centre is needed badly. 3. Maintenance on recreation sites eg: Ball fields/Walking parks/paths 4. No more tax breaks for commercial businesses or the pulp mill. the pulp mill should either pay or go.	1/23/2014 7:25 PM
14	Clean up Streets, make town look better.	1/23/2014 7:22 PM
15	New pool would be nice and old roads repaved	1/23/2014 7:17 PM
16	Streets and roads and uptown	1/23/2014 12:47 PM
17	Port Alberni needs an influx of money. To make PA more attractive to business and young professionals the city needs to be more attractive. Tear down all the old boarded up buildings, increase access to the waterfront, develop a waterfront walking trail from the harbour quay, develop by laws that force business owners to maintain their buildings.	1/23/2014 12:09 PM
18	Roads maintenance and replacement	1/23/2014 8:31 AM
19	economic development and culture, heritage	1/17/2014 7:20 PM
20	I believe the city needs to put more money into creating a desirable town to LIVE in not just visit. Focus on replacing a repairing essential services and recreation for everyone, ie sewer/water systems, swimming pool	1/17/2014 10:57 AM
21	Culture and beautification	1/17/2014 10:52 AM
22	Better bylaw enforcement for known problems in the city	1/17/2014 9:18 AM
23	parks and rec	1/16/2014 7:42 PM
24	First, sell off half the City fleet and subcontract many services. Then... Build a 10th Avenue Crossing. AT WORST, a pedestrian/bike crossing. Would be well used for the highschool alone. Proper traffic signal at Helen & HWY 4. DANGEROUS with Alberni Elementary and Tim Hortons/Buy Low there. To avoid it, you have to fly up Lathom/Rex. More walking trails and paths all mapped & connected where possible.	1/16/2014 2:45 PM

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25	- More Parks and Rec \$, for trail maintenance and more youth programming - More community development - A comprehensive strategy to create more tourism opportunities in the valley	1/16/2014 12:40 PM
26	infrastructure maintenance - streets, sewer and water	1/15/2014 11:39 PM
27	Movie theatre, mall, harbour quay.	1/15/2014 10:21 PM
28	Increase policing, fire and parks and rec.	1/15/2014 8:21 PM
29	Emergency services	1/15/2014 6:24 PM
30	Much more focus on economic development and moving port alberni forward	1/15/2014 5:57 PM
31	enhance parks and rec (new pool with play area for kids, shouldn't have to drive out of town for things like this) more development for stores/mall/movie theater etc we have to drive out of town for a lot of things	1/15/2014 11:09 AM
32	I'd like a lot more money to go into beautifying and improving the community. I think right now Port alberni is just maintaining. It's not getting nicer. I'm happy to pay higher taxes if the city is moving forward. I want to see more events put on like our town, and the polar bear swim. Let's make Port Alberni a better place to live so young families like mine are encouraged to stay.	1/15/2014 10:37 AM
33	new swimming pool!	1/15/2014 10:34 AM
34	New pool Services are great. I would only support an increase in the level of services. Do Not make any cuts.	1/14/2014 11:49 PM

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Q10 Please describe an alternative scenario you would like the City to pursue.

Answered: 30 Skipped: 408

#	Responses	Date
1	Re-evaluate monies going to services that are not necessary for the City. ie. McLeans's mill.	2/12/2014 1:17 PM
2	Tax increase for commercial and industrial, why just the homeowners	2/10/2014 4:25 PM
3	Instead of asking about "What" the city spends money on (and thus characterizing the choices only in terms of what services to cut), you need to ask "How" the city spends money - eg on Wages, Operations, fixed assets, etc. Then we may be able to suggest ways that the city can do these things at less cost (wage freezes, private partnerships, cheaper options, etc). This would allow for some real input and creativity. The current approach stifles the process and forces us to see it the way the Administrations want it to be defined. There are options beyond those of tax increase or service cuts.	2/8/2014 11:41 AM
4	Be creative and raise funds "outside the box"	2/6/2014 2:36 PM
5	The city needs to get their payroll under control .We cannot afford multiple six figure salaries whether it is to city accountants and assistants , fire fighters or water and sewer workers etc. Good wages are great but it has to be in keeping with the private sector wages,growth of the city and taxpayer base. If we cannot afford to fix potholes and our infrastructure , keep schools open etc. why can we afford to spend millions on a dock/breakwater , dream about a new pool , maybe a road/bridge 10th Ave crossing , Macleans mill and how can we possibly afford to give all council and mayor a pay raise ?? We must give our heads a shake. We are not a growing city. The young people are mostly working in Alberta and a large % of our population do not pay any tax. We must quit living beyond our means, pay decent but not obscene wages and use taxpayer money to pay for services and necessities until the city is growing. We need to bring in more industry instead of saying NO to almost everything. We need jobs, jobs and more jobs otherwise every year the city will have to raise the taxes and lower the services. By the way there are many many people in this town who work full time , with families who do not make what the mayor is paid. Really ??	2/5/2014 9:30 PM
6	Active and diversified economic development using the wealth of local groups, nations, and entrepreneurial members of the valley. Do more using what is already here and not apply for more while expecting to pay less.	2/5/2014 11:11 AM
7	I would like to increase my wage too, because the cost to live has increased. Is this a good enough reason to do so?	2/3/2014 10:08 AM
8	alternative? yes, shall we Start with #1 lowering Watsons 26 thousand dollar raise from last year? who gets a 26 thousand dollar raise certainly no one I know, the reasoning is you want to keep good people in town.....well I will tell you he has worked in this town for many years I guarantee you he is not going anywhere! and if he was, there are plenty of others that would take his place. #2 As for mayor and counsellors, you knew perfectly well what you were getting yourselves into this is simply a money grab! anyone with any sense would know to what it entails to run for office with the exception of Mr. Chopra who has some sense the rest of you should be fired on the spot for even considering a raise!! in these hard economic times, really? what planet are you idiots on? HOW CAN YOU EVEN SAY OUT LOUD THAT YOU ARE COMPARING US TO PARKSVILLE.....this is totally unbelievable and proves to me we are paying Watson way too much for even saying this let alone have it printed in the local paper#3 how can you justify not 4 or 5 or even 11 but 22 paid full time firefighters in a town of 17 thousand!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! this simply makes my blood boil, city hall is there anybody in there? do you see anything wrong with this picture? #4 come on really McClain's mill? if they cant stand on their own two feet after all this time on my dime its time to pull the plug! enough already, nobody wants to support it. IHOPE YOU GUYS ARE LISTENING THIS TIME BECAUSE WE THE PEOPLE HAVE HADF ENOUGH!	1/31/2014 9:19 AM
9	I would welcome a independent audit to identify areas of waste and a budget comparative to of cities	1/30/2014 12:53 PM

