

# Community Charter

Ministry of  
**Community, Aboriginal  
and Women's Services**

[The Minister](#)[News](#)[Search](#)[Reports & Publications](#)[Contacts](#)

## Contents

- [Message from the Minister of State](#)
  - [News Release](#)
  - [Backgrounder](#)
  - [Community Charter](#)
  - [Content Overview](#)
  - [Highlights](#)
  - [Parts Overview](#)
  - [Questions & Answers](#)
  - [Regional Districts](#)
- 
- [Public response to May 2002 discussion materials](#)
  - [Discussion Materials \(2002\)](#)

## Other Links

- [Local Government Department Home](#)
- [CivicInfo BC](#)
- [CivicNet](#)

## Parts of the *Local Government Act* in the *Community Charter*

### Introduction

This [table](#) provides a rough guide to where parts of the *Local Government Act* are located in the *Community Charter*.

Please note the table does not cover every part of the legislation. It does not cover new *Community Charter* provisions not currently found in the *Local Government Act*, and it does not describe changes to provisions as they appear in the *Local Government Act* or as they appear in the *Community Charter*.

Phase 1 of the *Community Charter* applies only to municipalities. *Local Government Act* provisions that are “local government” are being continued transitionally for regional districts, and in only a limited number of cases will *Community Charter* provisions substantively apply to [regional districts](#) at this time.

**Local Government Act Parts → Community Charter Parts**

<b>Local Government Act</b>	<b>Community Charter</b>
<b>Part 1</b> – Purposes and Principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• principles of municipal governance, principles of municipal-provincial relations, and broad interpretation in <b>Part 1</b> (Principles, Purposes and Interpretation)</li> <li>• purposes of municipalities in <b>Part 2</b> (Municipal Purposes and Powers)</li> </ul>
<b>Part 1.1</b> – Definitions and Interpretation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• definitions and some interpretation rules in <b>Schedule</b> (Definitions and Rules of Interpretation); “pointer” to Schedule in <b>Part 1</b> (Principles, Purposes and Interpretation)</li> <li>• other interpretation rules (e.g. notice rules) in <b>Part 4</b> (Public Participation and Council Accountability) and <b>Part 5</b> (Municipal Government and Procedures)</li> <li>• regulation-making authority in <b>Part 9</b> (Governmental Relations)</li> </ul>
<b>Part 2</b> – Incorporation of Municipalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>none</b>; incorporation of municipalities provisions stay in <i>Local Government Act</i> for now</li> <li>• “no forced amalgamations” rule in <b>Part 9</b> (Governmental Relations)</li> </ul>
<b>Part 3</b> – Electors and Elections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• election provisions stay in <i>Local Government Act</i> for now</li> <li>• requirement for general local elections in 2005 and every 3 years after that, and “pointer” to <i>Local Government Act</i> election provisions, are in <b>Part 4</b> (Public Participation and Council Accountability)</li> </ul>
<b>Part 4</b> – Other Voting and Counter Petitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• other voting provisions stay in <i>Local Government Act</i> for now</li> <li>• assent of electors and alternative approval process in <b>Part 4</b> (Public Participation and Council Accountability)</li> </ul>

<p><b>Part 5 – Corporate Powers and Their Use</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• corporate status provisions in <b>Part 5</b> (Municipal Government and Procedures)</li> <li>• “natural person powers” in <b>Part 2</b> (Municipal Purposes and Powers)</li> <li>• limitations/requirements re some natural person powers (e.g. assistance; agreements) in <b>Part 3</b> (Additional Powers and Limits on Powers)</li> <li>• delegation provisions in <b>Part 5</b> (Municipal Government and Procedures)</li> <li>• incorporation of corporations provision in <b>Part 6</b> (Financial Management)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Part 5.1 – Local Government Officers and Employees</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• officer and employee provisions in <b>Part 5</b> (Municipal Government and Procedures)</li> <li>• board of examiners provisions stay in <i>Local Government Act</i> for now</li> </ul>
<p><b>Part 5.2 – Municipal Councils and Their Proceedings</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• most provisions in <b>Part 5</b> (Municipal Government and Procedures)</li> <li>• disqualification provisions, “open meeting” provisions and “conflict of interest” provisions in <b>Part 4</b> (Public Participation and Council Accountability)</li> <li>• emergency powers in <b>Part 2</b> (Municipal Purposes and Powers)</li> <li>• “enabling by regulation” authority in <b>Part 9</b> (Governmental Relations)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Part 6 – Bylaws</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• bylaw procedures and consolidation/revision of bylaws in <b>Part 5</b> (Municipal Government and Procedures)</li> <li>• enforcement of bylaws and ticketing in <b>Part 8</b> (Bylaw Enforcement and Related Matters)</li> <li>• challenge of bylaws provisions stay in <i>Local Government Act</i> for now</li> </ul>

