

## **Council to explore options and make decisions to assist residents and businesses**

(Penticton, BC – April 16, 2020) – In response to the financial impact COVID-19 has placed on both the City and community, a special meeting of Council has been scheduled for April 23.

During this meeting, Council will receive details and will be asked to make decisions about the City's temporary service level adjustments, capital projects being deferred, property tax deferrals, utility relief, the business tax multiplier and the 2.9 per cent 2020 tax rate.

Staff will also provide an update on the findings of the recent resident and business impact surveys, as well as the steps being taken now to reduce City spending by pausing corporate business plan initiatives, temporarily reducing service levels and deferring non critical capital projects.

"To assist the community in weathering this crisis, the City is considering all available tools," said Chief Financial Officer, Jim Bauer. "Staff will show Council several different decision options while considering the financial sustainability of the City, the needs of residents, businesses and developers and implications on services and staff.

Residents and business owners wishing to watch next Thursday's Council meeting can do so by visiting [www.pentiction.ca](http://www.pentiction.ca), starting at 10 a.m. Please note: do to safe social distancing requirements during the current COVID-19 pandemic, all Penticton City Council meetings are conducted exclusively via web broadcast.

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