

City rolls out tax relief for homeowners

July 15, 2020 – City Council has approved the implementation of a Property Tax Penalty and Interest Relief Program to provide support to St. Catharines' homeowners who are struggling financially due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Residential property owners who can demonstrate financial hardship related to the COVID-19 pandemic can now apply for relief from late payment penalties or interest charges during the five-month period between July 1, 2020 to November 30, 2020.

“This application-based program offers assistance to homeowners who have no other financial options and who continue to experience severe financial impacts,” said Manager of Revenue Lisa Read. “It will allow them more time to pay their remaining 2020 property taxes, providing much needed relief during this unprecedented time.”

Previously, City Council deferred the second interim tax instalment due date by 60 days and amended the two final tax instalment dates by 30 days each to July 31 and October 30, respectively, to assist residents impacted by COVID-19.

However, as the Province has the Niagara region currently in stage 2 of recovery and businesses begin to re-open, the City's Property Tax Penalty and Interest Relief Program has evolved to target those who are experiencing financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

To learn more about the program and apply, visit the assistance program section at stcatharines.ca/propertytax.

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