

NOTICE OF MOTION

May 27, 2020

City Clerk
City Hall
Regina, Saskatchewan

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that we will submit the following NOTICE of MOTION at the May 27, 2020 meeting of Regina City Council.

Re: Water Affordability

WHEREAS the Water Master Plan and Wastewater Master Plan identify in excess of \$1.6 billion in necessary investments into Regina's water and waste infrastructure over the next 25 years;

WHEREAS water and sewer exist as a user-pay, cost recovery utility;

WHEREAS third party research has indicated that Regina has some of the highest water and sewer rates in Canada due to the expenses associated with our proximity to fresh water and the high quality of our treatment processes and facilities;

WHEREAS the cost of water and sewer is exceeding average income growth and increases to social service income supports;

WHEREAS in 2019 there were 2,454 water disconnections due to non-payment;

WHEREAS the cost of water and sewer functions as a regressive form of taxation for low income residents;

WHEREAS the City currently already employs an income means test for the Affordable Fun and Affordable Transit Pass;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Administration prepare a report for Public Works and Infrastructure for Q1 of 2021 that:

1. Outlines options to help offset the cost of water and sewer for low income residents by way of means-tested grants, billing options, and fee waivers;

2. Establishes a political advocacy strategy aimed at the federal and provincial governments with the aim of alleviating the financial burden for low-income residents with regards to water and sewer billing and costs.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew Stevens
Councillor – Ward 3



John Findura
Councillor – Ward 5