

TAX RELIEF INCLUDED IN TOWN'S 2019 BUDGET

The 2019 Budget aligns capital and operational expenditures to focus on services of value to residents while committing resources to infrastructure improvements and projects that encourage economic growth. Council's prioritized approach has allowed for a relief in municipal taxes amid continued economic uncertainty.

The 2019 Budget puts citizens first and supports innovations and services that contribute to making Drayton Valley a great place to do business, and a great place to call home. Town Council has identified key areas of investment as part of the 2019 Budget including public safety, economic development, service delivery and asset management.

Ongoing concerns regarding public safety and crime in the community have prompted Council to dedicate resources for the addition of two RCMP members for the Drayton Valley Detachment. Positions for a Constable and Corporal have been approved with members expected to arrive and begin duty in the summer of 2019. Increasing the policing compliment and also including the addition of an experienced member will not only allow for a greater number of patrols but also increase the detachments ability to handle cases and respond to calls of a more complex nature. Council has made safety a priority and are confident this will have a positive impact on the community.

Town Council is committed to pursuing innovative strategies and opportunities that encourage development, attract families and diversify the economy. Creative solutions are being contemplated and implemented that bring hope and build resilience in the community. The establishment of an 'open for business' culture allows the Town to support existing businesses while encouraging local entrepreneurs to take advantage of new and emerging industries.

"Prudent and strategic planning for this year's budget has put us ahead financially from where we were a year ago; this has allowed Council to approve a relief in municipal taxes for our residents and business owners." remarked Mayor Michael Doerksen. "Council has worked hard to prioritize projects and services to ensure residents are getting the best value for their tax dollars."

Appropriate and responsible investment in asset management has enabled Town Council to prioritize capital projects that will address current needs and support anticipated growth in the community. To offset the cost of these projects, Administration has been directed to pursue grant opportunities where possible.

Town Council and Administration are working hard to put residents and businesses first through increased service levels and providing an enhanced customer service experience.

Following a thorough review of Brazeau Foundation's requisition and Brazeau County's tax rate, Drayton Valley Town Council has approved a comprehensive capital and operating budget that includes a 10% relief in municipal taxes for both residential and commercial properties. Town Council has also reduced penalty fees on taxes from 15% to 3% for the remainder of 2019 to provide residents and business owners further relief and an opportunity to get ahead on their taxes.

Pulling
Together