

and other municipalities in our region. Edmonton's rate is significantly higher, meaning we are becoming increasingly less competitive in our ability to attract new investment, new businesses, new citizens, and entrepreneurs.

This risk has been repeatedly brought to my attention since my appointment as President and Chief Executive Officer in October 2023. Over the past year, many members of Edmonton's small business community have expressed deep concerns about the impact that rising costs of inputs, high interest and inflation rates, and significant property tax increases are having on their bottom lines. Small business owners are more frequently expressing frustration about annual increases to non-residential property taxes – which are insensitive to business revenues or profit margins – and that they are considering closing or relocating their businesses to nearby municipalities with more competitive tax rates and business-friendly policies.

We encourage Council to explore bold and creative solutions to address the City's financial circumstances. Engaging with the business community to explore revenue generation, cost-containment, or resource re-prioritization strategies may assist with this endeavour. ECC would be happy to convene such discussions and support Council in achieving both financial sustainability and a thriving business environment.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We are confident that through continued dialogue and engagement, Council can navigate these financial challenges effectively while sustaining Edmonton's economic vitality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug Griffiths". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "G".

Hon. Doug Griffiths
President and Chief Executive Officer
Edmonton Chamber of Commerce

Appendix 1: Non-Residential Property Mill Rate, Excluding Education, Education Requisition Allowance Components (Sorted from Highest to Lowest)

| Municipality | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Edmonton | 0.01850 | 0.01998 | 0.02108 | 0.02212 | 0.02266 |
| Calgary | 0.01583 | 0.01651 | 0.01788 | 0.01843 | 0.01836 |
| St. Albert | 0.01088 | 0.01156 | 0.01208 | 0.01254 | 0.01691 |
| Leduc | 0.00879 | 0.00854 | 0.00938 | 0.01309 | 0.01297 |
| Fort Saskatchewan | 0.00966 | 0.00992 | 0.01009 | 0.00969 | 0.01099 |
| Sturgeon County | 0.01028 | 0.01028 | 0.01047 | 0.01077 | 0.01092 |
| Strathcona County | 0.00936 | 0.00965 | 0.01011 | 0.01388 | 0.01033 |
| Morinville | 0.00826 | 0.01185 | 0.00877 | 0.00949 | 0.00991 |
| Spruce Grove | 0.00872 | 0.00945 | 0.00962 | 0.01046 | 0.00987 |
| Town of Devon | 0.00862 | 0.00894 | 0.00907 | 0.00959 | 0.00962 |
| Beaumont | 0.00971 | 0.00995 | 0.00969 | 0.00950 | 0.00960 |
| Stony Plain | 0.00744 | 0.00780 | 0.00816 | 0.00845 | 0.00909 |
| Parkland | 0.00838 | 0.00845 | 0.00843 | 0.00862 | 0.00898 |

Definition:

The Mill rate is the amount of tax payable per dollar of the assessed value of a property. The mill rate is based on 'mills'; as each mill is one-thousandth of a currency unit, one mill is equivalent to one-tenth of a cent or \$0.001.

Property tax in dollar terms is calculated by multiplying the assessed property value and the mill rate and dividing by 1,000. As a property may be subject to tax by a number of different authorities, mill rates are set by each taxing authority so as to meet the revenue projections in their budgets.

Source:

[Government of Alberta Open Data Portal - "Municipal Tax Rates by Municipality"](#)