

Access to Property Assessment Information

A taxpayer has the right to receive or see all assessment-related information about their own property. Section 299 of the *Municipal Government Act* entitles you to see or receive sufficient information to show how the assessor prepared the assessment of your property, including;

- all documents, records and other information in respect of your property that the assessor has in their possession or under their control,
- key factors, components and variables of the valuation model used in preparing the assessment of your property, and
- any other information prescribed or otherwise described in the regulations.

A taxpayer has the right to receive a summary of information on properties similar to theirs. They are not entitled to receive unlimited information or information that is not related to the current tax year. Section 300 of the *Municipal Government Act* entitles you to receive a summary of information on properties similar to yours, including;

- a description of the parcel of land and any improvements, to identify the type and use of the property
- the size of the parcel of land
- the age and size or measurement of any improvements,
- the key factors, components and variables of the valuation model applied in preparing the assessment of property, and
- any other information prescribed or otherwise described in the regulations.

Note: If a taxpayer believes that the information provided by the municipality does not meet the requirements set out in the *Municipal Government Act*, the taxpayer may write to the Minister of Municipal Affairs who will review the matter for compliance.

Key Principles:

- A taxpayer may request information from a municipality at any time during the year.
- Information available to a taxpayer must be accessible, transparent and complete while protecting confidentiality and privacy.
- A municipality must provide information if it is satisfied that necessary confidentiality will not be breached. A municipality cannot deny a request for assessment information as it is not subject to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

For further information contact:

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Assessment Services Branch
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Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4L4
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You can reach Municipal Affairs toll-free by dialing 310-0000, then (780) 422-1377

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Also, visit our website at: <http://municipalaffairs.alberta.ca>