

# Citizen Control of the Citizen's Business

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THROUGH FREQUENT, PROMPT, ACCURATE AND PERTINENT INFORMATION WITH REGARD TO TORONTO'S BUSINESS.

ISSUED BY THE

189 CHURCH STREET



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## The Toronto Civic Budget for 1922

### In 1922

for the first time the total expenditures and revenues of the municipally owned utilities were not included in the total civic revenues and expenditures. This represents a distinct step in advance, as it differentiates between those activities which are supported by taxation and small revenue incidentals to the operation of the regular civic departments and those activities the costs of which are supposed to be defrayed by revenues arising from the sale of services. Only the surplus and deficits of these utilities are included in the total civic expenditures and revenues, while the details of the expenditures and revenues are given as formerly. Thus the facts are readily apparent with regard to the financial results of the operation of utilities. At the same time the City's general current expenditures are not swollen by the inclusion of items which may not appear at all in the expenditures of other cities. This facilitates fair comparison between Toronto and other large civic centres.



If the Estimates for 1922 had been compiled on the same basis as those of 1921, the total expenditure would have appeared as \$34,211,092.34, whereas on the new basis the proposed gross civic expenditures for 1922 are \$26,827,533.09. The large difference is made up as follows:—

Toronto Transportation Commission debt charges which are carried by the revenue of the Commission.....	\$1,835,373.31
Hydro-Electric System debt charges which are carried by the Hydro revenue .....	782,858.11
Local Improvements—Ratepayers' Share debt charges which are carried by special assessments.....	1,868,986.29
Expenditures of the Civic Water Works.....	2,706,082.23
Expenditures of the Civic Abattoir less the deficit of \$71,429.91 (which is included in the civic expenditures).....	130,259.31
Expenditures of Civic Housing Commission, less the deficit of \$15,025 (which is included in the civic expenditures).....	60,000.00
<b>TOTAL . . . . .</b>	<b>\$7,383,559.25</b>

### Summary of 1922 Estimates by Main Functions

MAIN FUNCTIONS	TOTAL CURRENT EXPENDITURES	REVENUE OTHER THAN TAXATION	EXPENDITURE OUT OF TAXATION (and current surplus)
General Government .....	\$ 3,822,558.57	\$ 545,731.00	\$ 3,276,827.57
Protection of Persons and Property .....	4,873,437.21	310,000.00	4,563,437.21
Health and Sanitation .....	3,486,197.32	28,100.00	3,458,097.32
Highways .....	1,668,660.16	45,900.00	1,622,760.16
Education .....	9,060,407.28	351,392.00	8,709,015.28
Recreation .....	1,296,893.01	32,600.00	1,264,293.01
Charities and Correction .....	1,746,611.90	48,500.00	1,698,111.90
Public Service Enterprises .....	415,857.26	576,855.95	160,998.69*
(Being surplus on Water Works and deficits on Civic Abattoir and Housing Commission)			
War Purposes and Special Grants .....	456,910.38		456,910.38
<b>TOTAL . . . . .</b>	<b>\$26,827,533.09</b>	<b>\$1,939,078.95</b>	<b>\$24,888,454.14</b>

\*Excess of estimated public service surpluses over estimated public service deficits.

### Expenditures to be Paid Out of Taxation

The preceding table shows that the sum of \$24,888,454.14 is to be paid out of taxation and current surplus. The latter amount, carried over from 1921, is \$1,278,224.91.\* This leaves \$23,610,229.23 to be provided by taxation in 1922. As there is always some shrinkage, \$393,763.21 is estimated as an allowance for "uncollectable taxes, allowances and adjustments." Adding this to the estimated net requirements from taxation, the City is levying this year a total of \$24,003,992.44.

### How This Is Being Raised

#### Anticipated Revenue from Taxation, with Details as to Assessment and the Rate of Taxation.

1. GENERAL RATE—TOTAL ASSESSMENT of \$720,702,987	
21 3/5 mills on above Assessment.....	\$15,567,184.52
2. PUBLIC SCHOOL RATE—TOTAL ASSESSMENT of .....	731,006,652
10 3/4 mills on above Assessment.....	7,858,321.51
3. SEPARATE SCHOOL RATE—TOTAL ASSESSMENT of .....	43,659,352
13 1/4 mills on above Assessment.....	578,486.41
<b>TOTAL TAX LEVY .....</b>	<b>\$24,003,992.44</b>
Less allowances for Uncollectable Taxes. Allowances and Adjustments . . . . .	393,763.21
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED NET RECEIPTS BY TAXATION</b>	<b>\$23,610,229.23</b>

\*Included in this amount is the surplus from Technical Schools of \$4,000 and from Separate School Board of \$8,804.76.



## What This Means to the Toronto Taxpayer

The population of Toronto is about 535,000. The total net taxation, therefore, works out at about \$44.13 for every man, woman and child in the city. If the average family in Toronto numbers something less than five, this represents a taxation of about \$210 per family. At \$7 per day, this represents 30 days' work per year for the head of the family or some of its members to support the ordinary civic services. It is beside the mark to say that not every family in Toronto pays taxes. Directly or indirectly every citizen of Toronto contributes to the cost of operating the city. Mr. Thomas Bradshaw in his introduction to the Civic Estimates for 1919, wrote:—

"It is not uncommon to assume that the tax burden mainly falls upon the well-to-do, and not upon the wage earner. A moment's consideration will convince anyone that it distributes itself through all living expenses—it appears in the rent, in the food bill and in the price of everything that the poor, as well as the rich, must buy. The landlord and the merchant are municipal agents for the collection of taxes, even if they, or their tenants, or customers, do not recognize the fact. Any man who believes that he can live in a city and not contribute to its revenue is under a delusion, for he pays his quota either consciously or unconsciously, and, consequently, everyone should be interested in efficient government, at the lowest possible cost."

Because in the past not everyone has been interested, mistakes have been made and unnecessary expense has been incurred. Toronto is a city of which every citizen should be proud, proud enough to do his best to see that every dollar expended contributes to its outstanding advantages as the City of Homes.

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## Who Is Going to Spend the City's Money Next Year ?

Soon some citizens will be choosing candidates for all citizens to vote for. Later, all citizens will have an opportunity to choose between the candidates selected for them. Are you going to be a chooser in the first instance, or in the second instance, or both?