

# Citizen Control of the Citizen's Business

TORONTO'S CITIZENS CAN CONTROL TORONTO'S AFFAIRS ONLY THROUGH FREQUENT, PROMPT, ACCURATE AND PERTINENT INFORMATION WITH REGARD TO TORONTO'S BUSINESS.

ISSUED BY THE

21 KING STREET EAST



TELEPHONE: ELGIN 1904

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## Toronto's Current Budget for 1927 STORY NO. 2.

As stated in our Story No. 1 in this series the net general taxation for 1927 is to be

**\$26,972,984**

Out of this taxation and miscellaneous revenues other than taxation received by the City, the Board of Education and Separate School Board from local sources, provincial subventions, reserves for deferred expenditures, surpluses, etc., there is to be an estimated general expenditure of

**\$30,126,925**

On the succeeding pages are shown how the proposed expenditure is to be divided among the nine general functions of municipal government compared with the corresponding expenditures of the preceding four years. As the City has carried still further than last year the logical practice of including in the expenditures the deficits only of special services, which practice the Bureau has followed in its 1927 analysis, in order to make the figures comparable with those on the former basis used by the Bureau in previous White Papers it has been necessary to make a small adjustment.

COMPARISON OF ESTIMATED CIVIC EXPENDITURES FROM CURRENT GENERAL FUNDS, 1923-1927  
BY GENERAL FUNCTIONS PERFORMED

COMMUNITY SERVICES	TOTALS				PER CAPITAS						PERCENT OF TOTAL EXPENDITURE				
	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1927* (est.)	1926	1925	1924	1923	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923
General Government.....	\$ 3,329,429	\$ 3,282,273	\$ 3,814,683	\$ 3,875,872	\$ 4,309,332	\$ 5.86	\$ 5.90	\$ 6.94	\$ 7.15	\$ 8.00	11.0	11.7	13.6	13.7	15.3
Protection of Persons and Property .....	5,280,451	5,188,388	4,957,557	4,987,618	4,947,007	9.30	9.32	9.02	9.20	9.18	17.4	18.4	17.7	17.7	17.5
Health and Sanitation.....	3,615,090	3,464,424	3,403,933	3,461,192	3,431,283	6.36	6.22	6.19	6.38	6.37	11.9	12.3	12.1	12.2	12.1
Highways .....	2,803,650	2,516,456	2,489,924	2,464,030	2,250,534	4.94	4.52	4.53	4.54	4.18	9.2	8.9	8.9	8.7	8.0
Education.....	10,102,836	9,863,552	9,543,905	9,493,708	9,277,189	17.79	17.72	17.42	17.52	17.22	33.2	35.0	34.0	33.6	32.8
Recreation .....	1,798,374	1,549,721	1,458,567	1,478,547	1,305,605	3.17	2.78	2.65	2.73	2.42	5.9	5.5	5.2	5.2	4.6
Charities and Correction...	1,737,057	1,707,319	1,734,538	1,654,044	1,769,577	3.06	3.07	3.14	3.05	3.28	5.7	6.0	6.2	5.9	6.3
Special Services .....	1,426,463	403,459	292,266	325,070	411,785	2.51	.72	.53	.60	.77	4.7	1.4	1.0	1.1	1.5
War Purposes and Special Grants .....	33,575	214,525	379,450	528,064	544,125	.06	.39	.68	.97	1.01	.1	.8	1.3	1.9	1.9
Total on Present Basis .....	\$30,126,925														
Adjustment to make com- parable with preceding years, special services...	282,491					.50					.9				
Comparable Totals .....	\$30,409,416	\$28,190,117	\$28,074,823	\$28,268,145	\$28,246,437	\$53.55	\$50.64	\$51.10	\$52.14	\$52.43	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

\*On estimated population of 567,825. For previous years, actual population figures are used.

## COMMENT

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1. It will be noted that the per capita estimated expenditure went down steadily until 1927, when it increased to such an extent as to exceed the per capita expenditure in 1923. The 1927 increase is largely explained by payments in connection with accumulated deficits of the Harbour and the Radials. It will readily be seen that if the policy of meeting these deficits had been given effect to earlier, the annual rates of per capita expenditures for the five year period would have been more nearly uniform and that for 1927 would not have been so large. What is one Council's food may become another Council's poison; but the taxpayers must eat what is set before them by the caterers they themselves have selected.
2. It will be further noted that the per capita cost of general government overhead has gone down steadily; that the per capita cost of protection of persons and property has gone up slightly; that the per capita cost of Health and Sanitation has remained almost stationary; that the per capita costs of education, highways and recreation have increased; that the cost of war purposes and special grants has almost vanished owing to the disappearance of "war purposes" debt charges, and that the Special Services including deficits have more than tripled.
3. The percentage of the total estimated expenditure going to each function shows similar results but percentages are less useful than per capitas for comparative purposes as the percentage of most functions may be lowered simply by spending more on one or two.