

Message to Mayors: Say 'No' to property tax hikes in 2018!

To: Mayor & Councillors

 Name of Municipality

cc: Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) Fax: 306 359-7623

From: _____

Business Name

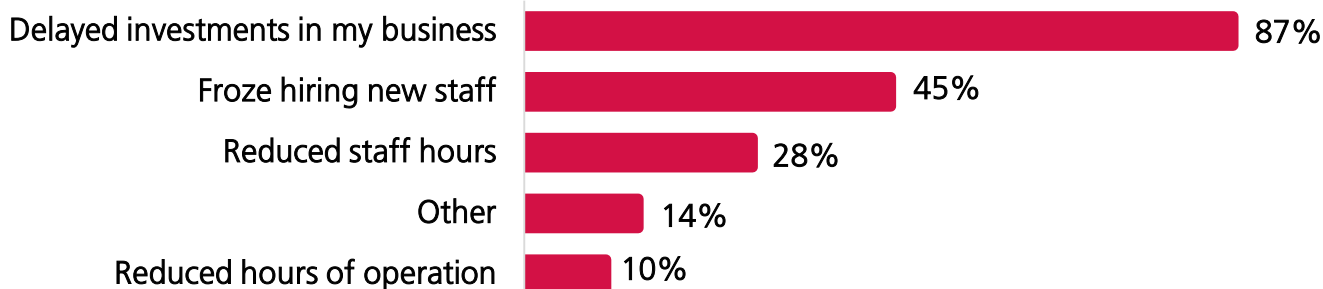
Business Owner Signature

I am concerned that you and other Municipal leaders may consider **increasing property taxes again in 2018**.

While I recognize Saskatchewan municipalities will receive a decrease in **municipal revenue sharing** in 2017-18, due to a decline in PST revenue, the reality is the province will still distribute **\$258 million**, a **103% increase since 2007-08**. **In fact, Cities have received a 156% increase since 07-08.**

Negative impact of Property tax increases

What impact have past municipal property tax increases had on your business?



Source: CFIB, 2017-18 Sask Pre-Budget survey, November 2016

I urge you to further contain costs and AVOID A PROPERTY TAX HIKE IN 2018 by:

- ▶ Limiting operational spending growth to a maximum of inflation plus population growth;
- ▶ Identifying programs/services that can be eliminated, streamlined or contracted out to the private sector or sold; and
- ▶ Introducing a plan to reduce the size/cost of the municipal civil service (primarily through attrition) and pension reform.

Sask Cities received a 156% increase in revenue sharing since 2007-2008

City	2007-2008 Revenue Sharing	2016-2017 Revenue Sharing	2017-2018 Revenue Sharing	Overall Increase in Revenue Sharing	% Increase from 2007-2008
Estevan	\$885,879	\$2,414,046	\$2,163,889	\$1,278,010	144%
Humboldt	\$439,074	\$1,239,999	\$1,105,971	\$666,897	152%
Lloydminster	\$713,166	\$3,421,900	\$2,217,030	\$1,503,864	211%
Martensville	\$506,625	\$1,685,071	\$1,817,531	\$1,310,906	259%
Meadow Lake	\$486,615	\$1,101,761	\$1,007,039	\$520,424	107%
Melfort	\$456,117	\$1,217,724	\$1,129,150	\$673,033	148%
Melville	\$364,490	\$992,786	\$859,676	\$495,186	136%
Moose Jaw	\$2,822,796	\$7,266,597	\$6,386,328	\$3,563,532	126%
North Battleford	\$1,158,742	\$3,032,953	\$2,697,559	\$1,538,817	133%
Prince Albert	\$2,999,023	\$7,671,704	\$6,769,998	\$3,770,975	126%
Regina	\$15,746,761	\$42,170,458	\$40,535,189	\$24,788,428	157%
Saskatoon	\$17,775,569	\$48,523,106	\$46,427,797	\$28,652,228	161%
Swift Current	\$1,313,006	\$3,385,648	\$3,128,905	\$1,815,899	138%
Warman	\$485,904	\$1,547,051	\$2,076,640	\$1,590,736	327%
Weyburn	\$828,689	\$2,289,565	\$2,048,374	\$1,219,685	147%
Yorkton	\$1,321,088	\$3,421,900	\$3,079,722	\$1,758,634	133%
TOTALS	\$48,303,544	\$130,094,443	\$123,450,798	\$75,147,254	156%

Source: Ministry of Government Relations



“We fear many municipalities will only make matters worse with proposing to hike property taxes again. That is why municipalities need to look for ways to further contain costs and avoid the need to increase taxes.”

- Jennifer Henshaw, CFIB Policy Analyst, Saskatchewan

CFIB presents members’ concerns with property tax hikes at City Council.