



BYLAW 16-21 – AMENDMENT TO TAX PENALTY BYLAW 10-20

Issue

The purpose of Bylaw 16-21 is to amend Tax Penalty Bylaw 10-20 for the 2021 year to provide financial penalty relief to property taxpayers due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Motion Proposed by Administration

That the Finance and Audit Committee recommend to Council that Bylaw 16-21, an amendment to Tax Penalty Bylaw 10-20, be adopted as presented.

Report, Analysis and Financial Implications

The COVID-19 pandemic has placed financial constraints on many Okotoks taxpayers and in order to provide financial relief, Bylaw 16-21 proposes to provide a reduction of penalties on any unpaid property taxes for the months of July through December 2021 of 50%.

Bylaw 10-20 was passed, January 13, 2020 to permit penalties imposed on unpaid current taxes and previous years' arrears taxes.

Bylaw 16-21 amends sections 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4 of Bylaw 10-20 to allow for a reduction of penalties until December 31, 2021 on current 2021 taxes, due June 30, 2021. Unpaid current taxes will receive a penalty of 2.0% July 01, 2021; 2.25% August 01, 2021; 2.5% September 01, 2021; and 0.75% October 01, 2021, November 01, 2021 and December 01, 2021, respectively.

Bylaw 16-21 amends section 3.5 of Bylaw 10-20 in the event of any unpaid taxes from previous years, there shall be imposed by way of penalty an amount equal to 0.75% on each of the first days of July through December 2021 on the balance unpaid at the end of the previous month.

Strategic Plan Goals

<input type="checkbox"/>	Manage Community Growth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Provide Strong Governance
<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide Quality Community Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy and Safe Community
<input type="checkbox"/>	Maintain Organizational Excellence	<input type="checkbox"/>	Foster Economic Vitality
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Promote Environmental Stewardship

Governing Policies/Bylaws/Legislation or Agreements

Bylaw 10-20 and any amendments thereto.

Public Engagement/Communication Strategy

n/a

Alternatives for Consideration

n/a

CAO Comments

Based on the current economic climate, municipal trends and indications from residents about what is important to them, this bylaw recommends a decrease in the rates charged under the tax penalty bylaw.

Attachment(s)

1. Draft Bylaw 16-21 – Amendment to Tax Penalty Bylaw 10-20

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April 29, 2021