

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wednesday, May 30<sup>th</sup> 2018



## **Kentville Passes \$12.9M Operating Budget**

### **KENTVILLE, NOVA SCOTIA –**

The Town of Kentville approved its 2018-2019 Operating Budget totaling \$12.9 million at last night's Council meeting. The Operating Budget is the Town's roadmap for operations which provides service-delivery to its residential and corporate citizens.

"Kentville delivers exceptional services while maintaining affordable property tax rates," stated Mayor Snow. "The development of this budget involved making tough decisions between essential programs, increased expenditures, legislative requirements and the wants and needs of various stakeholders. I'm very proud of the work done by staff and council to complete this budget for the Town."

"Council approved a balanced budget of \$12,872,100", stated Director of Finance Debra Crowell. "Of this total \$ 7.8 million will go towards delivering the day-to-day services for the Town. The remaining levy of \$ 5.1 million is collected by the Town on behalf of other agencies including the Province of Nova Scotia, Property Valuation Services Corporation, Kentville Volunteer Fire Department, Kentville Water Utility, along with fixed costs including transfers to joint boards and commissions. These programs and services are not under the direct control of the Town. This is the first year in 7 that Kentville is forced to increase its residential rate. Even though the Town's departments have skinned their budgets to the bone, many of our mandatory and fixed expenditures have increased. Coupled with these matters is the shortfall in many revenue streams and the miniscule effect the 0.9% CAP provided in new revenue. This year Kentville cannot absorb the shortfall to balance the 2018-2019 Operating Budget."

Including all area rates, Residential taxes in Kentville are set at \$1.51 and 4/5 cent per \$ 100 and increase of 2 and 2/5 cents over the previous year. Including all area rates, the Commercial tax rate remains unchanged at \$3.52 and 2/5 cents per \$100.

The Operating Budget reports are available at [www.kentville.ca](http://www.kentville.ca).

**Editorial contact: Chief Administrative Officer Mark Phillips**

Phone: 902-679-2501

[mphillips@kentville.ca](mailto:mphillips@kentville.ca)

[www.kentville.ca](http://www.kentville.ca)

**— END —**