

M.D. of Opportunity

UTILITIES POLICY

TITLE: SENIOR CITIZEN UTILITY EXEMPTION POLICY (SCUE)

EFFECTIVE DATE: OCTOBER 25, 2022

POLICY NUMBER: UT.5

Purpose of Policy:

Senior citizen residents of the Municipality may benefit from exemption for utility charges. The Municipal Council is introducing an exemption program for the senior citizens that will enable them access and use of services free of charge. This program is made available to qualified senior citizens only.

1. ELIGIBILITY & APPLICATION PROCEDURES:

- a) Applicants wishing to access the exemption program may apply to the municipal office. A Senior Citizen means a person 65 years and older and eligible Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped” (AISH) residents with a permanent medical condition that prevents them from earning a living who receives financial and health benefits.

Their application must include a copy of one proof of identification, age, and income assistance benefit. A proof may be one of the following documents:

- i. Birth Certificate
 - ii. Drivers License
 - iii. Status Card;
 - iv. or any other document listing the applicant’s birthdates
 - v. AISH verification.
- b) Applicants must be the principle resident of the residential property for which they are receiving the water, sewer & garbage pickup service.
- c) Applicants must have an existing utility account in their name and in good standing at the time of application to the exemption program.
- d) To be eligible for the SCUE, the applicant must, as of the date of application:
- a. Be a senior citizen,
 - b. Be a permanent resident of MD 17,
 - c. Be responsible for payment of the property taxes levied by the MD17 on the residential property that is the applicant’s primary residence, either as a result of:
 - i. Being the assessed person on the MD 17’s assessment roll for the residential property that is the applicant’s primary residence; or
 - ii. Being a lessee with an option to purchase the residential property that is the applicant’s primary residence, who is obligated to pay property taxes levied by the MD 17 respecting that property pursuant to a written agreement with the assessed person on the MD17’s assessment roll for that property; and

- d. the individual's annual net household income is equal to or less than the following thresholds based on the number of persons occupying the residence (Canada Revenue Agency Notice of Assessment required. Status Applicants will also be required to provide the Schedule 90 from their T1 General Tax return, titled - Income Exempt from Tax under the Indian Act).
- e. named on the MD 17 tax account related to the property.

<u>NO. OF OCCUPANTS</u>	<u>NET HOUSEHOLD INCOME</u>
1 person	\$75,000
2 persons	\$85,000
3 persons	\$95,000
4 persons	\$100,000

- f. An individual may only apply for the SCUE for their primary residence.
- g. No more than one SCUE will be granted per residential property.
- h. In the event an individual that is approved for the SCUE is the registered owner of a portion or specified share of title for the property that is the individual's primary residence, the SCUE will be pro-rated to the eligible individual's ownership share of the title.
- i. In the event an individual that is approved for the SCUE owns the subject residential property in joint tenancy with one or more other individuals, the entire SCUE for which the individual is eligible will be granted. That is, the SCUE will not be prorated.
- j. Individuals approved for the SCPTG are also approved for a Utility Charge Exemption Grant for routine municipal water, sewer and garbage services and for snow removal flag fees if the individual has a utility account in his or her name. However, individuals approved for the SCPTG are not exempt from costs of additional municipal service calls such as added water deliveries, etc.
- k. Applicants with outstanding tax arrears will not be eligible for the exemption program.
 - i. subject they have a registered monthly payment plan agreement and their agreement is in good standing; or
 - ii. may apply to have their water/sewer charges applied against their outstanding tax account.

2. APPROVAL PROCESS:

- a) Applications will be reviewed, verified and approved by Administration.
- b) Applicants must sign an agreement (Schedule "C") prior to approval of exemption program.

APPROVED:	JANUARY 12, 2005
AMENDED:	JUNE 8, 2005
AMENDED:	JUNE 22, 2022
AMENDED:	OCTOBER 25, 2022

F.6 Grants Policy Schedule C:

Admin / Policy Manual / Policies / Utilities / 2005 New UT.5

Application for a Senior Tax / Utility Grant

Name of Applicant: _____	Date of Application: _____
Mailing Address: _____	
Legal Land Description: Plan: _____	Block: _____ Lot: _____
Tax Roll Number: _____	Phone Number: _____
Application for: _____ Utilities Exemption _____ Tax Cancellation Grant _____ (check one or both)	

ELIGIBILITY:

- | | | |
|--|-----|----|
| a) Proof of Age Attached (copy of current picture identification with DOB) | Yes | No |
| b) Are you an owner, lessee or life estate holder of this property? <i>(check one.)</i> | | |
| Owner Lessee Life Estate | | |
| c) Do you occupy this property as your primary residence? | Yes | No |
| If yes, for how long? Less than 6 months _____ Over 6 months _____ | | |
| d) Proof of Income eligibility Attached: | Yes | No |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) Notice of Assessment; Status Applicants – Schedule 90 – T1 General Tax return, titled: Income Exempt from Tax under the Indian Act; AISH verification. | | |
| i) Number of individuals in the home with income _____ | | |
| e) Do you have an existing tax account in your name? | Yes | No |
| f) Do you have any current debts on your Municipal Service Accounts? | Yes | No |

DECLARATION:

I declare that the above information is true and accurate. I declare that I will immediately inform the MD of Opportunity No. 17 if I cease to be eligible for the Senior Citizen Grant Programs for any reason such as that I cease to reside at the property, or I no longer have a utility or tax account with MD 17.

I understand that this grant approval may be revoked if my service accounts become delinquent or the ownership of the property changes, and that this agreement can become void for any valid reason at the discretion of MD 17.

Signature of Applicant(s) _____ Date _____

Reviewed by MD Designate _____ Date _____

Approved: UT _____ TX _____
 Denied: UT _____ TX _____

Reason for Denial: _____

"The personal information collected with this application will be utilized for the declared purpose only and is subject to compliance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act."
 Updated: February 25/2020