



Property Taxes Reimagined – Resources for Municipalities

November 25, 2025

In addition to the papers, videos, and information on Alberta Municipalities' [Property Taxes Reimagined](#) webpage this document offers:

- Sample wording to promote Property Taxes Reimagined on your **municipality's website**
- Sample wording for your municipality to promote Property Taxes Reimagined information on your municipality's **social media channels**
- **Key messages** that can be used by council members and administration

Sample Website Content

We encourage you to add a link on your website. Below are two options of sample text that you can use.

Option 1 – Long description

The [name of municipality] and all municipal governments across Alberta are facing significant challenges in how they pay for local services that their residents want and need. For example:

- Just like your household, inflation is making things more expensive for our [municipality type].
- Over the last 15 years, the Alberta government has lowered how much money it gives to municipal governments to help pay for local programs and community infrastructure like roads, water and sewer systems, and recreation facilities.
- [Add a local example here; e.g. policing costs have gone up by X% OR repaving Main Street has been delayed X years due to other priorities costing more]

These changes are making it more costly for the [municipality type] to provide the services you rely on. That's why municipal property taxes have gone up. The Alberta government is also increasing its property tax, which the [municipality type] collects on their behalf.

The non-partisan association, Alberta Municipalities, which represents the province's summer villages, villages, towns, cities and specialized municipalities, has conducted considerable research around property taxes and community funding. They are sharing their findings through an information project called [Property Taxes Reimagined](#). It explains what is happening and raises questions about whether Alberta needs to change how local services are funded.

Option 2 – Short description

The [name of municipality] and all municipal governments across Alberta are facing significant challenges in how to pay for local services that their residents want and need. The non-partisan association, Alberta Municipalities, which represents the province's summer villages, villages, towns, cities, and specialized municipalities, has conducted considerable research around property taxes and community funding. They are sharing their findings through an information project called [Property Taxes Reimagined](#).

It explains what is happening and raises questions about whether Alberta needs to change how local services are funded.



Sample Social Media Content

Please tag Alberta Municipalities in your Facebook & LinkedIn posts so we can Like and Repost, helping to spread the message even more!

Sample Post 1

On average, Albertans pay about 1.4% of their household spending on municipal property taxes. That pays for roads, sidewalks, transit, parks, playgrounds, recreation facilities, policing, fire services, social services, and bylaw enforcement. That's a lot!

Alberta's local governments are increasingly under pressure to reduce their property taxes. There are many things affecting municipal budgets and your council's ability to pay for the services, equipment, and infrastructure to have a thriving community.

Alberta Municipalities' project, 'Property Taxes Reimagined: Fair Funding for Strong Communities' helps Albertans understand why property taxes are increasing. It aims to start a conversation with <<name of your municipality>> residents & businesses, and with provincial leaders about reimagining how Alberta's local community services are funded.

Learn more here: www.abmunis.ca/property-taxes-reimagined

Sample Post 2

Over the past 15 years, the Alberta government has been giving less money to municipal governments, while also asking them to do more. In 2009, municipalities got about \$635 per person from the Alberta government. By 2023, that dropped to \$327 per person, after inflation.

Every municipal government has to balance their budget, so when we get less money from the provincial or federal government, or we have to take on new costs AND deal with inflation, your council has two choices:

1. Cut back on services like fixing roads or running programs, or
2. Find money somewhere else, usually by raising municipal property taxes.


We need to have a conversation about how Alberta's local community services are funded. Alberta Municipalities' project, 'Property Taxes Reimagined: Fair Funding for Strong Communities' has been created to help Albertans understand the pressures that are driving up municipal property taxes.

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Sample Post 3

You pay your property taxes to the <<name of your municipality>>. But did you know that some of your property taxes are actually a tax by the Alberta government? And the Alberta government significantly increased that tax in 2025?

Council has no control over the provincial property tax. Our <<municipality type>> collects those tax dollars and sends them to the Alberta government for their use. When the province increases its property tax, <<municipality type>> council is forced to consider whether the combined increase of the provincial tax and municipal tax is affordable to residents. If needed, council may choose to lower the municipal property tax but that may not leave the <<municipality type>> with enough money to take care of things like local roads, sidewalks, and community buildings in the long term.



We need to have a conversation about how Alberta's local community services are funded and what taxes are collected by each government. ABmunis' 'Property Taxes Reimagined: Fair Funding for Strong Communities' has been created to help Albertans understand how property taxes are structured.

Learn more here: www.abmunis.ca/property-taxes-reimagined

Key Messages for Conversations with Residents, MLAs, and Media

- Five reasons why property taxes are increasing:
 1. The province increased its property tax by 14% in 2025
 2. Over the last 15 years, the province has cut its funding to municipalities in half, so local councils have had to raise municipal property taxes to make up for it
 3. The province has created new rules and downloaded costs onto municipal governments, like election rules and policing
 4. Residents are asking councils to spend money on services that are historically handled by the province, like social services, recruitment of doctors, and affordable housing
 5. Inflation is increasing the cost of things municipalities have to buy, like:
 - fire trucks and graders
 - water pipes and asphalt
 - wages for local contractors, workers, and employees
- The province has lowered its income tax rates but has been shifting the tax burden onto property taxes over the last decade.
 - Higher property taxes make life harder for Albertans whose income has not increased.
- Municipalities are mandated to balance their budget and set their tax rates to match.
 - The federal and provincial governments don't have to do this. They can plan to under tax and overspend in any year.
- Council has no control over provincial property taxes but is required to collect the province's tax from families and businesses.
- Visit [Property Taxes Reimagined](http://www.abmunis.ca/property-taxes-reimagined) on ABmunis' website to watch videos or read about the pressures on municipal property taxes and the need to reimagine how local services are funded.