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Airdrie continues to be a bargain

AIRDRIE, ALBERTA – Airdrie home and business owners continue to be in an enviable situation when it comes to value for their tax dollar. Alberta Municipal Affairs released the latest Financial Indicator Report showing Airdrie again has the lowest average net municipal property taxes per capita of the six communities in their group by an increasingly widening gap – 27 percent lower than average and 47 percent below the group maximum.

“In today’s uncertain economic climate, Airdrie can take comfort in knowing that they are continuing to receive exceptional value for their tax dollar at a time when every dollar counts.” says Dorian Kachur, Business Strategy Team Leader, City of Airdrie. “These indicators demonstrate that Airdrie is a fiscally responsible and economically sustainable community, delivering good service at substantially lower-than-average cost.”

Airdrie has again been compared with six cities, all with larger populations. Those cities include: Grande Prairie, Medicine Hat, St. Albert, Lethbridge and Red Deer. Airdrie’s total operating expenditures per capita are again the lowest in the group by a significant 15 percent margin.

“All operating costs are captured in that statistic, regardless of how the service is delivered, which is particularly meaningful as all municipalities deliver essentially the same services,” says Kachur. “I am so pleased to present these findings to Airdrie residents,” says Mayor Linda Bruce. “As the major source of revenue comes directly from our taxpayers, we strive to provide good value for resident’s tax dollars.”

Highlights from the report include the lowest residential and non-residential tax rates by 33 percent and 37 percent respectively; the lowest per-capita cost for personnel expenses by 22 percent; and 20 percent below average for sales and user charges per capita.

“Administration is very proud to be delivering such outstanding results to the residents of Airdrie. A lot of collective effort goes into keeping expenditures down and providing effective service delivery to the community.”

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