



Press Release: 2018 Budget

After three years of stability Slight 1.99% increase in Pincourt municipal taxes

On December 19, the town council adopted the 2018 municipal budget with a great feeling of satisfaction. While Pincourt's average tax bill decreased by 0.55% in 2016 and was virtually unchanged at 0.04% in 2017, in 2018, it will increase slightly by 1.99%. This mark is a bit higher than Montreal's CPI index, which stands at 1.1%, but it should be noted that the same mark fell well under the CPI in recent years.

Consequently, last year's \$20,819,900 annual budget will grow to \$21,540,600 in 2018, which represents an increase of \$720,700. The most significant increases fall under external costs, such as the shared costs imposed by law (AMT, CMM, MRC, sales taxes, fees, etc.) and the cost of water management, utilities (Hydro-Québec, telephone, postal services, gas...) and major contracts (snow removal, garbage and organic waste collection, auditors, appraisers, etc.). These compulsory and essential expenses generate an increase of \$541,337 alone.

It's thanks to the concerted efforts of the town's council and administrative staff that the tax increase is so modest. Among other things, continuous and rigorous monitoring of debt servicing has led to a savings of \$367,100 in 2018, and a likewise rigorous management of internal operating expenses has made it possible to limit the overall cost increase to \$720,700.

A new swimming pool tax will be introduced in 2018, which is in line with a "user pays" approach. This new measure will reduce the water tax bill for all users. Based on 2018 rates, the water tax would have decreased from \$187 to \$184. With the implementation of the swimming pool tax, the water tax will decrease to \$179 for all users. In-ground pool owners will be taxed \$25, while above-ground pool owners will be charged \$15. However, considering the \$5 decrease applicable to everyone, the net increase will only be \$20 and \$10, respectively. This new tax will apply to one-third of the town's properties, and more than 3,000 homes will benefit from a net reduction.

"I'm very pleased with the results of the work of our elected representatives and managers, who delivered a budget commensurate with our residents' ability to pay, while also carrying out vital infrastructure works; these efforts will continue next year," says Mayor Yvan Cardinal.

Following the reconstruction of 22nd Avenue, 23rd Avenue, 24th Avenue and Forest Street in 2016, last year the town completely rebuilt Northcote and Watson Streets as well as 19th Avenue. In 2018, we will move ahead with phase 2 of the Duhamel Road reconstruction project, which includes the construction of the des Tours Road. Moreover, the town's swimming pool will also be renovated.

The average home in Pincourt is valued at \$247,650 and will see a \$48.61 increase in its tax bill for a total of \$2,494.89, compared to \$2,446.27 for 2017.

The 2018 budget also includes part of the expenses stemming from the implementation of organic waste collection, in compliance with the Québec residual materials management policy, which falls under the authority of



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the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Environment and the Fight against Climate Change. As of 2020, this new policy will prohibit the sending of food waste, grass and leaves to landfills. Organic waste collection is expected to begin in the last quarter of 2018 and will be set up definitively in 2019.

The town's services offered to residents and in support of organizations have not only been maintained in 2018, but they've been enhanced.

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