



THE TOWN OF SWAN RIVER

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FAQ

1. I thought you passed an accommodation tax bylaw already? Why are you having a another public hearing?

First, our old bylaw never received provincial approval and there never was an accommodation tax in force.

Second, this new bylaw was made necessary by legislation changes. The Province of Manitoba no longer will review and approve accommodation tax bylaws and have given the power to Municipal Councils to pass such bylaws. This necessitated creating a new bylaw. The old Accommodation Tax Bylaw that was never in force will be repealed.

2. Timing—when would Council like the bylaw to take effect?

The Bylaw effective date in the current reading is January 1, 2027.

3. Are Accommodations outside of Swan River impacted by this tax?

No, the Town of Swan River can only tax businesses and properties within the Town of Swan River's boundaries.

4. What is the proposed rate of the tax?

To be in line with other neighbouring communities, the bylaw sets a rate of 5%.

5. What will the revenue go towards?

Council has proposed that this revenue shall go towards Recreation and Active Living.

6. What will be our tax collection procedures?

Attached you will find our bylaw with our proposed collection procedures. This is similar to how other Municipalities in Manitoba conduct their own tax collection.

7. Will any of our guests be exempt from the Tax?

Our current proposed bylaw has several exemptions fully detailed under clause 5.

8. We feel that this Tax will make us less competitive with other hotels and communities surrounding us.

Many of the neighbouring similar sized communities around us have implemented their own Accommodation Tax Bylaw.

9. Why is council considering passing this Accommodation Tax Bylaw?

Many communities in Manitoba are already using this tool to leverage their Economic Development and to fund events and other projects to help bring more commerce and tourism to their communities.