



2024 Budget Consultation

SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT

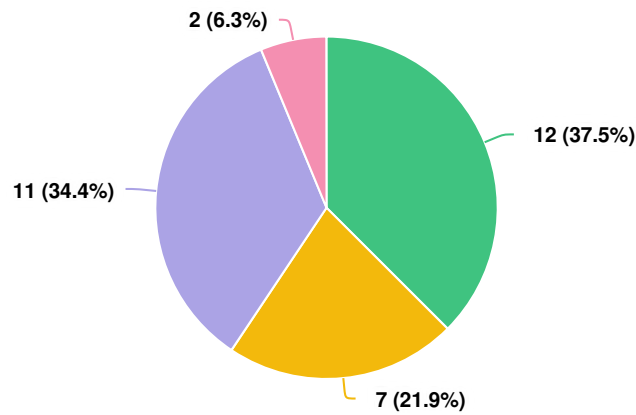
29 November 2023 - 22 December 2023

PROJECT NAME:

Budget 2024

SURVEY QUESTIONS

Q1 | What area of Terrace do you live in? Your area helps us understand trends in different parts of the community.



Question options

- Horseshoe/Downtown
- Keith Estates (Southside)
- Bench
- I live outside of Terrace (Thornhill, Kitselas, Kitsumkalum, etc - please specify)

Mandatory Question (32 response(s))
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q2 | Please provide your comments on the budget. We welcome comments on the budget overall or any portion of it.

Screen Name Redacted

11/29/2023 04:48 PM

It's kinda hard to swallow that we are increasing taxes AGAIN by so much, but I appreciate our first responders and I support their needs especially in the city as it has been developing lately.

Screen Name Redacted

11/30/2023 02:33 PM

It does a good job of explaining the budget in detail. I like the side notes and facts that add perspective to the overall information.

Screen Name Redacted

12/01/2023 02:17 PM

If you raise my taxes by 9% my family will close our business, sell our home and move somewhere more affordable.

Screen Name Redacted

12/01/2023 02:36 PM

There should be higher user fees for things like the pool, arena, public transit so taxpayers that don't use them don't need to pay as much. I know that fire fighters are very important but do we get our money's worth out of them? How does Thornhill do it with almost all volunteers? It seems we need to do more to attract industry to help pay for things.

Screen Name Redacted

12/01/2023 08:31 PM

Even though it is very nice to have the information as presented, there seem to be discrepancies and items that could be considered subjective at best. For example the reference to costs of entertainment bundles compared to property taxes is ludicrous in that taxes are not discretionary expenses. Also in this week's paper there are references to the roundabout on Lanfear being scrapped, but it is still in the budget?? And who exactly came up with volunteers (firefighters) being paid per call. Not that I disagree so much but isn't that pretty much not volunteering if you get paid. From what I understand they always got paid but automatically put the funds back to cover special events for themselves.

Screen Name Redacted

12/02/2023 05:33 AM

My overall impression of the budget is that the tax burden is still the same as it was 20 years ago. Without major industry, or another source of on-going funding in its place, the burden sits squarely on the shoulders of the commercial and residential sectors. Keep pushing for a more equal share of the industrial dollars in our region that head to Victoria. As a taxpayer, I would be ok with an increase that was geared towards the Public Works department and infrastructure capital (mostly road reconstruction). Terrace has always struggled and unable to maintain its current system. Areas such as

protective services are important, but they have diverted an exorbitant amount of tax dollars over the past years. The fire department needs to focus more on its volunteers in order to maintain this service.

Screen Name Redacted

12/02/2023 11:48 AM

A good presentation overall. Excessive information in some respects and lacking in others perhaps, but good overall.

Screen Name Redacted

12/02/2023 01:36 PM

9% plus is another high increase - Please ensure operational efficiencies are reviewed and changes are made where reasonable to reduce overall cost of services. Has the council considered contracting out some of the services such as snow removal and refuse collection. At least look at what the cost difference would be and if favorable, look at switching over time. What do developer pay for development costs per parcel - The cost to connect to the community systems and cut into the system capacities? Some of this revenue should be placed into the asset management accounts.

