

Public Submission dated August 30, 2011 – Deane Purves

Subject: EPCOR By-law Change

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is time to Stop The Madness of adding more and more charges to our utility bills! Where are all our Property Tax dollars going that you need to add more charges to ever increasing utility bills in order to run this city?

Every time this happens I cringe and count my pennies to make sure my budget can handle more ever-rising fees tacked on to my utility bills. My taxes, City, Provincial, and Federal, never get reduced and inflation is eating away at my income faster than I can earn it. Since my income is not bottomless, I fear the day when I will have to sell my residence because I can no longer afford outrageous utility bills.

Ever since some 'genius' decided de-regulation was a 'wonderful' idea and started 'passing on the fees' while reducing Business taxes, we, The Homeowner, have been plagued by increases that are increasing almost faster than we can financially manage. Added to the general cost of living that is inflating faster than income adjustments, Bureaucracy has created a recipe for disaster. There will come the day when Mr. and Mrs. Edmonton will no longer have funds left to spend on other discretionary items as it has all gone to 'fees', 'charges', 'adjustments' and other such invented additions to our 'taxes' masquerading as utility bills as we are forced to support the need for profit of publicly traded companies.

Stop this bylaw change proposal. Step back and re-examine all the arguments for the change, who is asking for it, why they are asking for it. Honesty, Integrity and full disclosure should be a permanent requirement for all City business.

I thank you for hearing my plea,

Deane Purves