

SOCIAL STUDIES

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Chapter 5



Local Government Services

- ✓ Seniors' facilities (*e.g. Lifestyles Riverbend Square*)
- ✓ Public transportation (*e.g. LRT, ETS*)
- ✓ Streets and roads (*E.g. potholes, snow plow, cleaning, traffic lights, speed*)
- ✓ Libraries (*E.g. Edmonton Public Library*)
- ✓ Waste disposal (*E.g. recycling, garbage*)
- ✓ Fire Protection (*E.g. Edmonton Fire Rescue*)
- ✓ Animal control (*E.g. Edmonton Humane Society*)
- ✓ Parks and recreation (*Terwillger Recreation Center, Hawrelak Park*)

How do we pay for these services?

Most of the money is raised through taxes collected from people who own property, such as houses, businesses, and land, in the community.

Revenue - income

Most people feel it is their right to have local services provided. They are **RESPONSIBLE** for paying the taxes that make these services possible.

What the government spends money on is called **expenditures**, or expenses.



Local Government Makes Laws

Bylaws – laws that are passed by a local government. They are rules that specify people’s behaviour. These rules help keep people safe and help the community run smoothly.

Bylaws can only be enforced in the area where they have been passed. Every community has its own bylaws. People are responsible for knowing and obeying the bylaws. If they do not, justice usually requires that they **pay a fine**.

Examples of Bylaws:



New bylaws or changes to bylaws are usually introduced by a **councillor (a person elected to local government)** at a council meeting.

Council- is a group of elected representatives who make decisions for a local area.

The councillor makes a **motion (is an idea or proposal discussed and voted on at a meeting)** that the bylaw be passed.

