

September 12, 2025

Mayor Julius Bloomfield and Esteemed Council
City of Penticton
171 Main Street, Penticton B.C. V2A 5A9

Sent via email: council@penticton.ca

Re: CHAMBER'S POSITION ON PROPOSED INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY

Dear Mayor and Council,

The Penticton & Wine Country Chamber of Commerce supports the proposed transition of the City's infrastructure levy from a flat annual contribution to a percentage of property taxes. Moving to a percentage-based model is a prudent step that ensures annual contributions keep pace with inflation and community growth, thereby protecting the City's ability to maintain and renew essential infrastructure.

With that said, we believe the responsibility for determining the annual target percentage must rest with each seated Council during its respective budget deliberations. This provides the flexibility to balance infrastructure needs with other fiscal priorities and community pressures that arise in the future while respecting the accountability of each Council to the taxpayers they serve.

For these reasons, we encourage Council to move forward with converting the levy to a percentage of taxation, while leaving the decision of incremental percentage increases to future Councils as part of the regular budget process. This will provide a balance for long-term infrastructure sustainability, ensure that taxation decisions are fiscally prudent to the economic climate, and allow the community's elected representatives of the day to remain accountable to their constituents.

The Board and Staff would like to express their thanks to City Staff for taking the time to discuss this proposal and answer questions in person, and we thank you for taking the time to review our position on this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jordan Knox,
President



Michael Magnusson,
Executive Director

Cc: Anthony Haddad, City Manager
Kristen Dixon, Deputy City Manager and General Manager of Infrastructure
Angela Campbell, General Manager of Corporate Services
Blake Laven, General Manager of Development Services