

factsheet



Industrial Tax Credit

BC Assessment

What is the tax credit program for Class 4 and 5 properties?

Premier Campbell announced on October 22, 2008 that 50% of all school property taxes will be rebated to light and heavy industry annually, to lower their costs and help them grow. This credit is in addition to the \$24 million in annual tax relief provided to heavy industries in the 2008 provincial budget.

Who benefits from this program?

- This credit will be applied to all properties in both Property Class 4 Heavy Industry and property Class 5 Light Industry.
- It is estimated that the school property tax credit will save these businesses, which are key drivers of BC's economy, as much as \$50 million annually.
- This program will help BC's oldest and largest employers to pay their bills, reinvest and maintain jobs, especially in rural communities, without downloading any costs to municipalities.

What are "Heavy" and "Light" Industrial properties?

Heavy industrial properties are those that fall into Class 4 Major Industry classification. This class includes such properties as major mines, pulp mills, sawmills and other large industrial concerns.

Light industrial properties are those that fall into Class 5 Light Industry. This class includes properties that are involved in extraction, manufacturing and transporting products. Properties that are used for the production of food and non-alcoholic beverages are specifically excluded from Class 5 and fall into Class 6 Business and Other.

Further information on the classification of property within BC can be found on BC Assessment's website at:

http://www.bccassessment.bc.ca/pdf/publications/factsheets/FS06_Property_Classes.pdf

How can I determine whether my property should be in Class 5 Light Industry?

An overview of Property Class 5 Light Industry and more detailed information regarding BC Assessment's policy and guidelines related to this classification can be found on our website at:

http://www.bccassessment.bc.ca/process/policies/Classification_5_6_Light_Ind_Business_Final.pdf

What should I do if my property seems to be classified incorrectly?

- BC Assessment will be pleased to discuss any aspects of classification or valuation with interested customers. Please contact your local Assessment Office.
- To estimate the impact that a classification change will have on your property taxes, prior year's tax rates can be found at:

http://www.cd.gov.bc.ca/lgd/infra/statistics_index.htm

Current tax rates can be obtained by contacting your municipality or taxing authority