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10	I would like to see you reduce the staff level at city hall and put a wage freeze in place for all city workers for at least 2 years. If you think it is appropriate to decrease the finances of our local population by tax increases then it should be OK for you, all of you: city workers and council, to agree to this wage freeze.	1/30/2014 9:59 AM
11	cut top heavy management positions across all city departments.through attrition using a long term strategy	1/28/2014 6:26 AM
12	The inclusion of sewer,& water om your distribution of tax dollars is not justified: we are assessed separately for these services. City also needs to adopt a 3rd-party approval for all increases in city council stipend and expense allowances. There is clear conflict of interest in the sitting representatives being applicant, approving agency and beneficiary for such increases.	1/28/2014 5:35 AM
13	Cut McLean's Mill, Industrial Heritage Society, Fire Department, and Museum	1/27/2014 10:32 AM
14	Revenue generation, minimize unnecessary expenditures, creative solutions, foster economic development	1/26/2014 7:57 PM
15	allow non-union private companies to bid. Allow the contracting or private companies to make the purchases of equipment. Allow volunteers to make enhancements to the city core & areas. Allow a volunteer fire department to at least partial. The police department should be overhauled.	1/26/2014 5:57 PM
16	Need to get better value for money spent. This includes public employee wages and administration wages.	1/26/2014 5:56 PM
17	Take a look at what can be done with our fire services and the HUGE budget to pay them. The city our size does not need career firemen.How are we going to maintain them PLUS their good pensions as they retire?? A waste of money is the first responder where a big fire truck shows up - WHY? Often an ambulance shows up right behind.	1/25/2014 9:12 PM
18	Not raise city taxes. I'm so tired of increased taxes and reduced services. I would be fine with higher taxes if it went towards new facilities, ie swimming pool, recreation.	1/25/2014 2:24 PM
19	Proper allocation of tax payers dollars to city maintenance and beautification rather than yet another raise to city hall management. A failing business like our committee does not give themselves a raise or create more positions. Stop investing in top management and get more employees on the ground. Clean up our city.	1/24/2014 9:10 PM
20	Increase industrial tax	1/24/2014 8:58 PM
21	1) Tax increases should not exceed rate of inflation. 2) Increase fines on irresponsible pet owners and enforce collection by adding to Tax bill if fines not paid. 3) License requirements for cat owners. 4) Maximum allowable pets 2-3. 5) Reduce costs at SPCA by placing 14 day maximum for animals at SPCA (it's tough, but something need to be done).	1/23/2014 11:37 AM
22	If you are to adopt a substantial increase in Property Taxes then let's start by fixing the roads, removing the unsightly vegetation from the gutters, cleaning up the copious amounts of discarded litter, and generally improve the city to promote incomers. I was tempted some 13 years ago to retire to PA with promises of a fine place to retire. Quite frankly the place hasn't improved.....in fact it has stayed motionless. My taxes are roughly the same as my cousins in Parksville.....and they have a beautiful clean town, we can't even clean up the trash that's discarded, repair the roads, clean the gutters nor clean the pathways. It appears that the major attention is directed toward the main highway through town to the west coast.....giving a false impression to transient traffic en route. Even my few visitors from the mainland have commented on the poorly maintained town. Not that I expect anything to be done about any problems.....because nought has changed in 13 years, so why expect it now?	1/23/2014 9:05 AM
23	Increases taxes on the industrial base, not home owners. Do not let any coal into the city, which would negatively impact diversification into tourism. Pursue a diversified economic base, not only into tourism, but also into value added manufacturing. Stop exporting raw logs out of our port. We should be finding value added economies right here. Stimulate economic activity by building low cost housing. Finally, the long term economic growth of our city must not be build on a foundation of sand. Coal would generate decreased property values, less tourism, and more health care costs. Instead, get into the future. Be where the puck is going to be.	1/19/2014 8:13 PM

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24	I am happy to pay an increase in taxes but would like to see a redistribution of funds. I would like to see more funds go into waste management, specifically to set up a city wide composting program and to increase education around recycling. I would be willing to pay a fee and/or a tax increase to make this possible. I would also like to see more funds go into community and economic development. I would be willing to see fees for recreational programs increase to do this. I would also like to see a volunteer recreation commission started to support the department and to help make budget decisions and do fundraising.	1/19/2014 7:39 PM
25	Review practices and compare with other more successful city councils.	1/19/2014 6:46 PM
26	Create volunteer programs to reduce City budget requirements. Reduce police budget to allow increases in education, rehab programs and drug use prevention. Port Alberni is sick and treating symptoms will not cure the patient, only make things worse.	1/19/2014 1:11 PM
27	Reduce wage and benefits bill	1/16/2014 8:45 PM
28	You are asking home owners to tighten their belt and suck it up. I do not see that as happening at city hall. City hall needs to tighten their belt. Increasing residential taxes will not bring prosperity to the city. Industry is not coming here. Why. There are many factors other than the wage freeze. Residents will not shop locally but will go where they get the best value for the money. That means an increase in online shopping. In that scenario the city and city business are the biggest loser.	1/16/2014 3:10 PM
29	There are other taxpayers than residential taxpayers...	1/16/2014 12:58 PM
30	Cut in some areas (such as culture & heritage and Fire) and maintain or increase in others. Some rise in taxes is okay if it is going where it is needed most.	1/16/2014 11:18 AM

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Q11 Please share any further comments you may have on the City's budget.

Answered: 238 Skipped: 200

#	Responses	Date
1	the mayor and the counsel should listen to the residents of port alberni more	2/13/2014 11:00 AM
2	The city should reduce their work day to 7 hours a day thus cutting down on admin and wage costs.	2/12/2014 1:17 PM
3	A budget needs to be ran same as a household - checks and balances - we don't give ourselves raises, nor should you!	2/12/2014 12:52 PM
4	pay too much for fire should be one fire dept for whole valley.	2/12/2014 9:27 AM
5	Plan new pool. Expand public works. Focus on essential services.	2/11/2014 6:42 PM
6	homeowners are being unfairly gouged	2/11/2014 2:42 PM
7	The 10th ave crossing senario is a waste of tax dollars...is there traffic congestion? NO! can everyone afford \$130 dollars a year extra on top of our high taxes? And after the mayor and everyone else got raises? and our taxes are already going up 5%.....what a pile of bullshit!you should feel embarrassed! over paid and under worked! we are not getting good value for our tax dollars! makes a person want to move out of town...	2/11/2014 6:13 AM
8	Past polls and surveys clearly show where citizens priorities lie. Leave alone the Fire Dept, City Works and Police Dept. Anything else is fair game to reduce or leave status quo.	2/10/2014 9:51 PM
9	Budget needs to be brought under control. Tighten the belt everyone else has had to. You are driving down the population by overtaxing for value.	2/10/2014 8:27 PM
10	You must reduce residential taxes if you want to encourage nice homes and attract retirement to the city	2/10/2014 4:26 PM
11	rescind your pay raises its disgusting	2/9/2014 7:50 PM
12	If our city is not safe and clean, really, who would want to move here and pay these taxes. Keep our heritage alive, our city safe, but unfortunately may have to cut back on Parks & Rec for now.	2/8/2014 6:34 PM
13	I would like to see transit be a free service, which would give a much needed break to low income earners. It would also likely increase ridership and allow for better service to be provided.	2/8/2014 5:41 PM
14	mclean mill should not be subsidized by city tax payers.	2/7/2014 1:51 PM
15	cut back on travel junkets	2/7/2014 8:59 AM
16	Need to cut administration costs	2/6/2014 8:06 PM
17	see previous comment	2/6/2014 3:22 PM
18	NO for raising taxes	2/6/2014 2:36 PM
19	for the amount of taxes we have been paying I see no improvement to my neighbourhood in the last 30 years, lighting, sidewalks etc. thought we were going to get a break on taxes when the mill paid theirs?????	2/6/2014 1:40 PM
20	An old adage "build it and they will come" That's where we're at today. Keep up the good work; forget the naysayers	2/6/2014 8:41 AM
21	Trim the payrolls not the services!	2/5/2014 9:31 PM
22	I feel a 5.4% increase is too much considering the amount of the increase last year. The city needs to take into consideration the well being of their residents and I think most residents cannot afford another tax increase.	2/5/2014 8:28 PM
23	cut economic development costs more than we can afford	2/5/2014 3:30 PM
24	We have invested heavily into policing and the crime rate has gone down.We can now cut their budget to get the benefits of our investment.	2/5/2014 1:12 PM

