



# City of Prince Albert

## 2010 BUDGET A SUCCESS - EVEN WITH FUNDING PRESSURES

Prince Albert City Council approved the 2010 Operating and Capital budget on April 19. This year's budget resulted in approximately \$54 million in spending or an increase of \$1.5 million from last year. The increase will be funded by property taxes and represents an increase of 4.3% in overall taxes.

“**The City is undergoing a significant growth period with 2010 on track to be one of the largest construction and building years in recent history. We have been able to present a budget that encourages development and at the same time maintain services to our citizens.”** stated Mayor Jim Scarrow.

City Administration encountered a number of challenges preparing

this year's budget. There was a freeze in revenue sharing funding from the Province, salary and benefit cost increases, reduced revenues from other surcharges on utility bills, and the continued need to invest in our buildings and infrastructure.

The City was able to accommodate all of the identified challenges by approving a one-time reduction in capital spending as the City has a backlog of major projects started in 2009. This reduction will be replenished in 2011 when the full Municipal Operating Grant from the Province is received.

There are a number of large capital projects which are scheduled for completion in 2010. The 2010 Capital and Service Highlights list illustrates many of the projects and services you will see this year.

– Joe Day, Director of Financial Services



## CITY'S NEW WATER AND SEWER UTILITY RATES

Prince Albert City Council has approved a new utility water and sewer rate structure to address the operating and capital challenges due to rising operational costs and infrastructure repairs.

The new utility rates will come into force and take effect on, from and after the final passing thereof and approval of the Minister pursuant to The Public Health Act.

As the City grows it needs to be concerned about its ability to meet peak utility demands.

The basis of the new utility rates structure is:

- Encourage “water conservation”;
- designed to cover all of the water and wastewater utilities' costs related to operations (treatment, storage, pumpage, and distribution/ collection systems) and capital projects related to water quality, city growth, and regulatory requirements);
- Pay down existing deficit; and
- Ensure rate fairness among all users.

The rates now reflect how much water you use. For more information regarding the new rates, go to the City's website at [www.citypa.ca](http://www.citypa.ca).

Below is an example of a resident's current quarterly water bill. The water consumption for this resident is 3005 cubic feet (cf) or 30.05 per 100 cf.

### CURRENT QUARTERLY WATER AND SEWER UTILITY RATES:

Water Service (30.05 cf x \$3.34)	\$100.37
Sewer Service (40% of Water Service)	\$ 40.15
Sanitation (\$13.20 x 3 mths)	\$ 39.60
Meter Fee - 3/4" (\$13.35/mth x 3 mths)	\$ 40.05
Infrastructure - 3/4" (\$15.62/mth x 3 mths)	\$ 46.86
<b>TOTAL BILL - CURRENT RATES</b>	<b>\$267.03</b>

### NEW QUARTERLY WATER AND SEWER UTILITY RATES:

Water Consumption (30.05 x \$2.42)	\$ 72.72
Sewage Treatment (30.05 x \$2.80)	\$ 84.14
Sanitation (\$13.20 x 3 mths)	\$ 39.60
Water Capital Works - 3/4" (\$13.67/mth x 3 mths)	\$ 41.01
Sewer Capital Works - 3/4" (\$11.43/mth x 3 mths)	\$ 34.29
<b>TOTAL BILL - NEW RATES</b>	<b>\$271.76</b>

Under the new rate structure, residents may see an increase of approximately \$5.00 per quarterly billing.

– Robert Cotterill, City Manager

# 2010 CAPITAL AND SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

Here are some of the highlights from the 2010 Operating and Capital budget:

- \$150,000 for a Splash Park - Riverview - Miller Hill Park,
- \$27,000 for Garbage Receptacles/Recycling for the Downtown Core,
- \$51,500 for improvement to the Kinsmen Waterpark,
- \$70,000 for Rear Lane Rebuilding,
- \$85,000 for a Special Needs Paratransit Vehicle,
- \$139,300 for sidewalk improvements,
- \$100,000 for bridge inspections,
- \$141,000 for roofing upgrades to City facilities,
- \$35,780 one-time funding grant provided to Prince Albert Tourism,
- \$31,690 for an additional new Firefighter,
- \$36,030 increase to Wapiti operating grant,
- \$3.75 million for roadways and paving, such as:
  - Crescent Acres Community Club, River Street West Road, Taxiway and Aprons II and III at the Airport, Central Transfer Station Parking Lot, Local Improvement Paving, second lift to 28 Avenue and 10 Street West and other projects.

# MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE:

## WATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADES



### TOTAL COMBINED INVESTMENT: \$24.0 MILLION

**Upgrades Include:** Upgrade existing water treatment plant and treated water storage reservoirs to ensure that the infrastructure meets the regulatory standards.

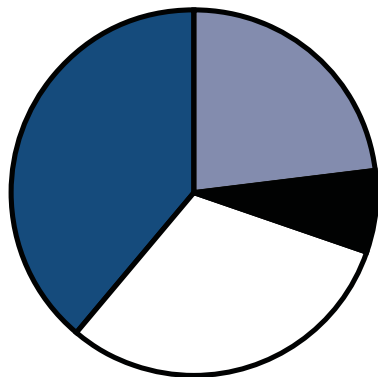
## GREEN ENERGY PARK



### TOTAL INVESTMENT: \$3.0 MILLION

**New Green Zone:** New home for environmentally conscious or efficiency based businesses; buildings and park will use recycled and renewable products from roadways to landscaping and buildings.

# HOW YOUR RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TAX DOLLARS ARE SPENT



- Public and Separate Schools - 37.2%
- Police Services - 33.4%
- City Departments - 22.3%
- External Agencies - 7.1%  
(Library, SPCA etc.)

# TAX DUE DATE: JUNE 30, 2010

**LATE PAYMENT PENALTIES** will be added to gross current taxes unpaid. A compounding monthly charge of 1.9% will be applied to taxes unpaid after the due date. Penalties on arrears (unpaid from 2009 and prior) have 1.5% compounding penalty.

**TIPPS** (Tax Installment Payment Plan) allows taxes to be paid through monthly payments (rather than one lump sum). To sign up for the program visit [www.citypa.ca](http://www.citypa.ca) or call (306) 953-4320