Screen Name Redacted

12/03/2023 12:28 PM

I can't believe that 20% of the budget is spent on policing. I think that is an absolute waste of money. Additionally, + \$170,000 for TWO firefighters?! Are you kidding me. That is infuriating that that is the proposed cost. And why is so much money spent on bylaw? Has this city never heard of the Broken Window concept - put money into social supports and beautification. There are basically NO public garbage cans on my street and so guess what that means; garbage, everywhere because people seem to not know the concept of packing what they bring. At least with more public garbage cans the environment would be built to better support folks to use them. Basically, stop funding the police so much and put more money into actually supporting our community in healing.

Screen Name Redacted

12/03/2023 02:03 PM

First, thank you for providing citizens this opportunity. Despite the limited industrial contribution to revenue taxation compared to many other communities, council and its employees do a creditable job at trying to maintain Terrace as a livable community. Second, I am increasingly uneasy about climate-related threats. I recall chatting with ex-Mayor Jack Talstra one evening, in which he opined that the biggest risk on his mind for our community was flooding. Given the flood of just a few years ago, his muted alarm was not misplaced. That being said, with what seems to be increasing drought in the region, and the record fires of last summer throughout the country but especially here in BC, it seems to me that we need to be increasingly preparing for the eventuality of serious wildfire in the region, fire that could easily require the evacuation of citizens. What are some

cautionary preparations we might be making? Well, are there improvements to firefighting infrastructure, especially with relation to areas of the city that bump up most closely against the more dense surrounding forests, that can be made? It seems to me that the reservoirs that provide water pressure to the community are situated largely within those areas. What implications can be drawn from this situation? Is it possible, in conjunction with provincial authorities, to investigate the construction of firebreaks at a distance from city boundaries? (I realize that such a project would be difficult from a land ownership perspective and also costly.) And what kind of organizational preparation exists for evacuation alerts, evacuation "commands," and the actual carrying out of evacuations? Where would we go? How would evacuations be done, especially for people whose mobility is compromised by age, health issues, lack of personal transportation, etc? Is there any kind of risk assessment as to the varied vulnerability of neighborhoods? What cooperative plans exist with the Regional District (RDKS) and provincial authorities? Too many communities are being taken "by surprise" by changing fire risk, and it would be useful to get ahead of the curve on this.

Screen Name Redacted

12/04/2023 01:25 PM

The budget looks fair. It would be nice to understand how incoming major projects (Inland Port for example) will bring in tax revenue. All new roads projects (8.8 million) should be required include active transportation (cycling, wheelchair, mobility scooters, and walking) accommodation where the road is used for commercial (not necessary on ID'd residential streets). Spending money to update roads needs to consider updating our transportation infrastructure overall to maximize budget efficiency.

Screen Name Redacted

12/06/2023 02:35 PM

Fix the roads! I have had to spend \$400 to replace a tire and get another wheel alignment after I hit another awful pothole. The streets in this town have caused a lot of damage to my vehicle. We need more lighting for pedestrian walk ways. This is a northern community with dark winter days and lots of rain. These conditions create unsafe conditions for pedestrians. We need some reflective paint on the main roads to improve visibility. A pedestrian walkway across the railway tracks on Kenney Street is so badly needed. A diversion by foot around these tracks is an additional hour of walking. With increased traffic anticipated with the inland port this needs to be addressed.

Screen Name Redacted

12/07/2023 06:37 AM

The city council needs to look at where it can trim some costs. Property tax increases are a tax on every product and service we purchase. Business have to raise prices as they pass the cost increases on to their customers. I know a lot of people that are

struggling to make ends meet with increasing rent and interest rates and inflation. Sadly may lose one of our larger industrial tax payers the Skeena sawmill.

