

FINE REVENUE SHARING TRANSFERS

The MD seeks to account for, and recoup, its due percentage of any provincial fine revenues collected by its officers on behalf of the Province.



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Bylaw enforcement is a municipal responsibility, but the resultant ticket revenues are shared with the Province. The MD has concerns that its share has not been calculated properly.

When municipal enforcement officers issue tickets for speeding violations, they are due and payable to the Crown. A portion of the revenues generated from these infractions is then returned from the municipality from which the infractions incurred. In the case of our municipality, this revenue provides our Protective Services team with additional funds to support community safety and address local policing and enforcement priorities; resulting in meaningful and sustained positive community impacts.

Many of these community activities and departmental improvements are enabled by the MD's ticket revenue-sharing mechanism with the Province. However, we are concerned by a variance in revenue share percentages the MD has received year over year in relation to actual tickets written by our enforcement officers.

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The MD received \$76,724.90 in fine revenue transfers from the Province between 2016 and 2020. Given the total sum of \$241,168.00 for traffic fines issued by the MD within this five-year sample, Council has concerns that the MD's portion of fine revenues within this period is not reflective of the agreed-upon percentage.

MD administrators have made numerous attempts to derive its actual fine revenues from the supplied provincial-municipal revenue sharing reports. However, with neither the formula used to derive the calculations nor a provincial point of contact to help decipher these highly convoluted documents, this data has proven impossible to extract.

Like many other Alberta municipalities, the MD of Lesser Slave River has worked with the Province to absorb a variety of reductions, cuts and downloads over the past several years, while working to manage infrastructure, maintain services and safeguard its communities. One such example is when the Province granted itself a greater share of revenue from municipally-issued fines in 2020.

It is understood that difficult times often call for difficult measures. Diminishing provincial funding avenues aside, the MD intends to make the most of existing funds, mechanisms and resources to which it is rightfully due. One step we can take in this direction is to ensure our provincial fine revenue transfers reflect the actual tickets issued within our municipality.

“As we partner with the Province in achieving positive social outcomes in our community, our ability to do so is enhanced by the timely and accurate flow-through of fine revenue transfers.”



MURRAY KERIK
Reeve
Municipal District of Lesser Slave River

Main concerns raised by Council

- Council seeks to clarify the MD's present fine revenue share agreement with the Province, including the formula used to calculate monthly percentages
- Council seeks to establish and maintain a consistent point of contact regarding fine revenue sharing transfers between the MD and Province
- Council requests disclosure of provincial fine revenue repayment records to the MD, including the formulas used to calculate these amounts, from 2016 to present
- Council requests reimbursement of any outstanding monies due to the MD via the fine revenue sharing program from 2016 to present

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