



COMMITTEE REPORT TO COUNCIL

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DATE: September 25, 2019

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL

NAME AND TITLE: Standing Committee on Finance and Audit

SUBJECT: 2020 Permissive Tax Exemptions

ATTACHMENT(S): Staff Report to Standing Committee on Finance and Audit from Kris Dalio, Director of Finance dated September 3, 2019
Appendix A – 2020 Permissive Tax Exemptions

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That Council:

1. Approve the recommendation for permissive tax exemptions for the years 2020-2023 for the organizations listed in Appendix “A” attached to the report dated September 3, 2019 from the Director of Finance title “2020 Permissive Tax Exemptions”; and
2. Grant first three readings to the “City of Prince George Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw No. 9075, 2019”.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to obtain approval from Council regarding 2020 Permissive Tax Exemptions.

The Director of Finance presented a report on the 2020 Permissive Tax Exemptions at the Standing Committee on Finance and Audit meeting held on September 9, 2019 and the Committee endorsed the recommendation in the report.

Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaws must be approved before October 31st as per Section 224 of the *Community Charter*.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

The Permissive Tax Exemption program supports all of Council’s Social Development Priorities as well as Sustainable Fiscal Management and Organizational Excellence.

As per Sustainable Finance Guideline 5.5, permissive tax exemption is a means for Council to support organizations within the community which further Council’s objectives of enhancing quality of life (economic, social, and cultural) and delivering services economically. There is no obligation on the part of Council to grant exemptions.

The Permissive Tax Exemption Policy was used in conjunction with the Permissive Tax Exemption Administrative Procedure to adjudicate the Permissive Tax Exemptions. As per the Policy, the length of the exemptions provided will be granted to the organizations for a period that coincides with the existing

Council's term of office, up to a maximum of 4 years. However, the owners of the exempted properties are expected to apply annually and state any changes that have occurred, which are then reviewed by Administration.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

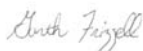
The total estimated value for the tax exemptions in this report's recommendations is \$1,898,600.51 or 1.73% of the tax levy (based on 2019 tax rates and assessment values). The exact amount of these exemptions will not be known until the time that BC Assessment releases the revised property tax roll in 2020.

New folios recommended for approval include: Association Advocating for Women and Children (AWAC) for 28 low income units for individuals struggling with homelessness due to addictions or other health issues; AiMHi for a residence for the care of people with developmental disabilities who are unable to care for themselves; Carrier Sekani Family Services, and Aboriginal Housing Society, both providing programs for families such as parenting support and other life skills; and The Well – A Gathering Place operating as a place of worship and providing church services and related activities.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:

The Standing Committee on Finance and Audit has endorsed the recommendations in the Director of Finance's attached report and requests that Council approve them.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:



Councillor Garth Frizzell, Chair
Standing Committee on Finance and Audit

MEETING DATE: October 7, 2019