Screen Name Redacted

12/07/2023 10:49 AM

Many of us will be unable to absorb another astronomical (such as last year) tax increase without having to give up things such as supporting local business, due to the higher cost of local goods. This will create undoubtedly even more online shopping. Also for myself with 2 kids at home still, our budget for giving to those in need will have to decrease.

Screen Name Redacted

12/13/2023 01:49 PM

After reading through the budget, i have a few comments related to roads and infrastructure/services upgrades. I agree there are multiple streets in town, that require total rebuilds. There are also streets that do not need full re builds but need to be resurfaced. portions of Lakelse, the section of Kalum from Greig north to the intersection with Soucie are well past acceptable. There are others, as i am sure you are aware. There are also many sections of sidewalks that are in the same state. There are also many areas without sidewalks. my question is, can some of the funds that may be allocated to total street rebuilds, be instead put to use re surfacing important and high use streets downtown? I am not suggesting this be undertaken in one year but spread out over several. If these are left much longer, the costs will only climb. The old co - op lands have great potential, to bring in much needed revenue to the community. It amazes me that it is still sitting vacant. There could be a range of different business on the site. Convention areas, maybe a full time market with permanent enclosed stalls, dinning potential, accommodation and other associated retail. Downtown needs a bit of a boost. something new, modern and that can bring with it a bit of identity. Could some money be put towards a campaign, that puts Terrace out there. A great place to retire, raise a family etc. Encourage new business to come our way, lodging restaurants etc. Of which, we have really not seen anything new for a long time. Doing this will bring more out of town business here. Lastly, our community needs an identity. There needs to be more pride. we live in a beautiful place. Lets put some funds towards what i have just mentioned. it will benefit the community.

Screen Name Redacted

12/14/2023 08:20 AM

I think that this budget shows very clearly that there is a lack of proper management of funds within the city of terrace. This appears as though there has been no creative thought put into this dire situation that city council has let us get to. I strongly believe that an efficiency review made by an outside party should be conducted similar to the review that was conducted that helped all city employees get raises. Throwing money at a problem just allows the

problem to grow and become more expensive.

Screen Name Redacted

12/14/2023 11:21 AM

As a SENIOR living in Terrace, I find each year more difficult to live, maintain my home. When you are on a fixed income and everything goes up each year in time this will force me to move out of my home. Dose the city consider seniors in there budget? Every other form of government considers this.

Screen Name Redacted

12/14/2023 11:22 AM

The timeline to submit the budget and then for staff to present to council is not reasonable. Assuming staff recieves all replies by December 22 and then there is a closure for holidays there is only a week to review and compile the responses. I would rather see the deadline to respond moved earlier by a week and then more fulsome advertising to promote this opportunity to give input.

Screen Name Redacted

12/14/2023 01:35 PM

As a retired elderly person, on a fixed income, I'm strongly opposed to these BIG (up to 10% every year) property tax increases! It's hard to manage a fixed income with the inflationary increases in food, fuel and taxes. Keep property taxes increase to under 5% annually. Stop giving small business their taxes breaks. Stop wasteful spending in Terrace: the 4 new bike shelters was a waste of money... I rarely ever see any bicycles in them!

Screen Name Redacted

12/15/2023 02:30 PM

For the front entrance of City Hall: Since the front entrance is not going to be done right away, the door opener needs to be adjusted to stay open longer than it is now. This needs to be done now. Reason: for some people, example people with mobility issues, wheelchair users, walkers, canes, etc. the time as of now doesn't stay open long enough--extend to 1 minute, The door when it closes, and the person is still in the way, the door does not open again, it keeps closing on the person. Therefore door opener needs to be extended longer opener time, and adjust the door opener when it closes on the person, the door should automatic bounce back and open. Also widen the door so that people who use wider wheelchairs or other walking aides can enter the building. That would be accessible and inclusive for all. At City Hall the washrooms need to be updated: new flooring, new window, new sinks all toliet stalls need to have door swing out, not in. In fact, at all municipality places that have toliet stalls' ALL stall doors need to swing out, not just the accessible stall. Accessible law. The budget needs to include have the word STOP and lines painted at each 4 way stop at Sparks and McConnell by the Christy Soccer Park. Reason: Many people don't stop, both when there is soccer and any other time. This has been an issue for years, and years. One day someone will be hurt or killed. In the spring, please print STOP on the

