

I am Dawna Matthews, President and representing Canadian Condominium Institute, Southern Saskatchewan Chapter. No consultation was requested in the budget deliberation as promised in 2002, therefore the Notice of Motion for this meeting was welcomed to enable us to provide more input for possible solutions.

We specifically want to address those condos that do not receive city waste pickup. The garbage rebate was bargained in good faith back in 2002 as a partial solution to tax inequality, and now condo owners are being asked to contribute more than the average home owner to the cities short fall.

Many homeowners were not aware that condos are taxed the same as single family residences although most condo owners do not own the land and they do not get all the same municipal services. Property valuation is a provincial decision, which a municipality can adjust to make the property assessment at least fair. That is what we look for, equality between types of residences in Regina.

We recognize the challenges the city faces with transfer payments being cut and escalating costs. All condo owners are prepared to accept an increase in their residential taxes as all other community home owners have. These taxes include waste pickup even though they cannot get this service and must hire a private firm. Forty dollars per year, \$3.33 per month, which did not change in 15 years, may not seem to be a significant rebate in comparison to the cost of garbage pickup, but with all the other increases, condo owners are impacted.

The Mayor responded to my letter after the 2018 Budget "Council felt that it would not be appropriate to make a further change to the program at this time, since the Administration is preparing a report that will look at the option of creating a Solid Waste Utility. This report will have a direct impact on solid waste services to residents.

Establishing a utility could shift how trash collection is managed and operated, bringing it more in line with how the current Water and Sewer Utility is operated. In theory, this would create a fairer and more equitable system in which residents, regardless of what type of property they reside in, would pay an amount based on how much trash is produced.

Given that such a change could well negate the need for a rebate altogether, Council felt it should not make another change to the program before that report can be received and debated."

While this could, in theory, work, it appears to be somewhat flawed **unless** Condominiums are going to have the same garbage pickup as other homeowners.

Some jurisdictions, which have gone to the utility format, charge single family homeowners an amount equal to what Condominiums pay per unit for private contractor pickup. They are billed every three months on their water and sewer bill, like: **(Moose Jaw 2018)**

Garbage Fees	3 months	\$7.25	\$21.75
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(rising to \$9.77 monthly)

EDMONTON (2018)

Garbage collection at all residences in the city

Single Unit Residential: \$45.93 Multi-unit Residential: \$29.85 per unit monthly

Condominiums may still not have city pickup because of the need of a front-end loading truck due to the size of the bin required. If every tax payer is charged for the service provided, most Condominiums could accept this, as although they do not have city pick up, those that do are paying the city the same amount as Condominiums are paying a private contractor.

We have surveyed our members and they are not happy, they recognize the unfairness in this decision by the current city council. We are all prepared to do our part, we may not agree with it, but we don't expect to pay more just because we choose to live in condos.

As we have stated consistently, we do not want special treatment, we want fair treatment just as every tax payor desires.

Hopefully future discussion opportunities with City Officials for considering options to return some equality in taxation for condominiums will occur.

Over 6,000 Regina condominium owners, thank you.