

## Cost of living

Lethbridge residents enjoy a higher quality of life and a lower cost of living.

Low housing prices and affordable consumer goods and services all contribute to the cost advantages of Lethbridge. We consistently achieve high rankings in cost-of-living and quality-of-life studies. Consider these facts:

- By living in Alberta, you won't be burdened by a provincial sales tax. This means paying at least 7% less for goods and services compared to other Canadian provinces and most U.S. states.
- Alberta's tax advantage comes from a low single-rate tax system, coupled with the highest basic and spousal exemptions in Canada.
- Lower transportation costs are a result of short commute times (get to work in 10 to 15 minutes), complimented by reasonably priced parking. Plus, Alberta has the lowest gasoline tax among the provinces.

The "basket of goods" used in this survey is comprised of those goods and services perceived to be regularly purchased by Alberta consumers (based on the Survey of Household Spending) living in cities and medium/small sized towns. The survey items are judged to be commonly available in the selected communities to allow for price comparability.

For further details about individual items within this commodities price comparison, contact Heather McIntosh-Rivera at (403) 331-0022 ext. 109 or heather@chooselethbridge.ca.