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25	Maintain core services, ie Police, Fire, Water, Sewer, and streets	2/5/2014 9:27 AM
26	The city should consider - contracting out more of their services - we pay enough taxes, at the municipal level and provincial level, how can we generate economic growth and support local business if we have less and less expendable cash in our households?	2/5/2014 9:24 AM
27	I am very concerned about the sustainability of the city and its ability to withstand and shocks i.e. loss of an industrial taxpayer	2/4/2014 9:22 PM
28	you had too big of a tax increase last year.	2/4/2014 8:23 PM
29	reduce city staff and workers	2/4/2014 3:02 PM
30	For those on a fixed income salary increases for City Council is unacceptable. Do NOT replace hard working firefighters with volunteers!!!!	2/4/2014 1:19 PM
31	I don't think the City should reduce services and it shouldn't even consider putting Volunteers in place of the City Fire Dept. I also think the City shouldn't take on any major jobs and big expense items till Catalyst starts paying their share of the taxes.	2/4/2014 9:48 AM
32	Increase tax on business after their current freeze expires including Catalyst.	2/4/2014 9:27 AM
33	I like the new vision of the current mayor, enough with "unionized mill workers" mentality!	2/3/2014 9:28 PM
34	Focus and promote the quality of life available here and increase the quality of recreational features such as trail maintenance and beach access.	2/3/2014 9:23 PM
35	None	2/3/2014 2:33 PM
36	do not give a raise to people in the city and do not raise our taxes to pay for it	2/3/2014 1:47 PM
37	Fire department is way to fat! Way to Fat!!! I	2/3/2014 10:09 AM
38	Quit spending money on McLean's Mill.	2/3/2014 9:24 AM
39	I wonder how many answers to question 3 add up to 100? For me it is a question mostly of adjusting priorities away from recreation and toward infrastructure and economic growth.	2/2/2014 8:18 PM
40	Demand Island Health adequately fund ambulance service and minimize fire department role.	2/2/2014 12:25 AM
41	Costs need to be reduced immediately our taxes are way to high compared to the rest of the island.	2/1/2014 3:41 PM
42	Please find a way to keep costs within current budget figures, given current property value declines & economic challenges facing majority of property owners.	2/1/2014 1:27 PM
43	Would like to see SPCA seperated from planning etc., as they should receive more funding. Pay raises for council is ridiculous. There are lots of retirees who would gladly do the job with the current stipend. By the way, why does the Mayor and council think that attracting younger people would be better. You should want to serve on council. Not entice people with "more" money. Do we need to have parks and rec. and the city works dept seperate? Huge savings could be made by merging.	2/1/2014 11:24 AM
44	Mayor and Council didnt need a raise	1/31/2014 5:20 PM
45	city needs to live within its means. user need to shoulder more of the cost. we have to look at the dwindling population and adjust accordingly. I do not believe we get value for our current high rate of taxation. does a city this size need a full time fire department the size that we have. should part of the city department be volunteer.	1/31/2014 11:19 AM

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46	<p>The City of Detroit is bankrupt. If we do not constrain spending, we will see our eroding corporate, industrial and residential tax base become unsustainable, putting us in jeopardy of a similar financial future. Accountability, fiscal responsibility and restraint have been compromised in the interests of providing services and amenities that cannot be justified in our current economic climate. We need elected officials and civil servants that respect the basic problem of unsustainable and ever increasing tax burdens that far outweigh the economic reality. We need a council and Mayor with the courage to make cuts where necessary, negotiate contracts that do not exceed annual inflation rates and who do not have a Pollyanna, simplistic and unrealistic version of our current economic climate. We need to reinvest in infrastructure and revitalization to attract new tax revenue in both the residential and industrial sectors as well as commercial. While simplistic 'spin doctors' at City Hall talk about the spectre of decreasing levels of service, they are blind to facts or they are misrepresenting those facts to the public. As an example, while our overall tax bill may be similar to other municipalities on the island, the fact is that our assessed value of property is less than half of what it is in other jurisdictions. As a result, the mill rate and tax burden based on investment and capital value is far greater in Port Alberni than it is in places such as Campbell River, Courtney and other similar communities on the island. Someone has to take their head out of the sand and make some tough economic decisions to ensure the future viability of Port Alberni. We need a pro-active, aggressive stance to cure our economic malaise, not just more of the status quo. Where is the leadership in this community?</p>	1/31/2014 11:01 AM
47	<p>SHOW US YOU ARE LISTENING AND GIVE BACK OUR STOLEN TAXES THAT CATALIST GAVE BACK! AND FORGET THIS NONSENCE ABOUT GIVING YOURSELVES A PAY RAISE, IF YOU NEED ONE THEN LEAVE OFFICE!</p>	1/31/2014 9:20 AM
48	<p>We are a small town that have great amenities, let's keep it that way and look at who are clientele are. Why should we be paying the huge dollars to senior admin. Here goes the saying again, "the rich get richer and the poor get poorer"</p>	1/31/2014 9:10 AM
49	<p>Quite giving yourselves raises and put the money in the community where it belongs. We are not comparable to Parkville in size and services, why do you need comparable wages.</p>	1/31/2014 8:59 AM
50	<p>Disgraceful to vote yourselves a raise. We live on our CPP and OAS. I would like to see you live on that salary.</p>	1/31/2014 8:51 AM
51	<p>GET OUT OF TOWN AND TAKE WATSON WITH YOU! how can you possibly compare us to parkville.....you guys need a reality check!!!!</p>	1/31/2014 8:17 AM
52	<p>Cuts need to come in the area of Administration</p>	1/31/2014 7:30 AM
53	<p>Increase revenue decrease enforcement costs. Allow 3 dogs and 2 cats per household or pay higher fines for non licensed. Dogs and cats are to be spay neutered, unless certified licensed breeder. RDCO Kelowna recently implemented such as the above I recommend looked into. license revenues are key increase fines for those who don't license.</p>	1/31/2014 6:09 AM
54	<p>Hire a different Economic Development Manager. A person not from here who has a bigger vision. Spend more on promoting Port Alberni as a place to create food and water security for your family in a rapidly changing climate. Focus more on entrepreneurs and what they need to survive and thrive. Plant trees on Argyle street and transition parks and recreation to focus on this cost. Develop urban farming as a way to keep crime down and bring more home buyers to the city. No more big box stores. what we have is enough. Focus on Uptown as a niche market place. Develop city owned land at Pacific Rim Shopping Centre into a community farm and highwayside Farmers Market. Do this with public/private partnership, seek investors from China for this project. Consult with urban farmers and food security non-profits. Do not raise taxes, implement cuts to salaries for dept heads. This will show resolve and drive home ownership as baby boomers retire across an increasingly cold country, with climate extremes on the rise. Teach, talk, walk water conservation, get tough now about this issue. All the focus on hockey is unwise. Get people involved in less expensive sports, soccer, softball, track - same with swimming pool. Get people into the water Canal beach. Teach swimming lessons there in summer, canoeing, kayaking, sailing. Stop living like it's the 1970's and the highest per capita income. Promote Port Alberni as responding to the times, pragmatic, affordable, diversifying and not in denial of climate change. This will bring in the right people. Keep developing eco-tourism, it's what people want deep down. Keep finger in deep sea port hub in Barclay Sound. Forget about fossil fuels. Teach mandarin and cantonese to all city departments, use free language tool at Library. Give bonuses for this. Hire economic development manager who is fluent in this. Bylaw to prohibit empty parking lots, enforce transition to permaculture. Make this a recreation focus.</p>	1/30/2014 1:52 PM

