



CITY OF PRINCE GEORGE POLICY

Permissive Tax Exemption

City Government - Sustainable Fiscal Management

Approved by Council: April 15, 2016

Purpose:

Local governments have the legislated authority under Section 224 of the *Community Charter* to permit tax exemptions for properties that are owned or held by a charitable, philanthropic or other not for profit corporation, and are used for a purpose that is directly related to the purposes of the municipality. There is no obligation on the part of Council to grant exemptions.

This policy outlines the criteria that the City of Prince George will apply when considering applications for permissive tax exemptions.

Policy:

The City of Prince George provides permissive tax exemptions to eligible organizations when the principal use of the exempted property is not-for-profit program and service delivery that supports the City's social development priorities. Eligible organizations must provide programs and/or services that support:

- equitable access to health and other support services necessary to maintain quality of life;
- safety;
- social inclusion;
- access to public recreation, culture, and/or arts opportunities; or
- housing with onsite services for individuals with physical, mental, or psychiatric disabilities.

To be considered for a permissive tax exemption, organizations must demonstrate that:

- the program or service is being delivered by a registered society or charity in good standing;
- the program or service meets a community need;
- any commercial activity undertaken on the exempt property is not in competition with for-profit businesses and;
- the annual value of the exemption does not exceed the annual operating budget for the program or service.

Applications for permissive tax exemptions will consider the range of supports provided to the applicant by the City of Prince George including grants, funding agreements, and/or low cost leases.