road.. For Transportation: In this budget, please include extended handydart bus service not just for the weekdays but also for Saturdays. Extend bus services from 7am to 8 or 9pm. A 2nd handydart bus needs to be ordered now. Reason: improve quality of life, doing something meaningful and going to business around town. Win, win for all. In the budget have accessibility bylaws, so that the business are accessible. The by-laws would be for all older buildings, renovated places, newer building. For every issue something comes up, the Mayor says he has got to go to Victoria. Travelling to Victoria all the time about the same issue is a waste of tax payers dollars and not the best interest of the tax payers. Other events to go to is also not for the best interest of residents. You can meet through Zoom. Decrease travelling spending. Housing committee has a budget .That is not fair they have a budget (taxpayers pay) to go to conferences, and the Accessibility Committee does not have a travelling budget. All committees need to be the same for travelling expenses, not just one committee. Accessibility is also for housing.

Screen Name Redacted

12/16/2023 11:26 AM

How do you propose tax payers on fix incomes can keep paying tax increases or are you trying to force them out of their homes and sell them. Not everyone gets a 10% increase in there income yearly.

Screen Name Redacted

12/17/2023 05:30 PM

i am happy with the process of the budget being brought forward for 2024. 10 plus percent for a 2nd year in a row is getting a little high, but i understand the demands that are being made on Council. i was happy to see that Council is concerned about this tax height and hopefully they will look a little more closely at the budget process next year and make some hard decisions on what needs to be done more so than what could be done. it is time to tighten the "purse strings" in the next few years. i know that will be hard to do.

Screen Name Redacted

12/18/2023 12:56 PM

I appreciate the forethought shown by planning ahead for infrastructure replacement and major capital requirements, to provide some financial stability .

Screen Name Redacted

12/18/2023 03:58 PM

My wife and I are seniors (mid-eighties) living on a fixed, old age security income in our own small, single family dwelling. Our home is paid for and we have no major debts so we are very fortunate to be able to live with a small increase in our property tax if the money is being spent in a wise and methodical way. We do not travel other than to Prince George to visit close family. We are relatively content to live a simple life other than being involved in the well being of our society and the management of natural resources e.g. forests, fish ,wildlife, clean air, water etc. Back to the draft budget and to specifics.

We are prepared to see the budget and our taxes increased by a small amount 10.5 over the proposed 9.3% to cover off the following; We think one main arterial street such as Kalum should receive a facelift every year such as was carried out with Lakelse Ave. from the old Bridge to the Canadian Legion, ripping up the old black top and replacing it with a new coating. We understand that there are times when the underground water and sewer infrastructure need to be replaced such as on Graham. Unfortunately we all know that kind of rebuild is not possible because of cost, there for the second best is to carry out an interim project rebuild that can main a safe and reliable road surface for possibly a decade before major work is required or may not be required at all. Our recommendation is to support the rebuild of the 4600 block Scott which is indeed a very rough street the requires a new surface and possibly the infrastructure underneath. We say tie this in with a new surface on Kalum St. below the hill in a southerly direction to Lakelse and if possible under one contract. Our second recommendation is to construct the first of what we believe should be at least three street loo's copying the Smithers initiative in discrete as much as possible locations. We understand these toilets are going to be expensive to build and too maintain but in the best interests of Terrace and homeless people we must find a way to accomodate the horrendous problem that is festering in our community along with others across our province and Canada. We all know that that these "state of the art toilets" are not going to entirely solve the issue we are dealing with but it will contribute to a more sanitary city center and show the critics we are doing our part to resolve the issue of being able to provide a toilet and somewhere for everyone to be able wash their hands. This is one of the greatest human tragedies of this era that confronts every person in our community. Is it possible for a grant to provide the capital costs for construction of the toilets with the city being responsible for maintenance of the facilities? Our third comment and recommendation has to do with "climate change" with not a mention of it in the budget even though we know the city has dealt with it in a variety of ways which mus mean some costs are incurred and must in the future be addressed as the problem intensifies across the world. We will start from a small relatively low cost perspective which is the need for the city to cut and maintain grass and brush along city property/sidewalks and in particular the boulevard between the sidewalk and private properties. During this years summer as an example grass along Sparks Ave. was 30 cm/1 ft. high for most of the season creating a fire hazard that could have easily spread to private property. As well, too many private properties have in back yards tall grass, weeds,dead shrubs-branches, dead trees and too much old lumber and boards. Our recommendation is for a contract to be let or a job creation program created to cut and maintain grass in boulevards along with removal of dead grass. Our recommendation for private property is through education with a leaflit sent to each

