

Request for Decision



To: Regular Meeting
From: Chief Financial Officer
Date: September 4, 2018
Subject: 2019 Annual Permissive Tax Exemptions Bylaw No. 2049
Recommendation: **THAT Council gives final reading to 2019 Annual Tax Exemption Bylaw No. 2049**

Background

2019 Annual Tax Exemption Bylaw No. 2049 was introduced to Council on July 23, 2018 and given first three readings on August 20, 2018. This bylaw must be adopted prior to October 31, 2018 to permissively exempt certain properties from municipal taxation in 2019. As per legislation, the City has advertised the tax exemption notice on August 1st and 8th in the Grand Forks Gazette.

The following areas of land surrounding the buildings for public worship are eligible for exemption under Section 224 (2) (f), (g) and (h) of the Community Charter:

- The United Church - 920 Central Avenue
- The Pentecostal Church - 2826 75th Avenue
- The Catholic Church - 7249 9th Street
- The Anglican Church - 7252 7th Street
- The Mennonite Brethren Church - 7048 Donaldson Drive
- Christ Lutheran Church - 7328 19th Street
- Grand Forks Christian Centre - 7525 4th Street
- Jehovah's Witnesses Church - 7680 Donaldson Drive

The estimated value of 2019 municipal taxes for the above permissive exemptions is \$1,166.

The following property is owned by the City, and subject to a lease agreement requiring the City to pay property taxes if an exemption is not available. Granting this property a permissive exemption will save the City that portion of taxes which is due to other authorities.

The Baptist Church – 7850 2nd Avenue – eligible under 224 (2) (g):

In addition, BC Assessment has recommended that the bylaw include the property leased by the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary at 8120 Donaldson Drive (former SPCA Building) which is eligible under Section 224 (b).

The bylaw will also exempt certain non-profit organizations under Section 224 (2) (h) of the *Community Charter* as follows:

Name	Estimated 2019 Exemption Value
Grand Forks Curling Club - 7230 21 st Street	\$ 12,225
Grand Forks Masonic Building Society - 366 Market Avenue	\$ 509
Sunshine Valley Child Care Society - 978 72 nd Avenue	\$ 2,126
Slavonic Seniors Citizens - 686 72 nd Avenue	\$ 708
Hospital Auxiliary Thrift Shop - 7239 2 nd Street	\$ 2,609
Royal Canadian Legion - 7353 6 th Street	\$ 3,746
Phoenix Manor Society - 876 72 nd Avenue	\$ 3,367
Boundary Lodge – 7130 9 th Street	\$ 1,310

The Seniors Centre in City Park has been removed from the bylaw, as they have provided us with notice of cancellation of their lease.

The estimated total value of permissive exemptions for the non-profits above is \$26,600. The total amount of exemptions proposed here represents 0.7% of estimated property tax revenues for 2019, and equates to \$9 annually per property.

Benefits or Impacts

General

Granting tax exemption to these applicants assists the organizations in continuing the operation of their facilities and in providing services to the residents of the community.

Strategic Impact



Community Livability

- A permissive tax exemption is a means for Council to recognize and support volunteer groups and non-profit agencies in the community that provide services or programs which enhance the quality of life for its residents.



Fiscal Responsibility

- The above tax exemptions will reduce taxes collectible by the City by an estimated \$27,766. The tax savings on City owned leased properties will be approximately \$832.

Policy/Legislation

Section 224 of the Community Charter

Attachments

2019 Annual Tax Exemption Bylaw No. 2049

Recommendation

THAT Council gives final reading to 2019 Annual Tax Exemption Bylaw No. 2049

Options

1. RESOLVED THAT Council accepts the recommendation.
2. RESOLVED THAT Council does not accept the recommendation.
3. RESOLVED THAT Council refers the matter back to staff for further information.

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	By2049 Annual Tax Exemption adopt.docx
Attachments:	- By2049 - Permissive Tax Exemption 2019.docx
Final Approval Date:	Aug 22, 2018

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Diane Heinrich - Aug 22, 2018 - 11:18 AM