



## ***RM OF DUFFERIN #190***

### ***2017 ANNUAL NEWSLETTER***

#### **MUNICIPAL AND SCHOOL MILLRATES**

The 2017 Taxable Assessment is 619,855.130 with the municipal mill rate for 2017 being set at 3.1 mills.

School mill rates, which are now established by the Provincial Government, remain unchanged from 2013. Listed below are the following mill rates for municipal and school tax levying:

1. Municipal Mill Rate – 3.1 mills
2. School Mill Rates:
  - Agricultural Class of Property 1.43
  - Residential and Seasonal Residential 4.12
  - Commercial Industrial 6.27
  - Commercial Industrial Resource 9.68

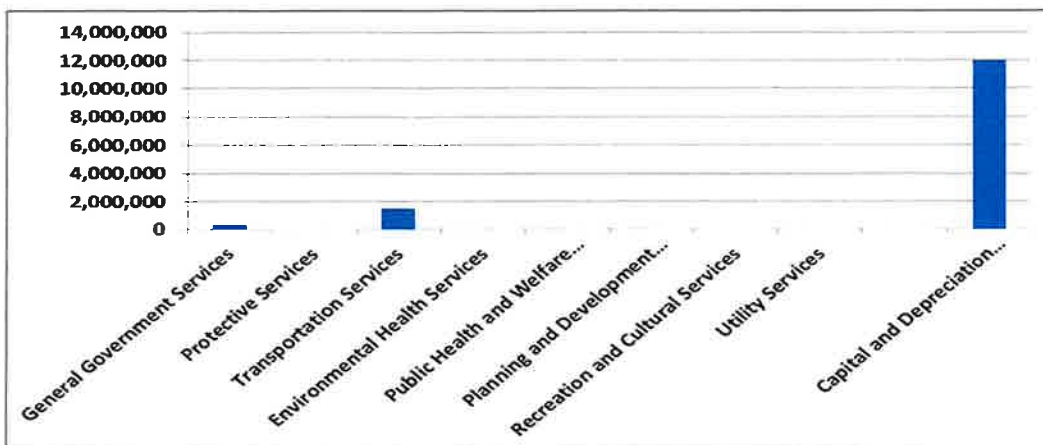
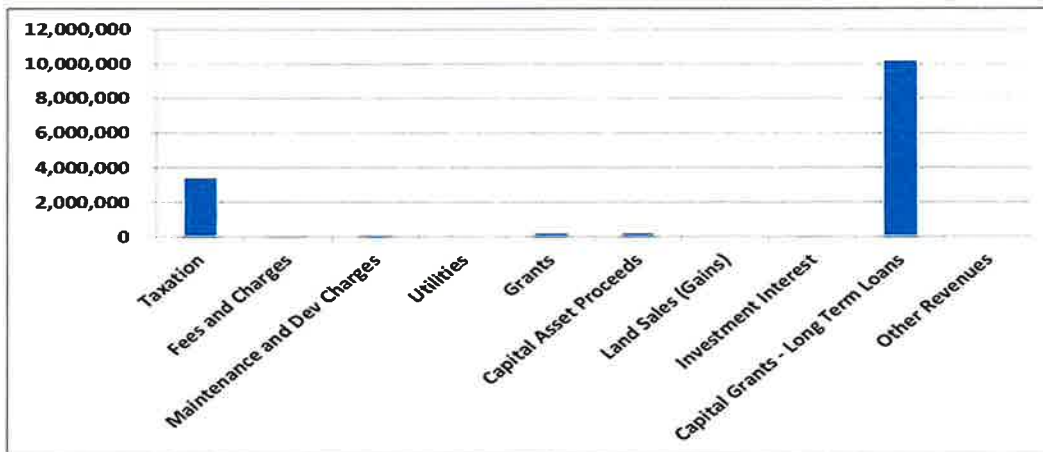
#### **2017 Budget Revenues / Expenditures**

The 2017 Operating Budget and Five Year Capital Plan were adopted by the Council on May 24, 2017.

The bar graphs below illustrate the 2017 budgeted Operating Revenues and Operating Expenditures (including amortization of capital infrastructure and equipment purchases).

Operating Revenues, Capital Grants, proceeds from long term borrowing and transfers are budgeted for \$14.4 million while Operating & Capital Expenditures are being estimated at \$13.7 million. This results in a budgeted surplus of \$489,200.

Capital Projects and capital infrastructure amortization are budgeted at \$11.96 million and will be funding by way of capital grants from government agencies, private industry and surplus/reserve funds.





