



POLICY

Low Income Property Tax Exemption

Policy Number 140-003	Supersedes Policy No. Old Policy dating prior to 1991
Effective Date 1999-04-19 2012-05-16 2023-11-21	Approval By Council Resolution No. 11-04-99 04-05-11 28-11-23

1.0 Purpose

To provide a low-income tax exemption for taxpayers as provided in the Municipal Government Act.

2.0 Scope

This Policy is applicable to those taxpayers within the Town of Wolfville who meet the requirements outlined in section 5.0.

3.0 References

- 3.1 War Veterans Allowance Act (Canada)
- 3.2 Nova Scotia Municipal Government Act

4.0 Definitions

- 4.1 **Income** is defined as a person's total income from all sources except allowances paid pursuant to the War Veterans Allowance Act (Canada) or a pension paid pursuant to the Pension Act (Canada) for the calendar year preceding the fiscal year of the Town and includes the income of all other members of the same family residing in the same household.
- 4.2 **Town** means the Town of Wolfville.

5.0 Policy

- 5.1 In the fiscal year 2023/24, an exemption of \$1,000.00 was the maximum grant provided per household, for households with total income less than \$38,000. These amounts will form the base amounts to which changes are applied as outlined in



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clause 5.4 of this Policy.

An exemption will be granted to a taxpayer for a property subject to the following conditions:

- total household income does not exceed the annual threshold as determined by clause 5.4.
 - The taxpayer makes application to the Town and provides an affidavit of income, including a copy of their CRA Notice of Assessment
 - The taxpayer owns and occupies (Wolfville resident) the property as their principal residence.
- 5.2 A minimum of one advertisement shall be placed in a newspaper circulating within the Town during the month of April or May in any given year to advise residents that applications with affidavits will be accepted for a low-income exemption according to this policy, and that applications must be submitted no later than July 31st.
- 5.3 Starting with fiscal 2024/25 the following adjustments will be made to the baseline amounts noted in 5.1:
- Total Household Income Threshold – to be set at a value equal to 97.5% of the minimum non-union salary for the applicable fiscal year.
 - Maximum Exemption Amount – to be set at a value equal to the prior year exemption increased by the average change in calendar year Consumer Price Index (CPI) for NS
 - The amounts established each year will be included in the motion of Council approving the annual budget.
- 5.4 Every four years, in conjunction with the remuneration review carried out, a review of living wage data will take place and Council will consider that information in amending the baseline data if appropriate.

CAO

November 21, 2023

Date