household, news media and social media along with back yard spot checks by the fire department and or by-law officers. Another low cost initiative involves animal control which we know is one of the most difficult issues to deal with in particular how to prevent cats from killing what amounts to thousands of birds across our country and for sure in Terrace these animals that so many love with possibly an equal number who hate them. Too many cats walk through our property after climbing over 6' chain link and wooden fences with ease. As a result too many birds have been killed on our property. Our recommendation is to provide similar education as for inflammable products in back yards and along with a second recommendation making it illegal through a by-law for cats to roam around the neighbourhood with out bells around their necks to warn birds that they are close by. The last thought on this is for cats to be licensed just as dogs are which would mean a collar around their neck would be necessary which could in turn incorporate a bell or bells. We are pleased that a new refrigeration unit is going be installed in the sportplex with current system beginning to break down for the old rink where all scheduled events for hockey team tournaments and games, figure skating etc. should be played. The second rink is okay for house games, practices, public skating and other events such car shows etc.. The veiwing of games in this rink is terrible and was made worse when fans were not able to watch from from above in what is now is a meeting room and could be a day care location and is now out bounds for the public. Our last comment has to do with a museum originally planned for a portion of the old Co-Op property which the city should not be backing out of because of the Heritage Village no longer being interested (sounds like passing the buck). What a loss of a new, vibrant museum representing the First Nation history in our area, along side the settlement history copying that gorgeous, well managed log facility in Prince Rupert. Surely the combination of financial rescources from both the First Nation Community and other grant sources could have funded such a facility. What a loss to a proposal from the Metis Nation of BC which appears to becoming a controversial projected sale of the property, with no public announcement on what is going to be built on the property. This a very valuable piece of public land that should require an open pulic announcement on what will end up being built on the property. It should not be a secrete hidden from the public for the sake of the sale of the property so that the city can get its money back from the original purchase along with taxation revenue from the new owner. We urge you to reconsider this sale and if it falls through the City Council should recosider locating a museum on the property with an invitation to the Kitselas and Kitsumkalum First Nations and the BC Metis Federation and or the Metis Nation as participating partners in what could be a sigificant tourist and education attraction for our City. Such a development as we are proposing could very much provide a shot in the arm to lift our city from the "same old - same old

community" as it is perceived to be. And most of all such an all inclusive partner development could do wonders for reconciliation. Those are all of our budget comments.

Screen Name Redacted

12/18/2023 04:41 PM

A nice clear understandable document that [provided a lot of information. Well done

Screen Name Redacted

12/19/2023 01:01 PM

<https://www.touchbistro.com/blog/restaurant-recycling-tips/> I was surprised to learn that fast food restaurants in Terrace do not recycle except for cardboard. I think we must do much better. (Food, single use materials, cups, etc.) should be kept out of our dump. Those items can be recycled. It seems to me the city might want to consider picking up the recycling and charging the restaurants for the service. Geier can still continue his waste business and the city would not be competing unless Geier would be interested. The state of the planet warrants more work from restaurants to control their wasteful activities in this day and time of planetary overload. I am not sure what the other restaurants in Terrace do to keep our planet healthier, but the waste from fast food restaurants is abhorrent. Could the city earn more revenue by including these businesses in pickup? As well, it would treating all the residential citizens who pay for your service much more fairly. Plus we would be working together. I really was so surprised to find out that recycling was an option in Terrace.

