



Statement From CTF

Taxpayers Federation Commends Markham For Keeping Zero

Toronto (11 February 2009) – The Canadian Taxpayers Federation (CTF) would like to commend Markham Council for its efforts to keep property taxes to reasonable levels. During difficult economic times, when people are concerned about keeping their jobs, now is the right time to keep costs down for taxpayers. Instead of asking for more from ratepayers and giving less in service, as many other municipalities are doing, Markham will be able both to invest and build while protecting ratepayers.

Council has undertaken the hard work to protect ratepayers from substantial increases like those been suffered in other municipalities such as a likely 4.5% increase in Mississauga and a likely 4% in Toronto. While user fees will go up, this is a more principled approach to cost recovery.

The CTF thanks Council for its E3 initiative that has contributed to protecting ratepayers. We strongly encourage regional governments and other Ontario municipalities to follow this example to further protect ratepayers from tax increases during tough economic times.

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