



2018 Rate Increases for Town of Ponoka Utilities

(April 4, 2018 – Ponoka, Alberta) – Monthly utility rates for Ponoka residents have increased for 2018 following third reading of the 2018 Utility Rate Schedule Bylaw by Town Council at its regular meeting last week.

Utility rates for water, sewer and solid waste have increased to cover utility operating costs, as well as current and future capital costs. The rate increases were implemented in accordance with Alberta Municipal Affairs requirements, which direct municipalities to ensure utility services are self-sustaining and not supported by other revenue-generating areas.

The 2018 Town of Ponoka utility rates have increased as follows, effective March 27, 2018:

- A 2.2% increase has been applied to flat rates for both water and sewer in 2018. That increase reflects the annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) rate for Edmonton for the period ending December 2017.
- The consumption rate for water has been increased from \$2.65 to \$2.69 per cubic meter to reflect the increase in water costs implemented by the North Red Deer Water Commission of \$0.04 per cubic meter. The cost of water has not increased since 2014.
- The sanitary sewer commodity charge has increased from \$0.49 to \$0.55 per cubic metre to cover utility operating costs, as well as current and future capital costs.
- As per the Town's solid waste contract with Green for Life, the flat monthly curbside collection rate for residential garbage increased from \$24.32 to \$26.00. The monthly rate for curbside recycling increased from \$6.30 to \$6.48.
- Tipping fees at the Town of Ponoka Waste Transfer Station increased from \$60.00 per tonne to \$75 per tonne to reflect increased hauling fees and tipping fees at the regional landfill where the Town's solid waste is hauled. The minimum tipping fee at the Town's Waste Transfer Station remains unchanged at \$8.00.
- Overall, the 2018 utility rate increases for a typical consumer using an average of 20 cubic metres of water monthly will total about \$4.53 in additional fees per month.

All utility rate increases for 2018 took effect on March 27, 2018. If you have questions, please call 403-783-4431.

For Media Inquiries:

Sandra Smith
Communications Manager
Town of Ponoka
403-783-0158