



# Town of Penhold – Council Media Release

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## Highlights

### From December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Council Meeting

The Town of Penhold's 2018 Operation Budget has been passed for 2018 – with NO request for a tax increase. Mayor Yargeau identified that Administration has provided a budget that reflects our current economic conditions once again this year and held the line. In 2017 the average home saw a decrease of 4.5% from their tax bill and we anticipate holding steady with no change in taxation. (This is subject to our provincial school taxation holding the line this year also.) We heard our residents' concerns as times are difficult and we have responded by not increasing taxes.

CAO Binnendyk identified that the new water reservoir is near completion; ahead of schedule and on budget. Testing will begin in January with possible commissioning in February 2018. The Town's new water well received licensing and the final work to place the pumps and reporting to Alberta Environment and Parks is scheduled during December.

The RV Park has finished the electrical pedestals for the 67 camping sites throughout the park. The main connection is slated to occur Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>.

Development has seen steady growth over the past months. The total development for Penhold as of November is currently at \$14.7 million this year.

Penhold Peace Officers program forwarded the 2017-2019 Traffic Safety Plan for Council's review and approval. The safety plan identified monthly focuses with education for the community. The plan identifies the past enforcement areas and continued focus for the future. Council approved the plan and requested the plan be forwarded to the Solicitor General for their acceptance. Several policy changes were recommended for the current handling of Officers' notebooks and complaint forms to remain current with the Provincial requirements. Council approved the policies as presented.

Penhold will be partnering with a number of communities surrounding Red Deer in submitting an Alberta Community Partnership 2017/18 funding application that will see regional collaboration and assistance with the proposed Provincial changes effective Jan 2018/19 for Subdivision and Development Appeal boards. The request is to form a regional board and provide the necessary training to meet the upcoming changes.

Council asked Administration to draft a letter in support for the Red Deer Regional Hospital expansion. This letter is to be sent to the City of Red Deer offering Penhold's support and if needed assistance to gain understanding by the Province to move the Red Deer hospital project forward. It was identified that 56% of people using the Red Deer Regional Hospital comes from outside the community. There is a desperate need for beds.

### **Upcoming important Dates/Events:**

January 26<sup>th</sup> – Lt Governor Attendance/Presentation Penhold Crossing Secondary School and Town of Penhold.

### **Council Meetings:**

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays each month beginning at 6:00 PM.

There will be no Council Meeting on Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Mayor Yargeau and Council wish you a  
very special Christmas season and a Festive New Year.**

### **For further information contact:**

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