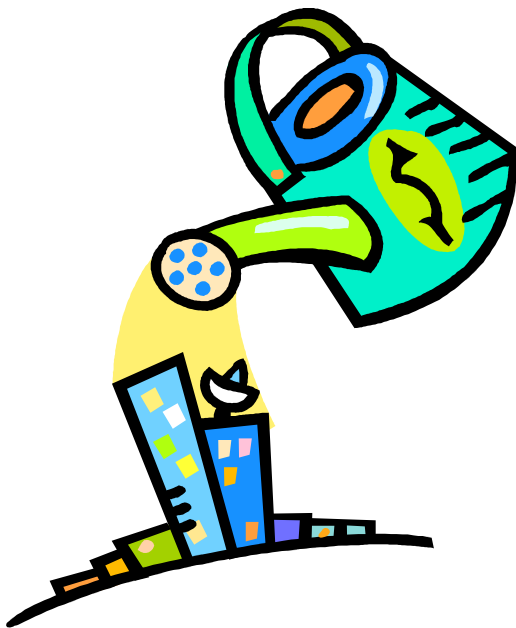


# TOWN OF BRUDERHEIM

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## THE FUTURE OF BRUDERHEIM



Information on  
how the Town of  
Bruderheim is  
responding to the  
changing  
economy

### *What issues are we facing now?*

Like many municipalities in Alberta right now, Bruderheim has new challenges in the face of a changing economy. Things like aging infrastructure, aging equipment, increased costs, and less funding from the Province are all issues we need to overcome.

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### *How can we overcome these challenges?*

What Bruderheim needs now more than ever is to bring in new businesses and residents. If Bruderheim grows, especially with new businesses or industry, Bruderheim's tax base increases. A larger tax base lessens the burden on existing tax payers by spreading the tax needs among a larger group and allowing the tax rates to remain low. Plus, it also brings in a bit more revenue to fund Town projects and maintenance work.

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### *So what's stopping us?*

Over the last decade, development in our region has been growing on its own quite well. That is changing and developers are reluctant to invest in new ventures while our economy is slow. This means we need to come up with new and inventive ways to attract development and market ourselves as a great option for new businesses and industry. We are not the only municipality trying to attract growth so we also need to stay competitive with our neighbours.

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## ***How can we do it?***

Council's vision for a better Bruderheim has lead administration to research a number of options.

1. Launch a fresh new website with better information for existing residents and potential developers. Ideally our new and improved website will be up and running by the fall of 2009.
2. Provide better services to our existing residents. Snow removal, arena service, additional recreational opportunities, weed control, bylaw services, and many more every day services can be improved to really benefit our residents.
3. Build stronger relationships with business and industry. This means working closely with our existing businesses and recruiting new business opportunities for our Town.
4. Focus on improving our existing Town facilities and infrastructure. Developing a plan of local improvements spread out over time will drastically improve the quality of our Town parks, roads, and recreational facilities.
5. Launch the "Tax Free for Three" program. This will give tax incentives to lure business, industry, and new residents to our Town.

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## ***What is "Tax Free for Three"?***

This type of tax program has been employed by many municipalities with very successful results. Basically, new businesses, industry, and residential developments will get a tax break for their first three years in the Town. This is a huge sell for

developers and will bring us the much needed diversity in our tax base. It sets us apart from other municipalities who are trying to lure the same developers. 97% of Bruderheim's tax base is residential. This means that home owners are the biggest contributors to our operating budget. By creating more diversity in Bruderheim, the tax load on the average homeowner will lighten, with the new businesses making up the difference. It will also provide local services and amenities to residents that they currently have to find elsewhere.

These developments will significantly boost Bruderheim's economy. It is important to realize that once the developments are here, they will become part of our economy for a long time to come. Step back and look at the big picture; three years of tax breaks pales in comparison to the long term benefits these developments will bring to our Town, our tax base, and the over all quality of life for all of Bruderheim's residents.

The Town welcomes your questions and feedback regarding these initiatives. If you have any questions on these new strategies, or simply an additional suggestion on making our Town a better place, please contact Bruderheim's CAO, Tim Duhamel, 780-796-3731 or email him at [duhamel@strathcona.ab.ca](mailto:duhamel@strathcona.ab.ca)

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