



Cypress County
A MESSAGE FROM YOUR REEVE

May 7, 2020

Dear Neighbors, Family and Friends,

It has been just under two months since we activated our Emergency Coordination Center (ECC). in response to the COVID-19 pandemic in our Community. The health and safety of our residents, employees and visitors continues to be our top priority.

During these uncertain times, County Council has committed to sustain the **“Cypress County Advantage”**

Some of the highlights include a reduced residential Tax Rate of 1% and a freeze of the non-residential tax rate which was expected to increase by 12%, meaning the County still has the lowest rate in the province.



We’ve also been working hard to implement measures to support residents and businesses who may be struggling financially throughout this pandemic. All current and outstanding taxes will not receive a late penalty until December 1, 2020. This allows residents an additional 5 months to pay, penalty free. In addition, residents have the option of deferring utility payments for the months of April, May and June with out penalties. Cypress County continues to support local Community Associations and Organizations with grant contributions of \$1,250,000.

Council has committed to supporting vulnerable populations by implementing the “Go For Groceries” Program. We recognize there may be residents who may not have the support of other family members or neighbours to pickup groceries on their behalf.

As we look to the future, we are preparing infrastructure and amenities for an eventual return to our new normal. Staff across the organization are developing plans for how we will deliver programs and services. We know this will be a phased approach and will continue to follow the guidance provided by the Chief Medical Officer of Health.

I want to thank all County residents for your patience and understanding as we navigate this unprecedented time. We are all in this together!

Please stay safe. Be well.

Reeve Dan Hamilton
Cypress County

<https://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx>