

BUREAU OF MUNICIPAL RESEARCH

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Toronto's Citizens can control Toronto's affairs only through frequent, prompt, accurate and pertinent information with regard to Toronto's business.

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The 1932 Budget Estimates of Current Revenues and Expenditures for the City of Toronto Story No. 2

Including general and school taxes, payments from the province and county, school grants, various credits and surpluses, reserves for deferred expenditure, etc., the gross amount available for current appropriations for 1932 is

\$37,572,602*

as compared with the corresponding figures for 1931 of

\$37,486,425.

The appropriations, therefore, represent an estimated current expenditure of \$59.45 per capita. The corresponding per capita last year was \$59.76. As a matter of fact, however, in 1931 the city spent \$880,288 more than was estimated, i.e., it operated at a deficit of \$880,288. Whether or not the year 1932 will end with a surplus or a deficit will not be known until early in 1933. It is to be hoped that the city's expenditures have not been underestimated or the city's revenues overestimated and that, therefore, the city will end 1932 without a deficit, as a balanced budget is as essential in public as in private affairs.

* The net estimated current revenue is \$36,501,365. The amount of reserve for deferred expenditures is \$168,147.74. (See p. 18, "Estimates of the City of Toronto".)

**COMPARISON OF ESTIMATED CURRENT EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEARS
1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931 and 1932**

COMMUNITY SERVICES	TOTAL						PER CAPITA					
	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1932*	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927
General Government	\$ 4,108,044	\$ 4,505,868	\$ 3,601,234	\$ 3,278,693	\$ 3,125,614	\$ 3,329,429	\$6.50	\$7.18	\$5.79	\$5.41	\$5.34	\$5.84
Protection of Persons and Property	6,152,768	6,016,129	6,218,191	6,200,329	5,647,757	5,280,451	9.74	9.59	10.00	10.22	9.64	9.27
Health and Sanitation.....	4,240,838	4,229,809	4,011,583	3,843,289	3,709,882	3,615,090	6.71	6.74	6.45	6.34	6.34	6.34
Highways	3,094,780	3,631,504	3,530,684	3,103,222	3,070,747	2,803,650	4.90	5.79	5.68	5.12	5.24	4.92
Education	12,513,049	12,491,296	11,865,987	11,149,016	10,541,979	10,102,836	19.80	19.92	19.09	18.39	18.00	17.73
Recreation	1,918,150	2,020,748	1,923,013	1,924,538	1,861,081	1,798,374	3.03	3.22	3.10	3.17	3.18	3.15
Charities and Correction	2,730,662	2,890,183	2,442,814	2,123,100	1,846,460	1,737,057	4.32	4.61	3.93	3.50	3.15	3.05
Special Services	1,897,273	1,662,838	1,577,321	1,346,140	1,529,577	1,426,463	3.00	2.65	2.54	2.22	2.61	2.50
Special Grants	36,750	38,050	35,950	40,750	30,353	33,575	.06	.06	.06	.07	.05	.06
General deficit from previous year.....	880,288	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1.39	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Totals.....	\$37,572,602	\$37,486,425	\$35,206,777	\$33,009,077	\$31,363,450	\$30,126,925	\$59.45	\$59.76	\$56.64	\$54.44	\$53.55	\$52.86

*On an estimated population of 632,000.

COMMENT AND QUERY.

1. The outstanding feature is a decrease in appropriations for Charities and Correction of about \$160,000.
2. There is a decline of about \$400,000 in General Government, but this is still over \$500,000 more than in 1930.
3. There is a large reduction in the appropriations for Highways. Does this mean a less amount for wages?
4. There is a small increase in the gross amount for Education, but the net appropriations for schools to be met by local taxation were considerably less than in 1931, due to an increase in other available educational revenues such as grants and surpluses. (1931, school tax rate for public school supporters, 10.45 mills; 1932, 10.30 mills.)
5. The appropriation under the heading "Unemployment Relief" is \$400,000. The sum of \$889,646 was spent in 1931 under this head. (This does not refer to items under the heading "Special Unemployment Relief—City's Share".)
6. Under "Financial Items" there is no appropriation for Exchange, although there was spent in 1931 the sum of \$1,030,422, and although it appears that \$175,000 has been made available for the purpose since the passing of the estimates, and that an additional \$50,000 has been certified by the Board of Control.
7. The total of items under "Special Services", which is largely made up of deficits, continues to increase.
8. Thousands of Toronto citizens have reduced purchasing and tax-paying power. It is regrettable that at a time when so many find it difficult or impossible to meet their liabilities, taxes should increase. Was it necessary or just?

The Toronto Bureau of Municipal Research is an independent, non-partisan citizen organization, for the promotion of informed citizenship and, through it, of efficient municipal government.

Its methods are :

1. The ascertaining of the facts regarding municipal government.
2. The study and analysis of these facts.
3. The publication of these facts in clear, concise form, with constructive suggestions based on the facts.