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55	City Council should not be voting for their own salary increases nor should they be voting to increase taxes. Many residents in Port Alberni are having to cut their household budgets due to the increasing cost of living. Our property taxes go up, our water and sewer bills go up and we seem to get less and less for what we pay for taxes.	1/30/2014 12:56 PM
56	we can build a beach and support maclains mill but we can fix streets pave allies and staff parks	1/30/2014 12:55 PM
57	the city should invest in a better pool - we always go to qualicum for our swimming, because the pool is cleaner and nicer.	1/30/2014 12:55 PM
58	More funding for SPCA Parks and Rec should be merged and layoffs must happen just like in industry	1/30/2014 12:44 PM
59	My pension increase this year was 0.1% on OAP and 0.9% on my CPP. Perhaps you could try and work within those guidelines. I have to! This is city where the larger part is either on pension, disability, low income or social assistance. When you propose increase of 5.4% and a further increase in the city utilities your first question should be...how will these people afford/pay for such increase. And while you are busy proposing tax relief to new businesses in the uptown area you might consider what you will give the general population to encourage them to continue living here. Trust me, a new beach doesn't quite cut it!!	1/30/2014 10:00 AM
60	Start tax increasing business again ..	1/30/2014 6:37 AM
61	Private industry has had to cut deep by cutting manpower and curbing their spending. The city must do the same. They haven't yet, they still hire when they should be cutting back on manpower, new vehicles etc. Why is the police station costing us so much. It cost millions to build and one of the boilers goes down. 100 thousand to get a NEW one and now i hear the second boiler doesn't work!	1/29/2014 9:46 PM
62	commercial taxes need to be reduced to attract new business	1/29/2014 3:13 PM
63	The train and MacLaine Mill should be run better. Sell more lumber to local business in town. Lower train rides for locals , maybe more people would ride it?	1/28/2014 6:39 PM
64	city should send half of budget money to alberta because half of the people work there	1/28/2014 12:38 PM
65	The big fat increase residents paid when Catalyst threatened to not pay their taxes has never been adjusted to compensate the taxpayer for such a money grab all in one tax year. When Catalyst paid shouldn't the residents received a credit for such an enormous tax increase? Instead the City continues to increase the taxes annually.	1/28/2014 11:02 AM
66	Do to all of the boarded buildings or unoccupied in the Uptown area is the City moving to change this in the coming year.	1/28/2014 9:29 AM
67	No pay raises for mayor and council. No more tax increases.	1/28/2014 6:28 AM
68	cut taxes or i am leaving,been here for 58 years	1/28/2014 12:38 AM
69	More public consulting	1/27/2014 8:55 PM
70	New to improve more on the uptown upgrade on and not forget forget our true heritage and first nation history . suggest we paint late murals to identify the true identity of port alberni	1/27/2014 5:52 PM
71	it needs to reconize that we are now a small community with and aging population that can not afford the extras	1/27/2014 3:03 PM
72	keep up the great work	1/27/2014 2:50 PM
73	Live within the cost of living increases, if that's 2%, then the budget could go up that much. People only have so many dollars to work with, be mindful of that and make cuts to bring the budget in line. Other communities manage to do that, their mill rates aren't jumping up in the huge numbers ours are, so why can't you manage our budget in a more responsible manner? No increase or at the most, the cost of living increase, that's the wage increase we all get, you should be able to balance the budget in the same way.	1/27/2014 2:12 PM
74	I think Mayor and Council are doing a good job and should be well compensated to attract quality people to run.	1/27/2014 12:56 PM
75	Seniors get NO increases and yet City is spending, spending, spending on things nobody even notices. Too high of wages from City Planner and City Hall Management and Consultants	1/27/2014 11:36 AM
76	doing good work everyone!	1/27/2014 11:26 AM

City of Port Alberni 2014 Budget Survey

77	Why is sewer, water and garbage included in our taxes when we get a bill for it? The city shouldn't get paid twice for the same service.	1/27/2014 11:23 AM
78	Tax break for people that take care of their property(ies) and tax increase for those who don't. Let's make this town look better!	1/27/2014 10:33 AM
79	I believe the 5.4% inc is not a true figure,you take the asesment and no consideration for ho" grant	1/27/2014 9:08 AM
80	I think some trimming on travel and city expenses in general. We as seniors don't get a raise in pension.	1/27/2014 8:24 AM
81	There is a lot of retired people in this town,You cANT .KEEP RAISING TAXES	1/27/2014 8:10 AM
82	No comments	1/26/2014 10:56 PM
83	The city office is top heavy. We have too many managers being paid to much. We could save by having more work done by less managers.	1/26/2014 9:30 PM
84	gross waste of taxpayers money on ball fields and garbage trucks, a total waste of taxpayers dollars	1/26/2014 9:27 PM
85	Investing more in urban planning & development, social planning and economic development will result in more potential private investment in our city.	1/26/2014 9:17 PM
86	Start contracting out some of the city services.	1/26/2014 8:53 PM
87	Thanks for all your hard work	1/26/2014 7:57 PM
88	The well is getting dry, our taxes are way out of line for a city this size !!!!!!!!!!!!!	1/26/2014 7:24 PM
89	You need to go back to the departments and instruct them to prepare and deliver to you a budget with no tax increase, rather remove costs. This does not mean cut services, cut costs and spending.	1/26/2014 6:57 PM
90	Are you guys on crack?	1/26/2014 6:56 PM
91	Too much cost because of only union labour allowed. A starting wage without any education is too much cost to the taxpayer for city services. The garbage trucks should have been farmed out to private services.	1/26/2014 5:59 PM
92	taxes for higher valued homes are too high	1/26/2014 5:34 PM
93	25% increase several years ago when catalyst did not pay taxes however they later DID pay taxes and we NEVER saw a 25% reduction in taxes the next year. If i operated my business like that i would be broke. I am seriously considering moving outside city limits to reduce my tax bill.	1/26/2014 5:00 PM
94	I think more of the budget should be spent to beautify the city... flowers and grassy boulevards coming into the city and all the way down Johnston road, more like the entrance into Qualicum. Once the grass and trees are planted and established there would be little maintenance other than keeping the weeds down and cutting and watering. More hanging pots or flower gardens. For Christmas, lights on BOTH sides of the street down Johnston Rd..... and more of them.	1/26/2014 1:51 PM
95	Cities/Municipalities must work with/lobby Provincial government to secure the return of a more equitable share of taxes	1/26/2014 1:14 PM
96	If the Economic Development Department of the City is only getting \$1 out of \$100, there is something drastically wrong....we need development to secure good to reasonably good jobs, not 'pie in the sky' ideas promoting the waterfront. While I agree with such developments, they have their place after financial wellness of the city and future generations is reasonably secured. Why do some city elected officials not get this! I laud those who do including the PAPA, the business community who are expanding facilities, and the over-extended ED department. Let's get real! Our city residents depend on it for the future of our youth and young families.	1/26/2014 12:42 PM
97	We pay too much taxes in the city. You need to look at cost reductions, not additional spending, that does not add value for our Community. I will not vote for any Council member that does not support any cost reduction ideas.	1/26/2014 11:53 AM
98	Less money to RCMP, harsher penalties for juveniles and adult offenders, more money to young children, for example read and feed, and a weekend breakfast program,	1/26/2014 8:43 AM

