

Budgeting & Finance

Learn the foundations of strategic budgeting, taxation and financial oversight and understand how to fund decisions that support your community's priorities.

About the course

Participants will explore the value of aligning financial decisions with the values, priorities and long-term vision for the community. This course supports elected officials in gaining a strong foundation in understanding how to interpret financial information to make informed decisions about funding, reserves, debt and taxation.

Quality Content

All EOEP courses are developed using subject matter experts from the municipal sector and reviewed by Alberta Municipalities and Rural Municipalities of Alberta.

Experienced and Independent Instructors

Take advantage of having councillors learn from independent instructors who are experienced in the municipal sector and reinforce concepts without any perception of bias. EOEP instructors represent a mix of individuals from consulting firms, law firms, and current and retired municipal staff and elected officials.

Cost Per Person

Online: \$295 + GST
In-Person: \$395 + GST

What you receive

Each participant will receive a course workbook, presentation materials, and the ability to ask questions during the course.

Other Benefits

A key benefit of this course is the opportunity to connect with fellow municipal leaders across Alberta. You'll engage in networking and collaborative discussions, share experiences and build relationships that support you throughout your council term.

Can administrators take EOEP courses?

Yes! CAOs and senior administrators can benefit from taking the course to understand the concepts being taught to your council so you can be on the same page.

Request to Host a Course in Your Region

If you are looking for greater flexibility in scheduling, our [Hometown EOEP](#) program gives you the option to bring expert training directly to your council at a time and location of your convenience. Choose from online or in-person delivery and you can invite neighbouring municipalities to share the experience and cost.

Questions and to Register for Budgeting & Finance

Visit eoep.ca or email Registrar@eoep.ca.

What is covered in Budgeting & Finance?

Introduction to Municipal Finances

- Learn how municipal finances are structured and guided by legislation
- Explore policy and priority setting influence financial decisions
- Understand the key principles of transparency, accountability and sustainability

Assessment & taxation

- Learn how properties are assessed, and taxes are calculated
- Explore the relationship between assessment, mill rates, and revenue
- Understand how to communicate tax impacts to the public

Strategic Financial Planning

- Learn how planning support long-term sustainability
- Explore the connection between strategic & business plan and budgets
- Understand how decisions impact priorities, investments and trade-offs

Reserves & Debt Management

- Learn the different types of reserves and their intended uses.
- Explore how municipalities use debt.
- Understand how these tools support long-term financial health and flexibility

Understanding Budgets

- Learn the difference between capital and operating budgets
- Explore the budget cycle and how council engages at each stage
- Understand how assumptions, trends and pressures impact service levels.

Financial Monitoring

- Learn how to interpret key documents and reports
- Explore trends, indicators and questions council should ask
- Understand how transparency supports decision making and builds trust

The Elected Officials Education Program is a non-profit proudly operated through a partnership of [Alberta Municipalities](#) and the [Rural Municipalities of Alberta](#) to support Alberta's municipal elected officials to serve their community effectively.