
From: cityclerk
Subject: FW: 2023 Budget

From: Doug Walder <*REDACTED*>
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2023 7:09 PM
To: cityclerk <cityclerk@princegeorge.ca>
Subject: 2023 Budget

Hi, Instead of Raising the Taxes by 7.23 % how about getting infrastructure projects that need done as being the # ONE Priority for Mayor and Council.

Money doesn't Grow on Tree's at least not in my back yard. I'm a 82 year old Senior living on a Pension. Last Year my pension increase was \$ 18.00 My tax increase was \$ 252.94
Then there's Fortis for heating, Hydro so I have electricity and of course all the other necessities like food , Property Tax and Garbage, Sewer and Water twice a Year.

The City is facing a \$ 2.32 million increase on it's Debt servicing costs. So what is the Total Cost of the Debt Servicing Fee ? Also if the City took on \$ 33.94 million in Debt in 2022 Why Would the City even Consider taking on more Debt ? And talk of Building a PAC ?

Also take into consideration the Closing of Canfor Pulp and the possibility of Three Hundred People being Out of Work. Where will they come up with the extra \$ 166.28 to Add to their current Tax Bill?

(The July 2014 report was hopeful that grant funding would become available in the next arts facilities grant, but those grant opportunities never materialized.) Another Question is Why' Would Council even consider Building a Performing Arts Centre when the City is so far in debt our Great Great Grandchildren will be Paying for Wants instead of our Needs

The City has \$ 2.86 Million left from the B.C. Safe Restart Grant AND Also lets Not Forget the \$ 20 MILLION from FORTIS that was left from the Old Council so the New Council could Have a say in how it was Spent. Instead of building a PAC (which is a Want, Not a Need like Roads, Sidewalks, ageing underground Piping) and also the number of Seniors that the City just a few years ago mentioned were growing in numbers in the City who are struggling to meet their Needs never minds their wants.

This close to \$ 23 Million could go a Long way in Fixing up infrastructure Needs, Hiring of New Staff if Needed and Lowering the Tax Hike to a Reasonable Rate. Here's Hoping That Mayor and City Council that the Majority of Prince George Residents Voted In to Lead this City do what's Needed for the Majority of Residents and Not put us further in Debt But use The Money it has Wisely for City Needs and also Lower Taxes.

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