City of Port Alberni 2014 Budget Survey

99	The 5.4% increase DOES NOT only maintain services...I see in the budget proposal \$500,000 for a beach development, and \$100,000 for trail development???? The City should look inward at doing a better job of maintaining the parks and trails we currently have. Very little maintenance has been done on the trails that were developed 5 or so years ago...many of the parks, and walkways, are poorly maintained. I would rather see an increase in labour to properly maintain what we have, rather than expanding and not being able to properly maintain things.	1/26/2014 8:07 AM
100	I totally disagree with industrial taxes getting a break and the residents have to make up the difference. Every year there are increases. We are pensioners on a limited income and cannot afford any more increases.	1/25/2014 9:16 PM
101	more taxes on business	1/25/2014 2:49 PM
102	JOHN DOUGLAS IS AWESOME	1/25/2014 2:30 PM
103	authority needs to work WITHIN a proposed amt. set for budget, not increase taxes to make up a shortfall, possibly by reduction of services/ city employees.	1/25/2014 2:09 PM
104	with many residents on a fixed budget the current practice of spending over your resources is forcing residents out of their homes as they cannot afford the increases	1/25/2014 1:09 PM
105	1. reduce # city vehicles running around doing nothing.2.Have the school board turn off lights during non school hours - presently all are on 24/7! 3.much more attention to sidewalk and general cleanliness of the whole town.4.stop all grass cutting that is not necessary 5.garbage truck backing out from new high school onto roger is an accident waiting to happen.6 million+ spent on new high school and we still have teachers parking on Roger outside the school despite assurances from school board that area would not be turned into a parking lot - teachers parking lot has spaces but are not used! 7. prefer no property tax increases for 2104 - need to look at better management of existing budget	1/25/2014 10:47 AM
106	The number of managers needs to be reduced, and the money from that should be funnelled into the areas I identified in the previous question. Don't let the naysayers wear you down; increase taxes if you must, but don't let our beautiful city fall into ruin because people are whining about paying taxes.	1/25/2014 10:28 AM
107	Considering the problematic future of our heavy industry and the grievous condition of much of our infrastructure the city should be reducing its fixed costs especially in salaries and payroll.	1/25/2014 8:18 AM
108	NO coal, because our city taxpayers dollar will no doubt have to be used to maintain our already delapidated roads that are already NOT maintained.	1/24/2014 9:15 PM
109	be more efficient and not spend any more	1/24/2014 9:00 PM
110	The tax burden might be shifted a little to commercial as opposed to residential base.	1/24/2014 8:54 PM
111	The City needs to operate within it's means - only commit to NEW Projects when the City has SAVED the money to pay for it (NO DEBT)the Residents can afford it - DO NOT GO INTO DEBT - CORE SERVICES need to be maintained such as WATER, SEWER, GARBAGE, ROADS, Police & Fire and current activities such as Pool & Multiplex - but NO NEW PROJECTS that will result in tax increases. (No Ring Road, No more monies spend on City Beach, no Roundabouts, no more tax breaks for uptown.....)	1/24/2014 7:22 PM
112	1. Maintain Fire Department 2. Don't give away or lease our current Boat Ramp at Clutesi Haven, and no purchase of Catalyst Land for proposed Boat Ramp - DO NOT any DEBT for the Waterfront North Project.	1/24/2014 7:12 PM
113	Increase not reasonable; decrease quite easily obtainable with a modicum of courage. Our household has not had an income increase since 2002.	1/24/2014 6:13 PM
114	you must understand that the city budget is a fixed income coming in much the same as my fixed budget coming in to my home. If i go over my budget I need to trim my finances to meet my income. The city needs to practice the same approach to their budget. A reality check is in order. When my hydro bill goes up I cut finances in other places to balance my income.	1/24/2014 2:34 PM
115	Infrastructure continues to need work. Our roads and sewers are crumbling. More work has been done recently, but not sure we caught up to years of neglect. Hard to say on the drainage, given recent good weather. I will see if my street floods again the next time it rains. I have seen were some people feel that forestry businesses should pay less taxes as they create jobs. Well they are the main reason our roads, and the sewers under the roads are in rough shape. The heaviest thing on the roads are the logging trucks. And Port Alberni is the only community I have ever lived in that I see loaded logging truck driving downtown - main street on a daily basis.	1/24/2014 2:31 PM

City of Port Alberni 2014 Budget Survey

116	We need to start increasing taxes for bussiness they have had a free ride for to long .. And give home owners alittle relief.realy need to increase road budgets for more repairs.	1/24/2014 12:45 PM
117	Port Alberni taxpayers are primarily low to medium income earners who can ill-afford any tax increases especially to pay for public servants bloated wages and benefits which is creating a " have and have not" society. Please work with this reality in mind.	1/24/2014 12:00 PM
118	Since 2007 my property taxes have risen over \$300/year while the real estate value of my property has fallen \$30,000. I cannot support any further tax increases until real estate values rise again. Lately I have seen some City services such as garden maintenance being done by 3 people with 3 vehicles at a time when there is little value in it. This is overly expensive and inefficient.	1/24/2014 10:33 AM
119	every department in the city should be required to reduce their budget by ten percent.no exceptions.you may find with a bit of effort city services would still be quit adequate.forget about anyone getting a raise or higher benefits for five years.reduce city employees by two percent each year for four years minimum.use contractors	1/24/2014 10:17 AM
120	since when is a 5.4% increase a status quo budget ? eliminate automatic departmental rate increases such as water etc.these departments are always showing surpluses	1/24/2014 8:44 AM
121	Tax industry more, because a lot of Port Alberni workers live out of town and do not contribute to the coffers, but will bring their garbage in and put it in our dumpsters.	1/24/2014 7:59 AM
122	with the amount of taxes we pay its nice to see the service we get. the more things that get done around town the. ie, street repair,garbage pickup, new paved roads, updated water - sewer repair the better	1/24/2014 7:37 AM
123	I think businesses big and small should get there taxes increased to .. No more free ride !!	1/23/2014 9:01 PM
124	There is very little to encourage new families and business into Port Alberni. We must put some revenue into cleaning and repairing old streets, removing or cleaning up derelict properties and revitalizing the business area's with security and lighting that would attract new business owners.	1/23/2014 7:37 PM
125	home owner should not pay for tourist cost. you got it backwards in this town.	1/23/2014 7:31 PM
126	to maintain service's for what we have I don't mind paying a little more in taxes as long as businesses start to pay in tax increases to.no more free ride!!! for them enough is enough.start to increase commercial tax rates.	1/23/2014 7:23 PM
127	live within your taxes, everyone else has to have a budget, why can't city hall.	1/23/2014 6:55 PM
128	No tax increases!!!. We had major increases(I think 23%) a few years back when it was thought that Catalyst wouldn't be paying. Catalyst ended up paying but citizens did not benefit. Then last year a huge increase of 8%. So why again!!! I don't get why the council even considers this. What ideas has the council explored since the last budget to do things differently? Didn't they hear the people last year? Whose wages or income has increased that much? Those in good jobs probably got a maximum of 1 or 2%..Many home owners are on fixed incomes...Why does council think people can keep paying more? I don't get it !! Did you not listen to concemed citizens like Roland Smith who took the time to research constructive suggestions for ways to cut back or do things differently? We are no longer a rich mill town!! People who can afford to move out of town to the regional district do so and still benefit from all the services in town. What about ways of having the regional district contribute to library, Parks and Rec. as well as roads, etc? I really don't get how the council has the gall to suggest a tax increase! It is as if they weren't around last year. You have had a year to research ideas for ways to do things differently? Raising taxes is not an option that should even be considered!!	1/23/2014 6:33 PM
129	We would like to see City Hall run like we run our retired household...we buy what we have money for and save for what we would like to have. We as a city have to learn to live within our means.	1/23/2014 6:17 PM
130	It was amazing to watch the Council presentation of the 2014 budget when the Mayor and the City Manager gave the impression that this was mere \$89/year increase. Maybe these people have been at the public trough too long. You would not survive very long running a private company when you have to report to a Board of Directors! You should look at eliminating the waste at the Management level ie. salaries, head counts and use some of the money to increase the salaries of the Mayor and Council persons in order to attract people that have more financial knowledge and experience so that they an get spending and waste under control! c	1/23/2014 4:18 PM
131	Jobs, Jobs, Jobs. How does council propose manufacturing jobs when allowing jobs (logs) to be shipped overseas. This city needs people with rewarding jobs, good wages. Our focus should be on jobs. Problems solved.	1/23/2014 3:27 PM

