

Municipal Affairs

Information Bulletin

Number: 07/13 Date: September 2013

School Support Notice

The *School Act* directs municipalities to send school support notices to new property owners in areas with a Roman Catholic separate school board. The school support notice asks property owners to make a declaration indicating whether or not they are of the Roman Catholic faith. The declaration notices enable municipalities to appropriately allocate property assessments for either public or separate school purposes.

Recording School Support by the Municipality

Section 303(g) of the *Municipal Government Act* directs a municipality to record whether a property is assessable for public school purposes or separate school purposes on its assessment roll and on the assessment notice issued to property owners.

Declaration by an Individual

When an individual declares to be of the Roman Catholic faith, the property is recorded as being assessable for separate school board purposes. When an individual does not declare to be of the Roman Catholic faith or does not return a notice (undeclared), the property is recorded as being assessable for public school purposes.

When a property is owned by more than one individual, and those individuals are of different faith, the property assessment is apportioned between the public and separate boards according to the percentage of ownership indicated on the notice.

Declaration by Corporation or Cooperative

When a declaration is given by a corporation, cooperative or co-operative association, the property assessment is allocated to a separate board in proportion to the value of shares owned by shareholders that indicate they are of the Roman Catholic faith.

Change School Support

The declaration made on the school support notice of an individual, corporation, cooperative or co-operative association may not be changed or withdrawn on or after the date on which a school board passes a resolution authorizing a plebiscite for a special school tax levy unless:

- the board withdraws the resolution,
- the plebiscite is not supported by the majority of electors, or
- the taxable period of the levy ends or public notice is given that a board intends to pass a resolution for another special school tax levy, whichever occurs first.

The logo for the province of Alberta, featuring the word "Alberta" in a stylized script font with a small square symbol to the right.

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