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#### **ROAD MAINTENANCE EXPENDITURES AND CAPITAL PROJECTS**

Over the past three maintenance seasons excessive moisture levels and extreme spring thaw conditions have produced a significant number of failures on municipal roads. The RM of Dufferin has spent \$2.4 million over the previous three years on road repairs and improvements. In 2017 the Municipality has budgeted approximately \$400,000. It is anticipated that 2016 road repair work will exceed \$475,000. This work will include clay capping portions of Grid #642, the Findlater Grid north of Grid #739, Range Road 241 from Bethune 3.2 km south and various smaller projects. There will also be some limited road work performed in Highwood Beach, Kedleston Beach and Valley View resort areas. ***Please remember to be mindful of construction zone signage; road crews; and road closed signage.***

Additional expenditures on primary weight corridor roads (Grid #642 & Grid #739) include applying additional course gravel in an effort to provide a more effective base and better driving surface. Gravel applications to farm access and side roads will be performed on an as needed basis, giving consideration to the extensive repair projects being performed in all areas of the municipality. Budget allocations for gravelling crushing and spreading are \$360,000.

Further to road construction and maintenance, the municipality will be providing dust control applications around the municipality targeting areas with higher traffic volumes. In 2017, the municipality will be budgeting approximately \$52,000 for dust control product and application. ***Please note that all farm sites, intersections and resort areas may not have dust control product applied. Areas which have product applied are reviewed annually to ensure dust control applications are being maximized in the higher traffic volume areas as per Policy 400-21 (a copy of the dust control policy is available on the RM of Dufferin #190 website).***

Capital road work for 2017 will include a proposed paving of Road #1 from Highway #11 to the K+S Potash mine site; this road upgrade is budgeted at \$10,000,000. Capital equipment purchases expected for 2017 include; grader replacement and mower replacement budgeted at \$450,000 and \$50,000 respectively;

The Council extends their appreciation to all ratepayers for their patience and co-operation as capital projects and maintenance projects continue in the RM of Dufferin #190.

The RM of Dufferin #190 is pleased to offer the following discounts for the early payment of taxes in the municipality:

- 8 % if paid by August 31, 2017
- 6 % if paid by September 30, 2017
- 4 % if paid by October 31, 2017
- 2 % if paid by November 30, 2017
- 0 % In December

PLEASE NOTE that the municipal percentage discount does not apply to Saskatchewan Municipal Hail. The Hail insurance Act was amended in 2008 limiting the maximum discounts that may be applied, Hail Discount is 6%, if paid by August 31, 5% - paid by September 30, 4% - paid by October 31, and 2% - paid by November 30th. The amount owing after discounts is shown on the tax notice.

As of 2013, the Ministry of Government Relations amended legislation *exempting* the education portion of property taxes from discount rates in municipalities.

#### **PAYMENT OF TAX ACCOUNTS**

Payment of your tax account may be made at the municipal office by cash, check or debit; by mail; or electronically.

Ratepayers wishing to make payment online may do so for the following financial institutions Conexus Credit Union, Bank of Nova Scotia, Royal Bank of Canada and C.I.B.C.

Depending on your financial institution you will have to go into their website and set up the R.M. of Dufferin # 190 as a bill Payee. The municipality will be using owner numbers which are on the Tax notice (located just above the name on the Tax notice). The R.M. of Dufferin # 190 owner numbers are from 1 to 999. Please note, a receipt will be issued after the amount is deposited into the R.M. account.

#### **Bethune and District Cemetery**

*As you may be aware the Cemetery requires maintenance on a daily basis to ensure the grounds and plot markers are in good condition. These costs increase annually and to keep the cemetery well maintained is becoming ever more difficult.*

*The RM of Dufferin#190 will be accepting donations on behalf of the Bethune and District Cemetery Fund to assist in covering these annual costs. Donations received will be issued a receipt for income tax purposes.*

*The RM of Dufferin #190 would like to send special thanks to Harold McNally and all the volunteers who work on cemetery*



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#### **Development Permits and Building Permits – YOUR Responsibility**

Each year a number of inquiries are made to whether or not Building Permits are necessary for all kinds of different types of development.

First and foremost, all municipalities in Saskatchewan are responsible for the orderly and regulated development within their municipal boundaries. As well within today's mortgage requirements, insurance requirements and an onus on ALL municipalities to ensure residential and commercial buildings are constructed to a minimum standard, it is only appropriate to advise and re-enforce the RM of Dufferin #190 Zoning and Building Development procedures and policies.

There are important steps to follow when considering building development and for development. Development Permits and Building Permits are required when: new construction is contemplated; major building renovations where structural changes are necessary; and when buildings are moved into the municipality.

*Prior* to any construction or alteration of buildings, the proper municipal approval must be obtained. Plans for new construction and major renovations are subject to the Development Permit Application process. The Development Permit Application is reviewed to ensure Zoning Bylaw compliance within the RM of Dufferin #190. Permitted and Discretionary Uses are reviewed with appropriate process followed. When a successful Development Permit is issued, the Building Permit Application is forwarded to the building inspector for review. Included with the Building Permit Application will be construction details (engineered drawings); geotechnical reports (if required); and other information relating to the proposed development. The RM's Building Inspector will review the Building Permit Application and accompanying documentation to apply the National Building Code of Canada Regulations, Uniform Accessibility Standards & Regulations and Provincial Fire Regulations. Once the plans have been reviewed by a building inspector and alterations made if necessary, the building inspector may approve the Building Permit Application. **NO WORK CAN BE DONE UNTIL THE DEVELOPMENT PERMIT AND BUILDING PERMIT HAS BEEN ISSUED.**

Owners and contractors should be aware that when the building inspector performs onsite inspections to review development conformity to regulations, any deviations or deficiencies found outside of what was approved on the Development Permit Form and Building Permit Form will need to be corrected. Costs to remedy such alterations or deviations are the owners' responsibility. The municipality shall not be held liable for such costs. **IT IS the responsibility of the owner and contractor to follow the proper building and development codes.**

Not all types of development require Development Permits. Such projects as decks or sheds less than 100 square feet, fences, or cosmetic work like window replacement, siding or shingling do not require Building Permits.