Screen Name Redacted

12/21/2023 11:28 AM

I felt the budget information was compiled in such a format that it was easy to follow and understand. The graphs were a good tool to gauge where Terrace stands with other communities of the same size. I feel that the increase proposed in the budget is justified and I am willing to pay the increase taxes to accommodate the needed additions to the staffing, etc. I particularly feel that the Fire Department needs the two additional career firefighters on staff asap. It is a safety issue for the firefighters and the Terrace residents and a must need as far as I am concerned. The public works yard also needs support for all they do for our community.

Screen Name Redacted

12/21/2023 09:06 PM

I would love to see more longer hours and more public swimming times and lessons being offered at the swimming pool this coming year. It's really lacking and makes it hard for families to use with their limited hours and closed early on the weekends.

Screen Name Redacted

12/22/2023 03:20 PM

Property taxes are too high for the services provided.

Optional question (29 response(s), 3 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q3 In addition to your comments, please share any questions you have about the information provided in the consultation document. We will consider frequently asked questions when designing next year's consultation.

Screen Name Redacted

12/01/2023 02:17 PM

The Budget Consultation PDF is very dishonest. On page 4 you compares Terrace to Kitimat, Quesnel, Williams Lake and Prince Rupert for tax burden. On page 6 the revenue is compared to 33 other communities, but only Prince Rupert and Kitimat from Page 4 is included. Why are you cherry picking which communities you want to compare for taxation and revenue?

Screen Name Redacted

12/01/2023 08:31 PM

If the fire department is committed to fire safety within it's boundaries, will the firesmart program return for 2024?

Screen Name Redacted

12/02/2023 11:48 AM

What expenditures are parcel taxes meant to cover? Why are parcel taxes not considered for the General Fund? It may be of interest (and maybe of help) for citizens to be informed why parcel taxes are levied, what kind of expenditures parcel taxes are intended to cover, and why the decision is made to generate the revenue in question by way of parcel taxes rather than ad valorem taxes or user fees.

Screen Name Redacted

12/02/2023 01:36 PM

Is Industry paying the true cost for bulk water and bulk sewage disposal? As a user that does not contribute to the frontage tax including asset management, an equivalent should be applied along with a 20% increase to cover administration of extended service.

Screen Name Redacted

12/03/2023 12:28 PM

Similar to Rupert, is there a document that gets released that actually shows the annual incomes of city employees?

Screen Name Redacted

12/03/2023 02:03 PM

Has the creation of some kind of long-term "emergency" fund been considered (one distinct from "Reserves," which seem to be aimed toward capital expenditures?

Screen Name Redacted

12/04/2023 01:25 PM

These documents are very useful.

Screen Name Redacted

What do we need more cops for? They don't do anything or respond

12/06/2023 02:35 PM

in a timely manner to emergencies.

Screen Name Redacted

12/07/2023 10:49 AM

The city has money in the bank and yet is still looking at a huge increase over the next few years. This council has squeezed citizens enough, its time for the city to find other means of taxation instead of always turning to the people. Enough is enough.

Screen Name Redacted

12/14/2023 08:20 AM

Why is city council not questioning these tax increases but merely agreeing with them. Council needs to take a closer look at management and how these funds are being used and what capital projects are necessary vs ones that are just a wish. Also it would be useful to dig into some of these issues of many "required" upgrades. If there was intelligent management running projects, creating timelines etc. these types of shortfalls should never happen. City council is failing to represent Terrace and has taken on their positions for their own pet projects instead of helping the community you are taxing us into debt.

Screen Name Redacted

12/14/2023 11:22 AM

Lots of good background information is already included.

Screen Name Redacted

12/14/2023 01:35 PM

No questions at this time.