City of Port Alberni 2014 Budget Survey

132	The increase in taxes can not continue	1/23/2014 1:15 PM
133	Keep up the good work ,	1/23/2014 12:47 PM
134	We're new to the town (within three years) and I love what the valley has to offer. The city does a fantastic job with the variety of programs parks and rec offers, and the quantity and quality of trails in town amazes me. Unfortunately the town is an eyesore, and that is going to seriously hinder economic development. The majority of people I work with (in Port Alberni) live in the Parksville area, and the only reason they can give me is that PA is an ugly town. So they would rather pay 2-3 times the housing cost, plus commuting fees than live in an ugly town.	1/23/2014 12:14 PM
135	Don't take on too many projects at once. Tackle one and complete before moving on.	1/23/2014 11:41 AM
136	Port Alberni has an excellent parks and rec program. I think Port Alberni should try to promote new activities if possible. Port Alberni really lacks economic development. This budget should be increased significantly because economic development will create a positive image to Port Alberni and job growth. It will also attract new citizens. This is definitely an area for improvement. Economic development should be reconsidered for a bigger budget.	1/23/2014 10:30 AM
137	City hall should always be prudent, have a plan if Catalyst closes	1/23/2014 10:00 AM
138	Nothing further to add	1/23/2014 9:06 AM
139	Please stop allowing rural area residents to free load off the City for recreation and other services when they don't contribute a fair amount. By allowing this to continue taxpayers are losing all confidence in the City and are enticed to moving into the rural areas to reduce their taxes. This City needs more money invested in beautifying our streets and roads - reduce spending on heritage, museum services and recreation and put these funds into building rock/tree islands in the middle of our wide streets.	1/23/2014 8:45 AM
140	Taxes should not increase when the city has a surplus of money. Tax dollars are wasted on exercise areas and chicken coops!!!!!!!	1/23/2014 8:36 AM
141	I think the city is doing a great job for what they have to work with and we get good value for our money.	1/23/2014 8:33 AM
142	more monies spent on underground utilities and essential municipal services	1/23/2014 7:37 AM
143	The other concern I have is to look at administration which I feel is top heavy. When I look at the city payroll for the execs, they are making more money than when I was working and I had a good paying job.	1/23/2014 12:17 AM
144	Would like to see city roads and alleys kept up. Thank you	1/22/2014 9:16 PM
145	your budget increases are at a higher rate than regular workers are being given wage increases.. we only get 1% wage increases, yet you want almost 6, hydro is being granted 28%.. when does it stop?	1/22/2014 8:17 PM
146	pensions do not keep up with tax hikes	1/22/2014 6:25 PM
147	the economy is stagnant, no growth and we should do what they do federally and provincially and that is cut, services, wages, employees etc	1/22/2014 6:12 PM
148	the city must run more responsibly, you cannot keep raising taxes and fees at ridiculous levels, you are doing more to drive people away than attract them.	1/22/2014 5:42 PM
149	Police speed traps	1/22/2014 5:41 PM
150	they need to stop this over spending it isn't the 70s anymore get with the real world	1/22/2014 3:29 PM
151	need to cut we can't afford it with no high paying jobs you got to get out of the 70s and start cutting the fat	1/22/2014 3:26 PM
152	disappointed that council were the first to want more from the proposed budget	1/22/2014 3:23 PM
153	Does the city works yard need new equipment all the time, and own equipment & personnel. There are many certified local contractors that can complete most jobs such as sewer/road work etc. Its astounding that PA will sell a fire truck, that is bought by another Island town. It has been fully maintained, and bought at a fraction of the initial cost.	1/22/2014 2:51 PM
154	Hold the line until the economy improves through the arrival of new industry.	1/22/2014 2:26 PM

City of Port Alberni 2014 Budget Survey

155	I expect to see a balanced budget.I also believe we have a large population of seniors on fixed incomes that can not continue to support large taxation increases and that we need to address how are people at the lower end of the pay scale supposed to survive? I am sure there are some measures that are within the city budget planning that can address these issues,we can't just tax people to death to balance the budget.	1/22/2014 11:00 AM
156	Police requesting an admin person. That should be done from city hall.	1/22/2014 9:32 AM
157	Thanks for this easy opportunity!	1/22/2014 5:59 AM
158	No councilors increases and no more expense money for the mayor	1/21/2014 10:14 PM
159	Don't increases city workers' wages until private sector catches up to the cost of their wages & benefits.	1/20/2014 12:22 PM
160	Radically Chop the PARKS & REC frivolity to a subsistence level. The City should keep the grass cut. As it is the Tourism industry that benefits from gatherings & tournaments, it is THEY that should bear the costs of Capital expenditures & the maintenance of such, NOT THE POOR HOMEOWNER. Why are Homeowners BEARING THE COSTS to provide Hotels with Guests & restaurants with out-of-town diners ??? Some of us are just on a small Pension. We don't get 9% and 5% increases every year, to keep up with City Overspending.	1/20/2014 1:30 AM
161	Cut down on administration costs.	1/19/2014 8:13 PM
162	Thank-you for this opportunity to give input and for the budget open house. The more transparent this process is the better.	1/19/2014 7:40 PM
163	I don't know anything about the city. I have never been there.	1/19/2014 7:34 PM
164	Tax policy should also be based on 'ability to pay'.	1/19/2014 7:06 PM
165	Library is not a city department	1/19/2014 2:37 PM
166	Shut down known crack houses, arrest and convict the cocaine dealers including businessmen. Investigate the corruption and prosecute those responsible for letting this continue.	1/19/2014 1:20 PM
167	Refer to previous	1/19/2014 11:33 AM
168	I was not impressed to learn that tax dollars were being spent to put up billboards in other communities advertising port alberni for its affordable housing.	1/19/2014 10:20 AM
169	The city needs to develop a plan for action on the needs of the residents not the wants of the city employees The Water and sewer have been on the backburner far too long scale back all projects and get these projects completed	1/18/2014 11:10 PM
170	This short survey was a great idea and easily accessible. I'm also glad to see that the city is getting with the times and updating the website and making use of social media.	1/18/2014 3:55 PM
171	People are leaving because of too high taxes and too low services and too haigh administration salaries	1/18/2014 12:53 AM
172	City staff and politicians do not seem to be on the same page as most taxpayers. Spending appears high in relation to taxpayers ability to pay. Unemployment is high in this area and the rate that the government reports isn't close to reality. Many people in Port Alberni are underemployed and they are not counted in any of the statistics.	1/17/2014 9:33 PM
173	Scrap industrial road and mcleans mill	1/17/2014 8:34 PM
174	While my answer to the last question was to adopt the draft budget with a 5.4% tax increase to residential taxes, homeowners can not be continually burdened with increases. Alternative measures need to be found somewhere. The city is currently marketing to seniors but most are on a fixed income and will not be able to sustain continued property tax increases.	1/17/2014 8:07 PM
175	Stop fixing 3rd ave area, get to of McLeans Mill and the Train. Fix the sewage issues and then revisit the idea of allocating dollars into tourism.	1/17/2014 7:39 PM
176	NEVER EVER ! do this type of survey . Not only goes to show how inexperienced you guys are individually and as a group. It Has been proven over and over that these are a waste of time and not accurate at all. Never forget to listen to the quite majority. Leaders Lead...Followers send out surveys.	1/17/2014 2:13 PM
177	stop buying new trucks ever 3 -4 years when you pay to have a mechanic, use him and have a good maintenance schedule, we are taxed to high for the value of our properties in this community	1/17/2014 2:07 PM