These steps ensure your building, whether residential or commercial, may be constructed in accordance to any national, provincial and local regulations. Again, this is extremely important as financial institutions and the insurance industry are becoming more and more focused on ensuring their investments are meeting minimum construction and development standards.

For more information on Development Permit and Building Permit application processes, visit the RM of Dufferin website at [www.rmofdufferin190.com](http://www.rmofdufferin190.com).

#### **RECYCLING**

Through an Agreement with the Village of Bethune, the R.M. of Dufferin ratepayers have access and are permitted to use the recycling bins located on Railway Avenue in the Village of Bethune.

#### **Single Stream Recycling is offered and includes:**

Multi-Material bins -Tin cans, Household plastics, newsprint and cardboard may be placed in the bins without having to be separated. Please ensure that all the boxes are broken down before placing in the bins to maximize the bins capacity.

#### **NON-POTABLE WATER DECLARATION**

As per previous year information the water quality at Gladstone Well (location SE 32-20-24-W2) stays the same (Section 14 of the Public Health Act) . Due to water being untreated it should not be used for drinking, cooking, food preparation or oral hygiene purposes. Environmental Health Department Regina Qu'Appelle Region requires that we notify all ratepayers via the tax notice mail out.



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#### **RESORT WASTE COLLECTION—VALLEYVIEW, HIGHWOOD BEACH, KEDLESTON BEACH & MARION HEIGHTS RESORT**

The 2017 sanitation levy for resort property owners has been set at \$110.00. Sanitation levies continue to reflect a recouping of the cost to the municipality for the contracted waste collection service.

The RM of Dufferin has again provided for 30 yd bin service early in the spring to assist in having resort yard sites cleaned up. This "spring cleanup" service has received positive comments and is anticipated to continue in the years to come.

Although the "spring cleanup" bins been provided the past two years, the Municipal Office continues to receive complaints regarding resort property waste bins being filled with grass clippings, tree cuttings, lumber, furniture and other waste materials. **PLEASE REMEMBER that the waste collection bins at all the resorts are for bagged household garbage only.**

*If the resort waste bins are not used appropriately, increased costs for collection will be passed on. The Municipality requests your cooperation in this matter.*

#### **RURAL FIRE CALLS**

A reminder to all rural ratepayers to check their insurance policies to ensure there is coverage for charges relating to fire calls attended by the volunteer fire department. The Village of Bethune / RM of Dufferin #190 Volunteer Fire Department charges property owners for calls attended to in the rural municipality. If you have any questions regarding this matter contact your insurance agent.

#### **CONTROLLED BURNING IN THE RM OF DUFFERIN**

For those ratepayers wishing to have controlled burns on their lands, please remember to contact 1-866-404-4911 to advise of a time and land location so that in the event a fire call is reported to 911 you will not be charged for a call out. Otherwise, if you do have a controlled burn and the fire department responds to a 911 call, you will be charged accordingly for the said call out. Also contact the RM office at 306-638-3112 with the same information.

#### **RM of Dufferin #190 Municipal Council**

There are no municipal elections scheduled for 2017. Your current members of the Council of the RM of Dufferin #190 are:

Reeve - Terry Neugebauer

Division 1 – Brian Weisbrod    Division 2 – Lorrie Zinn    Division 3 – Colby Kivol

Division 4 – Brent Smith    Division 5 – George Riche    Division 6 – Vance Edwards

#### **MUNICIPAL OFFICE**

Regular municipal office hours are as follows: Monday through Friday - 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

For updates on municipal development, news releases and public notices visit the RM of Dufferin #190 website at [www.rmofdufferin190.com](http://www.rmofdufferin190.com).

In an effort to communicate public notices, emergency notices and other information of interest to ratepayers, the municipality is administering a Facebook page with the Village of Bethune. Social media is playing a more important role in the notification of events and happenings and it is anticipated that the Village of Bethune and RM of Dufferin #190 Facebook page will be an effective tool in this regard. Remember to "LIKE" us on Facebook so that you may receive posting updates.

Municipal office is introducing this year an electronic version of assessment/tax notices. If you wish to receive your next tax notice via e-mail, please, feel free to contact our office with your e-mail address details.

*If you don't use social media but would like information on community happenings you can receive website update notifications whenever something is posted or changed on the RM of Dufferin website. All you need to do is subscribe to the RM of Dufferin notifications on our website. Visit us at [www.rmofdufferin190.com](http://www.rmofdufferin190.com).*