

COUNCIL REPORT

To: Mayor and Council

From: Finance

Date: April 3, 2024

Subject: Mackenzie Public Library – Funding Increase Request

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council direct staff on their preferred option for the Mackenzie Public Library request for increased funding.

BACKGROUND:

At the December 11, 2023 Council meeting, representatives from the Mackenzie Public Library provided Mayor and Council with a budget presentation requesting a \$29,668.94 increase to the annual funding amount for increased operational expenses. The District of Mackenzie provides annual funding to the library since it was established by bylaw in the early 1980's. Since 2019, the annual funding contribution has been \$278,881. During the 2024 Provisional budget presentation, held on February 26, 2024, the increased funding request was not included in the overall budget and proposed property tax increase.

After careful consideration and evaluation of the library's operational needs, the Mackenzie Public Library has revised their initial funding increase request to \$19,728. Staff are proposing three options for Council's consideration:

Option 1:

To increase the Mackenzie Public Library annual contribution by the requested amount of \$19,728, which would increase the annual contribution to \$298,609. The impact the additional funds will have on the proposed property tax increase presented at the Provisional budget presentation are as follows:

Approved Provisional Property Tax Revenue Increase per Class:

	2024	2023	Increase	% of Increase
Class 1 – Residential	2,008,329	1,838,287	170,042	9.25%
Class 2 – Utilities	908,833	873,474	35,359	4.05%
Class 4 – Major Industry	2,059,512	1,889,460	170,052	9.00%

Class 5 – Light Industry	296,831	272,222	24,609	9.04%
Class 6 – Business & Other	604,221	554,332	49,889	9.00%
Class 8 - Recreation	214	196	18	9.00%
Total	5,877,940	5,427,971	449,969	8.29%

Proposed Property Tax Revenue Increase per Class including additional funding request:

	2024	2023	Increase	% of Increase
Class 1 – Residential	2,013,476	1,838,287	175,189	9.53%
Class 2 – Utilities	911,017	873,474	37,543	4.30%
Class 4 – Major Industry	2,069,526	1,889,460	180,066	9.53%
Class 5 – Light Industry	297,607	272,222	25,385	9.32%
Class 6 – Business & Other	605,801	554,332	51,469	9.28%
Class 8 - Recreation	215	196	19	9.69%
Total	5,897,642	5,427,971	469,671	8.65%

*remaining \$26 will be funded through prior year surplus

Impact on average assessed single-family residence:

Provisional Budget

	2024 (165,200)	2023 (154,321)	Increase
Municipal Property Tax	1,191.88	1,090.97	100.91
Water*	457.11	408.13	48.98
Sewer*	290.54	266.55	23.99
Garbage**	199.75	187.56	12.19
Total	2,139.28	1,953.21	186.07

*water, sewer and garbage rates are determined through bylaw and are not impacted by property taxes

**weekly garbage service

Approximate increase of \$15.50/month

Includes additional funding request

	2024 (165,200)	2023 (154,321)	Increase
Municipal Property Tax	1,194.94	1,090.97	103.97
Water*	457.11	408.13	48.98
Sewer*	290.54	266.55	23.99
Garbage**	199.75	187.56	12.19
Total	2,142.34	1,953.21	189.13

*water, sewer and garbage rates are determined through bylaw and are not impacted by property taxes

**weekly garbage service

Approximate increase of \$15.76/month



Option 2:

To increase the Mackenzie Public Library annual contribution by a portion of the requested increased amount of \$19,728.

Option 3:

To keep the \$278,881 annual Mackenzie Public Library contribution amount the same as in prior years.

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

Any increase in annual contribution for the Mackenzie Public Library will be from increased property tax revenue and supplemented with prior year surplus funds.

COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

Community and Social Development

- Our investment in the municipality's services and infrastructure, our commitment to principles of social equity and well-being, and our belief in the value of resident engagement, creates a healthy community in which everyone feels valued and enjoys a high quality of life.

Strong Governance and Finances

- As the municipality's elected governing body, we serve all residents and businesses in the community. We engage residents and stakeholders on important issues and make our decisions through open and transparent processes. We are careful in our use of resources, mindful of the need to maintain programs and services, while also meeting the community's infrastructure needs.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Kerri Borne, Chief Financial Officer

Reviewed By: Corporate Services

Approved By: Chief Administrative Officer