<b>Part 7 – Legal Proceedings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• actions by municipality in <b>Part 8</b> (Bylaw Enforcement and Related Matters)</li> <li>• limitation, indemnification, immunity and enforcement of orders provisions stay in <i>Local Government Act</i> for now</li> <li>• “pointer” to self insurance and indemnification provisions in <b>Part 6</b> (Financial Management)</li> <li>• orders respecting drainage works in <b>Part 3</b> (Additional Powers and Limits on Powers)</li> </ul>
<b>Part 8 – Special Municipal Powers Relating to Property</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provisions in <b>Part 3</b> (Additional Powers and Limits on Powers)</li> <li>• municipal forest reserves provisions stay in <i>Local Government Act</i> for now</li> </ul>
<b>Part 9 – Financial Management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provisions in <b>Part 6</b> (Financial Management)</li> </ul>
<b>Part 10 – Assessment and Taxation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provisions in <b>Part 7</b> (Municipal Revenue)</li> <li>• utility tax provisions stay in <i>Local Government Act</i> for now</li> </ul>
<b>Part 10.1 – Taxes, Fees and Charges</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provisions in <b>Part 7</b> (Municipal Revenue)</li> </ul>
<b>Part 11 – Tax Collection</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provisions in <b>Part 7</b> (Municipal Revenue)</li> <li>• annual tax sale provisions stay in <i>Local Government Act</i> for now</li> </ul>
<b>Part 13 – Special Funds</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provisions in <b>Part 6</b> (Financial Management)</li> </ul>
<b>Part 15 – Municipal Services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• service authority in <b>Part 2</b> (Municipal Purposes and Powers)</li> <li>• additional powers related to specific services (e.g. fire protection; sewers and drainage) in <b>Part 3</b> (Additional Powers and Limits on Powers)</li> <li>• public health is in <b>Part 2</b> (Municipal Purposes and Powers) as a concurrent sphere of authority</li> <li>• title to highways and specific powers in relation to highways are in <b>Part 3</b> (Additional Powers and Limits on Powers)</li> </ul>
<b>Part 17 – Utilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provisions in <b>Part 3</b> (Additional Powers and Limits on Powers)</li> </ul>
<b>Part 19 – Local Improvements and Specified Areas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provisions streamlined as “local service taxes” in <b>Part 7</b> (Municipal Revenue)</li> </ul>

<p><b>Part 20</b> – Business Regulation and Licensing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• business is in <b>Part 2</b> (Municipal Purposes and Powers) as a sphere of authority to regulate</li> <li>• specific provisions in <b>Part 3</b> (Additional Powers and Limits on Powers)</li> <li>• licensing of commercial vehicles and regulation of carriers provisions stay in <i>Local Government Act</i> for now</li> </ul>
<p><b>Part 21</b> – Building Regulation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provincial building code and Building Code Appeal Board authorities stay in <i>Local Government Act</i> for now</li> <li>• buildings and other structures is in <b>Part 2</b> (Municipal Purposes and Powers) as a concurrent sphere of authority</li> <li>• specific provisions in <b>Part 3</b> (Additional Powers and Limits on Powers)</li> <li>• demolition of unsafe structures in <b>Part 3</b> (Additional Powers and Limits on Powers) as “remedial action requirements”</li> </ul>
<p><b>Part 22</b> – Miscellaneous Powers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• various spheres of authority to regulate, prohibit and impose requirements in <b>Part 2</b> (Municipal Purposes and General Powers) (e.g. animals; trees; cemeteries), with additional related powers/limits in <b>Part 3</b> (Additional Powers and Limits on Powers)</li> <li>• 2 spheres of regulatory authority in <b>Part 2</b> (Municipal Purposes and General Powers) are in relation to people/property protection matters and nuisances/disturbances matters specified in <b>Part 3</b> (Additional Powers and Limits on Powers)</li> <li>• athletic commissions provision in <b>Part 5</b> (Municipal Government and Procedures)</li> <li>• removal of dangerous buildings in <b>Part 3</b> (Additional Powers and Limits on Powers) as “remedial action requirements”</li> </ul>
<p><b>Part 23</b> – Improvement Districts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>none</b>; improvement district provisions stay in <i>Local Government Act</i> for now</li> </ul>

<b>Part 24</b> – Regional Districts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>none</b>; regional district provisions stay in <i>Local Government Act</i> for now</li> <li>• consequentially apply some CC provisions substantively to regional districts (e.g. open meeting rules; ethical conduct rules)</li> </ul>
<b>Part 25</b> – Regional Growth Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>none</b>; regional growth strategies provisions stay in <i>Local Government Act</i> for now</li> </ul>
<b>Part 26</b> – Planning and Land Use Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>none</b>; planning and land use management provisions stay in <i>Local Government Act</i> for now</li> <li>• limit on use of “spheres” authority re planning and land use management matters in <b>Part 2</b> (Municipal Purposes and General Powers)</li> </ul>
<b>Part 27</b> – Heritage Conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>none</b>; heritage conservation provisions stay in <i>Local Government Act</i> for now</li> </ul>
<b>Part 28</b> – Replotting Schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>none</b>; replotting provisions stay in <i>Local Government Act</i> for now</li> </ul>
<b>Part 29</b> – Inspector of Municipalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>none</b>; inspector provisions stay in <i>Local Government Act</i> for now</li> </ul>
<b>Part 30</b> – Administrative Commissioner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>none</b>; administrative commissioner provisions stay in <i>Local Government Act</i> for now</li> </ul>