

Member Notices

IMPORTANT NOTICE
April 17, 2013

Attention: Mayors, Councillors & CAOs

Changes to Education Property Tax Assistance for Seniors

Municipalities may receive questions from senior citizens in their community about changes to financial assistance pertaining to property taxes. As announced in the recent provincial budget, the Education Property Tax Assistance for Seniors program will be income-tested for 2013 and only seniors with income less than \$31,675 (single) or \$63,351 (married) will be eligible for assistance. The program will terminate effective December 31, 2013.

Municipalities may wish to remind seniors that they can apply for the new Seniors' Property Tax Deferral program which allows eligible homeowners to defer their residential property taxes through a low-interest home equity loan with the provincial government. The province will pay the taxes directly to the municipality and the loan will be due when the senior sells the home, is no longer eligible for the loan or wishes to repay the loan.

Applications for the Seniors' Property Tax Deferral program will be available soon. For application forms these programs or for additional information, please visit [Alberta Health](#) or call the Alberta Supports Contact Centre toll-free at 1.877.644.9992.

The province is asking municipalities for assistance in collecting information about property tax processes. If you haven't done so already, please take a few minutes to [complete this form](#) to tell the province about important dates in your tax processes, including deadlines for payment, as well as charges for late payment. After you fill out the form, click submit. This information will help to ensure that the province creates an efficient administrative process for the program and minimizes the impact on municipalities.

Thank you.

Sue Bohachuk
Executive Officer, Policy and Advocacy

Zohreh Saher
Policy Analyst, Policy and Advocacy