



TOWN OF QUALICUM BEACH

Fast Facts—*Why we're the place to be!*



LOCATION

- Located in the Regional District of Nanaimo on the east coast of central Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada
- By highway, 62 km south of Courtenay & 11 km north of Parksville
- Land Area: 18 square kilometres (or 7 square miles)
- Town Hall is: 49.347948 °N and 124.444027 °W

HOW DO YOU GET HERE?

- BY HIGHWAY, drive by car or bus,
 - from Nanaimo, follow Hwy 19 for approximately 40 minutes to the Qualicum Beach exit, or enjoy the scenic coastal route along Hwy 19A through Parksville
 - from Tofino, follow Hwy 4, and the 2–2 1/2 hour drive leads directly to Qualicum Beach
- BY TRAIN, catch E&N Rail which travels once daily from Victoria to Courtenay return, with stops in Nanaimo and Qualicum Beach each way
- BY AIR, fly from: Vancouver (South Terminal) to Qualicum Beach Airport (KD Air or Orca), or Vancouver International or other points to Nanaimo Airport (Air Canada Jazz) or Comox Airport (West Jet), or fly harbour to harbour between downtown Vancouver and downtown Nanaimo (Harbour Air)
- BY BC FERRIES, from Vancouver to Nanaimo via Horseshoe Bay to Departure Bay OR Tsawwassen to Duke Point, then drive by car (30 minutes) or bus (Island Coachline/Greyhound/Laidlaw Coach Lines/Regional Transit/IslandLinkBus)
- BY PRIVATE BOAT, to French Creek Harbour, 5 km south-east on Hwy 19A

TOWN OF QUALICUM
BEACH

201–660 Primrose Street
PO Box 130
Qualicum Beach, BC
CANADA V9K 1S7

Phone: 250.752.6921

Fax: 250.752.1243

Email: qbtown@qualicumbeach.com

Website: www.qualicumbeach.com

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- Incorporated as a Village on May 5, 1942 and re-incorporated as a Town on January 7, 1983
- Form (Structure): Council–Manager Regulated through the Provincial *Community Charter*
- No. of Elected Officials: 5 (1 Mayor plus 4 Councillors)
- Mayor: Teunis Westbroek Councillors: Mary Brouillette, Bill Luchtmeijer, Scott Tanner, and Dave Willie
- Year Elected: November 2011 Next Election: November 2014
- Chief Administrative Officer: Mark Brown

REGIONAL GOVERNMENT

- Member municipality of the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN)
- Mayor represents Council on the RDN Board

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

- Represented by Ron Cantelon of the BC Liberal Party , Parksville-Qualicum MLA (Member of the Legislature)

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- Represented by James Lunney of the Conservative Party, Nanaimo-Alberni MP (Member of Parliament)

DEMOGRAPHICS

- Population: 8,687 (2011 Stats Canada)
- Median Age: 60.9 years (one of the highest median ages in Canada; BC median age is 40.8)
- Average Household Size: 2.1
- Total Private Dwellings: 4,217
- Population Density Per Square Kilometre: 472.4
- Median Family Income: \$57,456
- Source of Income: Employment (39.5%), Pension (31.9%), Investment (13.7%), Self-Employed (6.5%), Other (6.6%) and Tax Exempt (1.7%)
- Average Sale Price of a Single-Family Residential Unit: \$369,446 (Vancouver Island Real Estate Board)

LABOUR FORCE

Distribution by Industry (Highest 12 categories)

Retail trade	11.0%	Educational services	8.5%	Manufacturing	4.6%
Health care & social assistance	11.0%	Professional, scientific & tech. services	7.4%	Other Services (excluding public admin)	4.4%
Construction	10.3%	Real estate & rental/leasing	6.4%	Finance and insurance	4.3%
Accommodation & food services	9.4%	Food services & drinking places	6.2%	Admin+support, waste management services	4.3%

- Total Labour Force: 2,820

Perfect conditions...

CLIMATE

Qualicum Beach enjoys a mild year-round climate as Mt. Arrowsmith and the mountains typically shelter Qualicum Beach from the wilder weather found on the Island's west coast.

- Average Daytime High Temperature in July: 23.5° C (74° F)
- Average Daytime High Temperature in January: 4.0° C (39° F)
- Annual Hours of Sunshine: 2,407 Average Annual Rainfall: 95 cm (37.4 in)
- Located within the Nanaimo lowlands, has the longest freeze-free period in Canada (180 days)

QUALITY OF LIFE

- One of the most sought-after places to live, learn, work and play
- We have a village atmosphere with unique shops, galleries, restaurants and services
- Our citizens are engaged and have great community pride—it's visible everywhere, from the care they take with their homes and yards, to the number who attend meetings and events, to the hundreds of thousands of volunteer hours they donate to community services and festivals
- Our beaches, parks, trails, natural areas, golf courses, rivers and ocean mean countless recreational opportunities and stunning coastal and mountain views
- There are five golf courses in the area and we are a short drive to a major ski mountain (Mt. Washington) or caves for spelunking (Horne Lake Caves)
- We are just a quick 30-minute flight from Vancouver, or a picturesque 2 ³/₄ hours, via a 1 hour and 40-minute ocean cruise (BC Ferries) and a 40-minute coastal drive
- Crime rate per 1,000 inhabitants: 83
- 5 financial institutions; 5 churches; 2 elementary schools, a middle school and a high school; post-secondary nearby (Vancouver Island University Campus in Nanaimo and in Parksville)
- We are a repeat champion in the National Communities in Bloom program, which recognizes appearance of parks, open spaces and streets, trees and floral displays, general tidiness, environmental awareness, heritage conservation and public participation
- Our community offers an incredible range of things to see and do: Qualicum Beach Historical Museum, The Old School House Arts Gallery (TOSH), Milner Gardens, Heritage Forest, Vancouver Island Opera and Victoria Symphony concerts spring and fall, Echo Players live theatre, Farmers' Market, St. Mark's Fair, Kris Kringle Christmas Market, Village Craft Faire, Artisans' Market, Chamber Gala Auction, Fire & Ice Street Festival, Fathers' Day Show n' Shine, Grand Prix d'Art, Airport Appreciation Day, Family Day...and so much more!

