

School Support Notice Fact Sheet

In your municipality, or in a portion of it, both a public and a Roman Catholic separate school district exist in the same area.

The *Constitution Act* establishes Alberta's public and separate school systems on the basis of religion (either Protestant or Roman Catholic). School boards and tax-collecting authorities are allowed and required to ask for the declaration contained in this form.

Individual property owners who are Roman Catholic must direct their property taxes to the Roman Catholic separate school district. A Roman Catholic is defined as an individual who recognizes the Pope as head of the Church (e.g., Roman Catholic, Greek Catholic, Ukrainian Catholic).

When property is sold, the purchaser is required to file this School Support Notice with the local municipality. Property owners can also file a new School Support Notice or change an existing School Support Notice at any time. The notice is effective in the taxation year following the year in which it is filed. Only property owners—not tenants—are entitled to file a School Support Notice.

If property is owned by a Roman Catholic and a non-Roman Catholic, the municipality will assign the taxes to the public and Roman Catholic separate school districts in accordance with the percentage of ownership indicated beside the name of each owner.

To ensure that property taxes are directed correctly, it is important that all property owners are designated on the School Support Notice and that

the percentage of ownership adds up to 100 per cent.

If there is insufficient space to list all the registered property owners and to make the necessary declarations on the School Support Notice, please use an extra sheet to indicate the name, address, declaration and percentage of ownership of the additional registered property owners.

This notice applies to all property within the municipality owned by individuals regardless of whether the property owners reside in municipality.

If this School Support Notice is not returned to the municipality, the individual owners' property would be assessable for public school purposes and the taxes on such property will be directed to the Alberta School Foundation Fund and redistributed on an equal per-student amount to the public and separate school boards in Alberta.