Screen Name Redacted

12/16/2023 11:26 AM

Who decides on who gets infrastructure contracts, it took 2 years to upgrade the street I live on , with lots of problems that should have been avoided with right contractor or better city direction.

Screen Name Redacted

12/17/2023 05:30 PM

i know some projects are brought forward from year to year; maybe the city should look at what it can accomplish in one year as opposed to taking on too much, do to short resources. otherwise, i believe that the city's team - Council and Managers - do a pretty good job at preparing the budge.

Screen Name Redacted

12/18/2023 03:58 PM

Over all the budget document provided a solid source of information but there was the tendency to speak too much from a technical - professional perspective as one would speak to fellow professionals. You are speaking to the general public many of them older people who are not in tune with the computer age and those who are might also have problems understanding some of the information and explanations. Most of all acronyms should not be used unless there is a glossary at the end of the report or somewhere at the beginning or

side to explain what is meant by the short version. I once worked at a research laboratory as a lay person and was asked by the Director (complete shock) if I would read an article that he was going to have published for the laboratory in a public magazine. He said to me I am so used to speaking to other professionals and writing in scientific journals that I am not sure how to write an article that speaks the language the average person so they would easily understand what I am talking about. As it turned out he did a good job with only a few minor changes required.

Screen Name Redacted

I cannot think of anything at this time.

12/21/2023 11:28 AM

Optional question (16 response(s), 16 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q4 | We are committed to improving our processes. Please provide your comments on this budget document, the budget communications, or anything else related to the budget process.

Screen Name Redacted

It would be great to have a public consult/panel where the folks of Terrace could just come and ask random questions.

11/29/2023 04:48 PM

Screen Name Redacted

In the budget basis, if there was a small section that shows "what this means to you"... that will briefly show the impact on the average citizen. I did see that it was addressed in the full budget document but unless you read everything, it can be lost in the abundance of information.

11/30/2023 02:33 PM

Screen Name Redacted

Why is the city citing "Inflationary increases in all departments (excluding wages)" for an exorbitant \$151,496 on one side while claiming laptops and cell phone replacements are part of that? Why is Terrace spending \$242,250 on 1.5x RCMP officers who are not empowered to deal with crime? All more RCMP means in practicality is more speeding tickets for Terrace. We never needed more RCMP, we needed a change in how crime is prosecuted. Why does Terrace need two more fire fighters when we get so much rain that nothing can catch fire?

12/01/2023 02:17 PM

Screen Name Redacted

The communication is very good, long overdue, and appreciated but needs to be 3xtremely up to date before being released.

12/01/2023 08:31 PM

Screen Name Redacted

12/02/2023 05:33 AM

I think the City does an excellent job in communicating to it's citizens. There is a constant flow of information that is appreciated when things happen around our community. Feedback on the budget is good to.

Screen Name Redacted

12/02/2023 11:48 AM

Tax comparisons to other municipality are of little relevance. What does being informed that general municipal taxes on a representative house in 2023 in Terrace are more than double what they are in Oliver tell me about the quality, effectiveness and efficiency of governance, management, and administration in the City of Terrace. What would be of value (I have hinted at that before) is statistical information on the City's infrastructure inventory. How many kilometers of streets, sidewalks, water and sewer mains, etc. are we maintaining? What is the size of our fleet? How do reserve balances relate to the accumulated depreciation of our assets? Information of this kind could help citizens provide Council with reasoned comment on topics such as on taxation and spending priorities (more so, I suspect, than knowing that our taxes exceed Smithers taxes by more than 10%).

Screen Name Redacted

12/02/2023 01:36 PM

Comparing municipal tax requisitions on "representative" house along with a range of community populations is not a good comparison. Why not base it on an assessed value, such as evert \$100,000? Under your expenditure pie chart, you should consider adding a segment for Asset Management. The community needs to know more about the replacement of assets over time.

Screen Name Redacted

12/03/2023 12:28 PM

Document was clearly laid out with enough information but not overwhelming.

