

city of

Wetaskiwin

PRESS RELEASE

Franchise fee for natural gas will decrease starting January 1, 2021

October 29, 2020

(Wetaskiwin, Alberta) - The City of Wetaskiwin will be decreasing the natural gas distribution franchise fee it charges ATCO Gas and Pipelines Ltd. The current ATCO franchise fee is set at 35 percent and will decrease to 33 percent effective January 1, 2021.

This fee gives ATCO exclusive rights to deliver natural gas to the residents of the City of Wetaskiwin and for use of municipal lands for its natural gas lines. The franchise fee applies to all customers that receive gas services in the City of Wetaskiwin and is required to be billed as a separate charge on gas billings.

"Council has heard loud and clear that a decrease to not only property taxes, but also franchise fees through our utility providers was needed," said City of Wetaskiwin Mayor Tyler Gandam. "As we continue to find efficiencies in our operations, we will be able to further identify cost savings that can be passed along to our residents and business owners."

For an average residential customer using 115 Gigajoules (GJ) per year, this will result in an annual decrease of about \$10.53 from the average paid in 2020. The franchise fee currently accounts for approximately \$526.61 of the average annual residential bill.

About the City of Wetaskiwin

Wetaskiwin is a secure, connected, and inclusive community home to a diverse population of 12,655 people. Located only 30 minutes south of the Edmonton International Airport, the City of Wetaskiwin provides a high quality of life through ample recreation opportunities, diverse cultural activities, and a modernized, business-friendly downtown.

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