

CITY OF FORT SASKATCHEWAN
Draft Property Tax Policy Presentation

Topic Identification:

A Draft Property Tax Policy is being presented to Council for their review and feedback.

The City relies on property taxes as an essential source of revenue to fund programs and infrastructure to support residents, business and industry. The setting of property taxes requires judgement on the part of Council with multiple factors to consider balancing the interests of the overall community to distribute the tax burden fairly and equitably while maintaining an affordable environment for residents, business and industry. The draft Property Tax Policy provides consistent standards, principles and key factors to consider in the setting of property tax rates and will serve as a guideline to follow in making decisions best for Fort Saskatchewan.

Action Required:

Council has undertaken significant discussions on property taxation at meetings of Council and throughout Budget Deliberations. Taxation and assessment are complex subjects and applying Council's experiences with several years of property tax decisions are invaluable in drafting the City's Property Tax Policy. Council feedback on the draft policy will be utilized for refinement of the Property Tax policy.

Consultation will continue with the Fort Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce to collaborate, consult and share information as progress is made on the property tax policy.

Administration will present the Policy for Council consideration and adoption at a future meeting.

Attachments:

Draft Property Tax Policy

File No.:

Prepared by:	John Dance General Manager, Corporate Services	Date: September 5, 2017
Approved by:	Troy Fleming City Manager	Date: September 6, 2017
Submitted to:	City Council	Date: September 12, 2017