Screen Name Redacted

12/03/2023 02:03 PM

I found the consultation document quite well put-together as an explanatory piece, with a clear description of the purposes for and processes involved in handling the city's finances.

Screen Name Redacted

12/04/2023 01:25 PM

These documents are very useful.

Screen Name Redacted

12/13/2023 01:49 PM

The budget was broken down well and was easy to interpret.

Screen Name Redacted

I wonder how many city council members received massive increases

12/14/2023 08:20 AM

in their wages or if they increase the price of goods each year at their place of business. I would find it hard to believe that either of these things is true, so why do they feel it is a good program to tax citizens so heavily over the next ten years instead of reviewing who is in management and what qualifications they hold. And maybe it isn't all about qualifications but surely management within the City has brought us to a very sad state that we need to increase taxes for their mistakes or lack of foresight. I personally can't wait for the next election of council, we need a council that has a spine and can stand up to city management on behalf of citizens and either get them to work with what they have or find properly qualified individuals for the jobs.

Screen Name Redacted

12/14/2023 11:31 AM

It's not clear to me where I can give input on the specific items in the proposed budget. Where can I find more information about the Economic Development budget? I'm glad to see the City reviewing fees for Parks Recreation and Culture. Will this be done on a regular basis each year so that we don't get so behind? The estimate for non-market change is the same every year and doesn't mean much. I'm glad to see Victims Services being brought in house. How is the RDKS's removal of funding for HPM impacting the City's funding for this facility? Increased funding of the RCMP is a waste of dollars. I agree that there are some big problems in our community with crime but the RCMP demonstrates time and time again that they are not responsive to the needs of the City. I live downtown and in the past few years we have seen vehicles set on fire, a tragic homicide, ongoing property crime from people desperate for money for drugs. Even if the police do show up after someone has stolen property or smashed windows to get into a house they don't do anything and there is no consequence. I'd rather see that money going to more useful programs. They are 20% of the city's operating budget, are unresponsive to the council and the citizens, and completely ineffective. The Social Development Program and the Child care programming at the sportsplex are good uses of my tax dollars. I fully support the Asset Management tax increase.

Screen Name Redacted

12/14/2023 01:35 PM

Here's some suggestions on how to reduce municipal spending so that property taxes don't have to be hiked so high every year: 1) Decrease spending for Parks & Recreation. Don't spend anymore on the Millennium Trail, enough has been done already. 2) Hire fewer new RCMP and Firefighters. Maintain status quo to save money and reduce tax increases. 3) Don't do the Cooper/Lanfear/McConnell roundabout or spend anymore money on the Lanfear Hill. It's very expensive and not needed now. 4) Stop buying expensive million dollar commercial properties in town that are difficult to sell to recover the capital expense. 5) Be careful in future

deals with Chinese business. They seem to have a history of not fulfilling their commitments and going bankrupt.

Screen Name Redacted

12/15/2023 02:30 PM

When doing the budget, listen to what the average person would like to see, not the interest of the Council. There is too much conflict of interest with the Mayor and Council.

Screen Name Redacted

12/16/2023 11:26 AM

Please keep increases to taxes to a minimum for fixes income tax payers

Screen Name Redacted

12/17/2023 05:30 PM

the more info that can be provided as background info on budget projects is always nice to review. i do appreciate the Council meetings being on Facebook and the ability to review the meetings at a latter date. good job.

Screen Name Redacted

12/18/2023 12:56 PM

I'm impressed by the amount of time and effort that must have gone into this document, in an attempt to engage the public. Good job.

Screen Name Redacted

12/18/2023 03:58 PM

We find it difficult to type using small light colored lettering with a white background . Our eyes are getting old and tired. Larger, bolder black lettering with a dark background would work better for those of us working online. If it is possible to combine the information document with the reply options, including doing the response online would be much easier to follow and to refer back too. Thank you for your effort to consult in a fair and open way.

Screen Name Redacted

12/21/2023 11:28 AM

The Finance department did a great job of communicating the information in an easy to read and understand format.

Optional question (20 response(s), 12 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question