

## **Municipal District of Bonnyville Media Release**

### ***Council offers a variety of bill payment deferral options***

*March 25, 2020* – At its meeting today, Municipal District of Bonnyville Council agreed to offer residents and property owners several payment deferral options in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“We are working through unprecedented times,” said Reeve Greg Sawchuk. “We recognize some of our residents and business owners may be struggling during this time of economic hardship, with the current health crisis keeping businesses closed and workers at home.”

Council agreed to provide the option to suspend participation in the M.D. Installment Tax Payment Plan, at the enrolled property owner’s request, without penalty, for a period of three months, beginning April 1, 2020. Residents who are enrolled in the Installment Tax Payment Plan currently have payments automatically withdrawn from their account on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of each month, which are then applied to the current year’s tax bill.

“Things are changing rapidly and on a daily basis. If the COVID-19 pandemic continues past the next three months, Council will have to make decisions about how to move forward with the 2020 Tax and Assessment notices,” Sawchuk said.

In addition, Council approved the option for residents to defer payment of water (including bulk water accounts), sewer and door-to-door waste collection bills for a period of three months with no penalties levied, as of March 1, 2020.

Council also agreed to defer the disconnection of water and sewer accounts due to unpaid bills for a period of three months, also beginning March 1, 2020.

As this is an evolving situation, Council agreed to be open to additional options, should they be required.

For more information on the deferral options, please call the Administration Office at 780-826-3171.

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**For more information, contact:**

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