City of Port Alberni 2014 Budget Survey

178	We concentrate on sports but not on culture, we pay school taxes but the school facilities especially the new auditorium are too expensive for local groups to use.	1/17/2014 9:57 AM
179	City needs to seriously evaluate the need for Mcleans Mill and the money being wasted trying to revitalize the 3rd ave corridor	1/17/2014 9:19 AM
180	to many managers receiving high wages. why do people getting over \$70k get a raise while people on fixed incomes pay higher taxes.	1/17/2014 8:02 AM
181	I want the City to maintain its current fire department as a career fire dept. I do not support any move to a volunteer or composite fire department.	1/17/2014 6:17 AM
182	Now is the time to cut costs, not increase taxes. We are living beyond our means, & increasing taxes by any amount is not the answer, reducing costs is. The City has been virtually stagnant, population wise, for the last twenty years, yet City Hall seems to think they have a bottomless pit of funds available, (the residential taxpayer) to pursue whatever pie in the sky ideas or other irresponsible use of public funds that they deem to be a great idea. Fiscal responsibility is the greatest of the trusts the taxpayers assign to the elected members of council, and we expect them to live up to this responsibility.	1/16/2014 9:00 PM
183	Don't go further into debt at this time. If Catalyst disappears it will leave debt repayment largely on the shoulders of the residential taxpayer.	1/16/2014 8:48 PM
184	Please cut the wages going to City staff, as a tax payer I can not continue to support their ridiculous wage!	1/16/2014 7:17 PM
185	Priority must be given towards reducing debt levels & avoiding new debt. You have too little tax income to waste any of it paying interest. Keep raising residential tax rates & you'll end up driving residents away. A clear downward spiral.	1/16/2014 5:49 PM
186	NO CHICKEN COOP. LOWER DOG TAG FEES, HAVE LISENCES FOR CATS SO WE ARE ALL RESPONSIBLE	1/16/2014 3:29 PM
187	Take a hard look at what can be afforded in this economy. Status quo is not working. Find another way to distribute the money. A 2% raise is wonderful. I have not seen that kind of increase I five years. Yet here we are giving away my money to give city workers a raise that even the provincial government finds obscene. Think outside the box!	1/16/2014 3:14 PM
188	Get back to the basics, quit hiring consultants	1/16/2014 1:35 PM
189	It seems that the city upgrades it's commercial vehicles at a high rate. It seems that other municipalities wait to buy Alberni's heavy equipment for their own areas because they are in such remarkable shape. Perhaps we should look at how often we purchase new equipment when we really don't need to. Just because a vehicle is older doesn't mean it needs to be replaced.	1/16/2014 1:22 PM
190	Who will pay for the suggestions in the new north waterfront study? We are like so many... on fixed income. Taxes must go down!	1/16/2014 1:05 PM
191	I am concerned by the level of debt being incurred in recent years. Biz/Ind. tax freeze must end.	1/16/2014 12:59 PM
192	Really loved the infographics the City put together for the open house at Echo. Thanks for trying hard to engage residents. Thanks also for the hard work done by the Mayor and the city.	1/16/2014 12:40 PM
193	No matter where you cut, someone will be unhappy. Unhappy people complain. Sometimes I think city council thinks that the complainers are representing the majority view when they aren't. The city should make the regional areas in the valley pay their fair share of expenses for Parks & Rec and Heritage. Cut museum and heritage back to a static display of valley history only. Our infrastructure is falling apart. Concentrate on fixing what we have before starting on any new unnecessary things (like the industrial truck route). The only major new project I would be in favor of is a new pool - and I don't swim. I just think it is important for the quality of life in the community.	1/16/2014 11:22 AM
194	There is justifiable mistrust that the 2 key City Management in making budget recommendations live OUTSIDE the City of Port Alberni and, therefore, do not pay municipal taxes; the critical person being the City Manager	1/16/2014 8:25 AM
195	health(recreation) is so important whether it's trails or a new pool, the gym at the pool is no better than a cheap hotel gym/infrastructure and attracting new business is important/maintaining what we have now is important/mcleans mill needs to be someone else's heachache	1/16/2014 7:33 AM
196	There are many fixed income people in this community and continued tax increases will force them to reconsider living in town	1/16/2014 12:38 AM

City of Port Alberni 2014 Budget Survey

197	I would like to see a tenth avenue crossing to Johnston which I believe was in a referendum years ago and passed. Not 21st ave! Also I don't want any money spent on the proposed industrial road, it would appear to me that it would cost way more than predicted and it would not stand up any better than 3rd ave.	1/16/2014 12:07 AM
198	basic services - streets, sewer, water, fire, police and transit	1/15/2014 11:41 PM
199	I believe the experiment of the McLeans Mill has run its course and funding should be halted or reduced to the minimum required base operation level.	1/15/2014 8:24 PM
200	Cities around the world have found other ways to raise revenue for services besides increasing taxes e.g., Lowell Massachusetts produces solar energy with solar panels placed on its landfill and the neighboring community of Chelmsford expects to cut its energy bill by 43% \$688,000/yr http://www.lowellsun.com/todayshadlines/ci_24852844/lowell-turns-former-landfill-into-lucrative-solar-venture More funding and focus needs to be go into community and LOCAL economic development. We are not a healthy community even though Parks and Rec get a huge portion of the city's budget.	1/15/2014 8:14 PM
201	-a lot of empty buses -wages cut -do we need that many people in the RCMP? -taxes can't keep on increasing because we will be feeding half the population	1/15/2014 7:07 PM
202	Stop spending tax dollars on Maclean's Mill	1/15/2014 7:06 PM
203	Looks good to me. I am only going on what Council thinks is right.	1/15/2014 7:04 PM
204	i don't want my tax dollars supporting Maclean's mill	1/15/2014 6:53 PM
205	Why waste money on Mclean's Mill	1/15/2014 6:25 PM
206	City Staff should make much less to counter the cost of living of the general tax payer. More should be spent on making the city look good for tourists, as well.	1/15/2014 6:21 PM
207	We are going to be tax poor here.	1/15/2014 6:15 PM
208	I feel the constant negativity towards the fire department is unnecessary and not representative of the majority of the community. The fire department is an essential service that young families like us appreciate.	1/15/2014 5:58 PM
209	It is our council's job as elected officials and residents of our town to do what's best for everyone.	1/15/2014 5:01 PM
210	Quit spending our money on garbage trucks and fire trucks.	1/15/2014 4:30 PM
211	I find it hard to swallow an increase in taxes when the services are just not there. I have watched the city works dept waste so much of this city's money, doing things wrong or just not doing anything. Look at Qualicum they have a beautifully kept town and they don't get new trucks every couple years, and they work on more than just one flower bed (bottom of Johnston). Stop wasting our money and actually do something useful please.	1/15/2014 4:15 PM
212	Port Alberni is a beautiful place, with so many amazing amenities available to residents. The City does a great job as is in providing essential services and keeping Port Alberni a pleasant place to live. The only suggestion that I have, and it is a very big one, is to significantly reduce the funding of McLean's Mill. The funds allocated to this site could be better used (in my opinion) for economic building activities such as enhancing Harbour Quay tourism or advertising to tourists on their way to Tofino/Ucluelet. The site is historically important, of course, but simply does not supply enough revenues to support the costs. Attracting young individuals and families should be a major goal in the coming years, to ensure we can maintain our population or, ideally, grow it further. Young people (I know because I am in my 20s) do not value a historic sawmill/train station. What will attract these people is the Alberni Valley's beautifully scenic and picturesque shorelines and mountains. How about we focus our time, energy, and especially, our money, on moving Port Alberni forward, rather than trying to stick in the past? These are just my thoughts, and they may very well differ from many individuals in the city. However, I know for a fact that they are shared by many of my colleagues, friends, and family. Thank you for your time, and thank you for surveying to better understand the views of our town's population.	1/15/2014 4:01 PM
213	I feel that the city is supporting a hobby of a small portion of our community with the industrial heritage society.	1/15/2014 2:37 PM
214	Something needs to be cut. Heritage is something that will affect the least amount of people. Councillors need to stop pleasing the older part of the community that are wanting status quo, and move ahead into the 21st century. How many Councillors are truly in touch with the under 30 crowd?	1/15/2014 2:35 PM

