

2021 FINAL BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT | 0% INCREASE IN TAXES | CORE SERVICE DELIVERY | OUTDOOR RECREATION

WHAT TO EXPECT AS PART OF THE 2021 FINAL BUDGET

• ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- On-going efforts to support existing industry through provincial and federal advocacy
- Updates to Bylaws and streamlining processes to create a business-friendly environment
 - ✓ Quickly responding to changes in provincial COVID guidelines to allow businesses to continue operations by creating simple procedures to allow for outdoor patios and waiving permit fees
- Continuing to pursue strategies and initiatives that diversify Drayton Valley's economy
 - ✓ Endorsed a local project that positions Drayton Valley as a critical component in Canada's hemp supply chain
 - ✓ Coordinated the establishment of the Alberta Hemp Alliance to bring economic diversity and sustainability to Drayton Valley and Alberta
- New partnerships announced with Northern Lakes College and the University of Alberta Faculty of Extension, making education more accessible in rural Alberta
 - ✓ University of Alberta Faculty of Extension secured a federal grant to examine the effects and outcomes of the Zero Fee tuition program in Drayton Valley

• GRANT FUNDING

- \$7.5 Million: Aquatic Facility
 - ✓ Grant funding announced in August 2020 allows construction to begin in the spring of 2021
- \$1.7 Million: Wastewater Lagoon Rehabilitation
 - ✓ Will replace an existing lagoon and improve the conditions of berms and cell liners

• CAPITAL PROJECTS

- Aquatic Facility
 - ✓ Construction to begin in Spring 2021
- Wastewater lagoon rehabilitation
- Pedestrian bridge replacements
- Columbarium at the Cemetery
- Playground equipment replacement at Watino & MacKenzie Parks
- New boards being installed at the outdoor rink
- Upgrades to the basketball area in Discovery Park
- Annual maintenance of roads, sidewalks & trails
- Addition of a Mosquito ball diamond at Lion's West Valley Park

• FEE SCHEDULE UPDATES

- Fees for out-of-town commercial haulers and out-of-town residents are increasing 20%

• OPERATIONAL SAVINGS & EFFICIENCIES

- Operational efficiencies in maintenance scheduling
- New equipment is safer and will save on maintenance costs and down time
- Non-critical capital projects have been rescheduled

• TAXATION

- 0% Increase in Municipal Taxes
- Taxation still carries a 10% reduction from previous years
- Late penalty fees were reduced from 15% to 5% starting July 1
 - We encourage anyone who is not able to pay in full by June 30, 2021, to call the Town office to make payment arrangements.