



Municipal District of Wainwright No. 61

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OFFICE OF THE REEVE

April 29, 2014

Alberta Municipal Affairs
Honorable Greg Weadick, Acting Minister
#404 Legislature Building
10800 - 97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5K 2B6

Dear Mr. Weadick:

Re: Linear Assessment Changes

We were greatly disappointed to receive notification from Alberta Municipal Affairs last week stating that our total linear assessment for 2014 had decreased by \$31,814,150. Although several assessments within the Municipal District of Wainwright No. 61 have been adjusted, the largest and most concerning is the decrease in the Inter Pipeline Ltd. assessment of \$31,776,850. This one adjustment alone amounts to a loss in tax revenue of \$702,541.67. As our annual budget has already been approved by Council and our mill rates have been set, we are unable to adjust for this change. We will receive less tax revenue than budgeted, however our requisitions for education, lodge, E911, fire and recreation will remain the same, creating an under-levy and financial strain on our organization.

As a rural municipality, we spend millions of dollars each year rehabilitating our roads. Had we been provided advance notification of these linear assessment changes, we could have adjusted our budget accordingly. Instead, we received notification in late April, which is a time when we have already advertised and tendered out our capital projects, leaving us little to no room for adjustment. We understand several other rural municipalities in our area have received similar linear assessment changes and are facing the same financial dilemma. Perhaps a meeting or conference call could be organized to discuss these adjustments and future notification methods.

Please feel free to contact me at 780-842-7309 to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,

Bob Barss
Reeve

Cc: Mr. Steve White, Executive Director of Assessment Services
Cc: Mr. Michael Merritt, Assistant Deputy Minister

