

# Frequently Asked Questions – Taxes

## Q. How are the tax rates decided upon?

Tax rates are set by County Council after considering a couple of key factors:

- The budget of Lac Ste. Anne County based on operating costs for services provided
- The assessment base in Lac Ste. Anne County

## Q. Why do my taxes change year over year?

Taxes may change due to one or a combination of factors:

- A change in the Lac Ste. Anne County annual budget or requisition requirements for municipal operations, Lac Ste. Anne Foundation (Home for the Aged), Wastewater Infrastructure or the Recreation Services Tax
- A particular property assessment (market value) changed more or less than the average

## Q. Is there a penalty for not paying my taxes on time?

Yes. Property taxes are due **June 30, 2015** (Your tax bill covers the period from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015).

- Taxes for the current year that remain unpaid after the June 30 deadline are subject to the following penalties:
  - July 1 @ 3 percent
  - August 1 @ 6 percent
  - September 1 @ 9 percent
- Taxes that are in arrears on January 1 of the following year are subject to the following penalties:
  - January 1 @ 2%
  - February 1 @ 4%
  - March 1 @ 6%

## Q. Is there a way to pay my taxes in installments?

**Yes. The County has a program called the Tax Pre Payment Plan (T.P.P.P.) that allows the taxes to be paid in monthly installments.**

To qualify for the T.P.P.P. you must meet the following criteria:

- Current taxes must be paid in full to qualify for the upcoming year
- Application deadline is January 31, annually
- Signed agreement must be in place
- VOID cheque required
- January – April payments based on previous year's levy.
- Monthly debits adjusted to reflect current year levy when the current levy has been generate.
- Applicants have the full year to pay their current levy without application of penalties. Please contact the Tax Department for more information at **780-785-3411**.

## Q. What happens if I overpay?

Over payment of taxes will remain as a credit on file unless a letter requesting a refund is received at Lac Ste. Anne County.

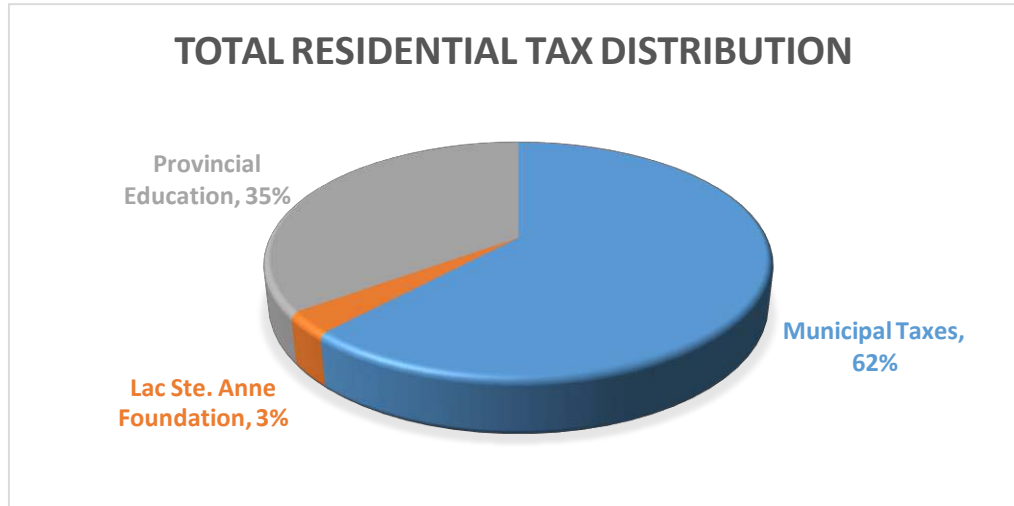
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**Q. How much of my total tax bill is used for Municipal Services?**

**62%**- pays for Municipal Services

**3%**- supports the Lac Ste. Anne Foundation

**35%**- is collected on behalf of the Government of Alberta for Education



**Q. What services do I receive for my municipal taxes?**

Our website provides a breakdown of municipal services provided: [www.lfac.ca](http://www.lfac.ca).

**Q. Can I appeal an increase of my taxes?**

No. Section 460(6) of the Municipal Government Act states “There is no right to make a complaint about any tax rate.”

**Q. What happens if I overpay?**

Over-payment of taxes will remain as a credit on file unless a letter requesting a refund is received by Lac Ste. Anne County.