



**City of  
Prince Albert**

Corporate Communication  
Services

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## Media Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Monday, December 19, 2011**

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### **City Releases Proposed 2012 Budget**

The City of Prince Albert has released its proposed 2012 General Fund Budget report. The report contains an overview of anticipated revenues, proposed expenditures as well as funds required for external agencies. The proposed budget will be forwarded to City Council for deliberations and final decisions in January.

For 2012, the General Fund operating expenses have increased to \$53.6 million, up \$4.9 million from 2011. The proposed budget includes a property tax increase of 3.95%.

The proposed budget shows a number of areas where expenditures have increased, including wages associated with Fire and Police services, but also a number of areas where revenues have increased.

A number of revenue increases associated with assessment growth, utility surcharge revenue and the Municipal Operating Grant all contributed significantly to limiting the property tax increase.

The proposed budget includes no cuts to existing services. Robert Cotterill, City Manager, notes that "the budget, as presented, is able to provide citizens with the same level of service as last year while also attempting to balance ever increasing salary costs and other cost commitments against a need to address the maintenance and capital demands throughout the City's buildings, roads sidewalks and other infrastructure."

In addition to the services provided in 2011, the City of Prince Albert's 2012 budget includes the following spending on civic facilities and infrastructure improvements:

- \$1.978 million in Roadway repairs and infrastructure upgrades
- \$150,000 for a review of Pedestrian Crossing in the City
- \$1.5 million in infrastructure repairs to the Diefenbaker Bridge (subject to approved funding through the Provincial Government's Urban Highway Connector Program)
- \$341,000 in facility upgrades
- \$560,000 in upgrades at Little Red (subject to approved funding through the Pehonan Parkway Reserve)

- \$25,000 in upgrades for park pathways
- \$74,000 in new fire and emergency services equipment including a new breathing apparatus and trench rescue equipment.
- \$665,000 in replacement equipment

“I want to acknowledge the excellent work of our Administration in proposing to Council what amounts to a near cost of living increase of 3.95%,” said Mayor Jim Scarrow.

“No services were reduced or cut. We are starting to receive the benefits of our record growth in business, industrial, institutional and residential development. Our debt is less than 50% of our borrowing capacity and continues to be manageable.”

The proposed 2012 budget is available at [www.citypa.ca](http://www.citypa.ca). A paper copy is also available at the Clerks Office at City Hall. Your feedback is welcome. Please provide your comments no later than January 3, 2012 at 4:45pm to the City Clerk in order for them to be considered during public consultations.

Public Consultations: Tuesday, January 10, 2012 at 7:00pm

Budget Deliberations: Thursday, January 26, 2012 9:00am – 4:00pm

Friday, January 27, 2012 9:00am – 4:00pm (if necessary)

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