Village of Pemberton - Website Submission: Write to Mayor & Council - pemberton.ca

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Form Submission Info

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Please attach any related documents (if applicable):

Message to Mayor & Council: Dear Mayor and Council,

Please find attached a letter from the President of the Pemberton & District Chamber of Commerce.

Best, Ariane Larouche

Freedom of Information:



January 25, 2025

To: Mayor & Council

Re: Pending Increase in Policing Costs

Our Advocacy Committee recently had a meeting, and the discussion of the policing costs was brought up. We understand that a majority of the policing costs will be borne by the residents of the Village of Pemberton once the population increases to 5000.

Coincidentally, this was a topic that was discussed at the Committee of the Whole meeting January 21, 2025. In that meeting it was mentioned that the projected cost (in today's dollars) would be \$1.288MM. Additionally, two different strategies were presented: gradually building up to this cost over the next 5 years to have the residents get used to it, or to hit taxpayers with an immediate increase.

As an advocacy organization, we realize that such a large increase in spending is going to impact the bottom line for many business owners and residents. The Pemberton & District Chamber of Commerce would like some clarity around this topic:

1. How is this population increase determined? Is it strictly by census or other means?

Mayor Richman had indicated in the meeting that he felt Pemberton wouldn't reach this by the 2026 census, but potentially within a window of 10 years. With the rapid expansion of this community, and us being the fastest growing community from the last census, we think erring on the side of caution is warranted and we are anticipating shorter timelines.

2. Can the Village of Pemberton provide the Pemberton & District Chamber of Commerce some figures of what this impact would look like?

In an effort at transparency, we want to forearm the members of the community as to what this tax increase could be. We would like to know what an additional \$1.288MM in spending would look like on \$100,000 of assessment for residential and the various commercial/industrial zonings that we have as of today. We do understand these numbers can/will change as the community grows, but we are just looking for estimates at this time.

3. Will this policing cost be shared with surrounding communities?

We do realize that the Village of Pemberton is only one portion of a larger community that is the Pemberton Valley and that the RCMP officers will not just be responding within the Village boundaries. We want to understand how this cost is shared by the community at large.

We appreciate your time in addressing this important matter.

Sincerely,

Adam Adams

President, Pemberton & District Chamber of Commerce