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- Adopted Green Building Policy, Climate Action Charter & Partners for Climate Program; Town's new Sustainability Plan will incorporate sustainability goals into our Official Community Plan
- Excellent water quality, sewer systems and treatment, reliable electric power (BC Hydro), natural gas (Terasen), and telecommunications, including high-speed internet
- Our transportation network emphasizes multi-modal connectivity, where pedestrian routes are integrated with bus, bicycle and car routes. Our trail network links our neighbourhoods.

TRANSPORTATION

- Connected by highway and ferry, air and rail, regional transit service (Regional District of Nanaimo)
- Ocean port nearby (Nanaimo Port Authority) has channel depth 13 metres (43 ft.), unlimited turning basin, deep water barging, general cargo, containerized and storage facilities
- CAT4—Qualicum Beach Airport, owned and operated by the Town, is a certified airport with a 3,565'x75' asphalt runway and a heli-pad, non-stop service to Vancouver, general aviation, and open from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Land is available for lease for hangar construction, and rental space is available on the large, grass tie-down area. Terminal, restaurant, and parking.

INTERESTING FACTS

- The name "Qualicum" comes from a Pentlatch language term that means dog or chum salmon.
- In May 1856, Hudson's Bay Co. explorer Adam Grant Horne, with a group of aboriginal guides, found a land route across Vancouver Island from Qualicum River to Alberni Inlet.
- The village started with the building of the first store in 1910.
- The E&N Railway reached Qualicum Beach in 1914. H.E. Beasley, a railway official, sponsored the creation of The Merchants Trust & Trading Company which organized the original layout of the town and built the golf course and a hotel in 1913.
- We have been a mecca for tourists for over 100 years. Annually, over 35,000 visitors stop in at our Qualicum Beach Chamber of Commerce Visitor Centre.
- We are located within the Mt. Arrowsmith Biosphere. Biosphere reserves reconcile the conservation of biodiversity with economic development. At 1,817m (5,960 ft) Mt. Arrowsmith is the highest peak on southern Vancouver Island - the crowning point of the 793 sq. km. (306 sq. mi.) Mount Arrowsmith UNESCO Biosphere Reserve—one of 15 such reserves in Canada and one of two that are west of the Rockies mountain range. The other is Clayoquot Sound, on Vancouver Island's west coast, near Tofino.
- HMS Qualicum was a ship in the Royal Navy named for the community in honour of record sales of Victory Bonds in Qualicum Beach. A plaque designed for the ship was adopted for the Town's letterhead in 1942 and as a lapel pin in 1986, depicting a maple leaf (Canada), teepee, (friendship with the Native tribes of the area), salmon (native name Qualicum "where the dog salmon run") and a strip of land/sunset (view from the beach looking towards Hornby Island). Beneath the logo are the Latin words "Acta Qualicana" which means:
 - Acta—beach or seashore
 - Qualicana—the place of Qualicum
- Vancouver Island is traditional territory of several First Nations. The Qualicum First Nation, a First Nations government located along the Qualicum River, has 106 members.
- We are located within the Vancouver Island Health Authority—Central Island Health Region.

VALUABLE CONTACTS

Oceanside Tourism Association

PO Box 239, Parksville, BC V9P 2G4

Phone: 250.248.6300

Email: info@oceansidetourism.com

www.visitparksvillequalicumbeach.com

Qualicum Beach Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Centre, 124 Second Avenue W, Qualicum Beach, BC V9K 1S7

Phone: 250.752.0960

Email: chamber@qualicum.bc.ca

www.qualicum.bc.ca

The Visitor Centre, 2711 West Island Hwy, Qualicum Beach, BC V9K 2C4

Telephone: 250.752.9532

Email: info@qualicum.bc.ca

Regional District of Nanaimo, 6300 Hammond

Bay Road, Nanaimo, BC V9T 6N2

Phone: 250.390.4111

Email: corpsrv@rdn.bc.ca

www.rdn.bc.ca

Nanaimo Regional Transit System

www.rdn.bc.ca, choose Transportation for On-Line Transit Schedules or Phone: 250.390.4531

School District No. 69

100 East Jensen Avenue, PO Box 430,

Parksville, BC V9P 2G5

Phone: 250.248.4241

www.sd69.bc.ca

Vancouver Island University, Nanaimo Campus,

900 Fifth St. Nanaimo, BC V9R 5S5

Phone: 1-888-920-2221

www.viu.ca

Vancouver Island Health Authority

www.viha.ca

TOWN OF QUALICUM BEACH

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Building & Business Licences

General Enquiries

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