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215	taxes are to high	1/15/2014 2:34 PM
216	tourism	1/15/2014 1:59 PM
217	Need a new pool and a cleaner city. How about a new tag line for the city. Bear paws and lumber jacks is horrible. Want to attract more investors it starts with changing the old school mentality. It begins with a vision of what the city should look like. Ask us what we want to see in our town. Like a colorful palette of refurbished building with a color scheme in place. Paint the town and embrace the beauty that is around is. If other towns and cities can do it so can we. It starts with vision. Get an artist to paint a rendition of what 3 rd and Argyle area could look like and get people excited about our city. We need color and the booming energy brought back here. Get the artists involved. Be creative.	1/15/2014 1:51 PM
218	With the economic situation as it is, council should take a hard look at all services and make hard decisions based on the needs of the community. No service should be exempt from scrutiny.	1/15/2014 1:32 PM
219	I don't currently live in Port Alberni but I grew up there and my parents still live there so I visit often. I think Port Alberni needs to invest more in tourism and cleaning up its downtown areas. Attract new residents and tourists.	1/15/2014 1:23 PM
220	Do not cut essential protective services or streets and water system maintenance	1/15/2014 1:12 PM
221	To Council: Please USE the Strategic Plan and follow it when you are making decisions.	1/15/2014 12:01 PM
222	My taxes are sky high, i am a young family, both work full time and take care to keep a nice yard and home yet feel punished as my taxes dont reflect the pride i take in my town. Park your car in your lawn, your taxes are dirt cheap?!?!?! If you want young families to stay in town, spend our hard working dollars in town then help them out! I dont flush my toilet any more than my neighbor...in fact i dont all day because I AM AT WORK TRYING TO KEEP UP WITH MY PROPERTY TAXES!!!!!! Please note: I believe we pay one of the highest residential taxes in PA (\$5500 +) and our city cant even manage to make the streets "look" good/clean. Driving to PV or Qualicum is a holiday destination as far as the look of the town. Where are all of our tax dollars going, this is something that the city needs to ask itself, if you keep spending them in the same spots year after year and no growth or improvement is made IT HAS TO CHANGE! Thank you for your time.	1/15/2014 11:50 AM
223	Understandably there are a lot of things the budget needs to go to. I believe for this town to grow there needs to be more focus on economic development. As a young adult with two young kids I find we are constantly going out of town, whether it be to take the kids to the bigger pools and other activities or to do shopping that we don't have here. It seems each time we get something new we lose something else. It is kinda scary owning here as we are not seeing much rise in our housing but depreciation, makes looking at a new town to live in more appealing for the long run. I hope Port Alberni can pick up as there are some great draws to living here.	1/15/2014 11:17 AM
224	I do not see the need to spend so much for the parks. I am getting older and put a greater value on clean water, the protective services and debt management. .	1/15/2014 10:56 AM
225	I feel too much money goes into McLean's mill and the 'heritage society'. What is the heritage society anyways! It's not bringing people to our community that's for sure. McLean's mill should at the very least be on a 10 year plan to make them selves self sufficient and not need city money. If Neil Melbourne want's his job his job should be turning his 'business' into a business. Businesses don't have losses every year. I think the mill has potential to be a great tourist attraction, but right now it's not. Its incredibly dissapointing that you can't even go out there and have a nice meal. I don't buy that putting a restaurant out there would be unfair competition to other businesses. The mill should support itself and that could include a coffee shop or restaurant. It would be nice to be able to go out to the mill to just have a meal. It would attract more locals if it was a destination like that. Right now its every few years at best locals support it by doing the day trip. There's not enough to offer us.	1/15/2014 10:42 AM
226	Please stop spending the taxpayers money on the mcleans mill!	1/15/2014 10:22 AM
227	City could save money but cutting non profitable tax drains such as McClean's Mill and taxing a larger portion to big business instead of giving them tax breaks. Especially on waterfront property along a deep sea port.	1/15/2014 9:50 AM

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228	Suggestions *reduce garbage pick-up to every two weeks *add yard-waste pick-up twice each year *reduction of the 'heart smart' free pool program - offer reduced fees to low income families, but not free or virtually free entry. *increase corporate & commercial taxes *increase fees for people living out-of-city-limits to use City amenities *create & support annual/biannual fundraiser events to support changes to infrastructure (ie- new pool, skateboard park, etc) *thanks for the online survey to allow those of us with family & work responsibilities a chance to have some input even though we can't attend the budget meetings	1/15/2014 9:17 AM
229	I feel that Water, Sewer, Fire and Police are the core services that need to be maintained or increased with reductions in all other departments to allow for a budget that has no increase in taxes. While I believe that these other departments are valuable, with rising costs I believe that these are the areas we can reduce to maintain our current level of taxes.	1/15/2014 8:58 AM
230	would like to see more recreation services available on stat holidays	1/15/2014 8:25 AM
231	There must be more of a focus on economic & community development. Recycling too!?	1/15/2014 8:21 AM
232	The city needs to look at encouraging the building of new homes. Why would anyone build a new home in the city if they are required to pay so much in tax. Encourage new home building in the city. It's an investment in our future.	1/15/2014 7:58 AM
233	I'm satisfied with almost all city services. However, we need to be willing to invest in future and be prepared to grow slowly into the future. I was also shocked to see the Police cost are twice as much as Fire costs. Shouldn't those numbers be a little more balanced?	1/15/2014 7:45 AM
234	I value all the services our taxes provide, but do not believe my tax dollars should continue to go into running the steam train or Maclean's Mill	1/15/2014 7:36 AM
235	We spend too much on parks. Not sure the new beach will be good value for the money required.	1/15/2014 6:46 AM
236	It is very important we adjust taxes yearly to reflect inflation. We must not get behind in our ability to offer all the services we currently receive and work to make them stronger. It is concerning to think of getting behind further and further until one day we will need to increase taxes at a high rate to "catch up" as we recently experienced.	1/14/2014 11:55 PM
237	I am unsure of question 7; are you talking of the tax rate or the average tax bill for a residence?	1/14/2014 7:26 PM
238	Garbage pickup should be reduced 50% for people with the smallest cans in the city and increased for the people with large cans. Proportionally the people with small cans who waste the least pay more than people with large cans. Why? Water use should be charged more for used and less for the base rate of having water. Charge more for actual 1000 litres used and less for the hookup. This would promote water conservation.	1/14/2014 5:54 PM