

\*Le texte français suit.



**For immediate release**

December 2, 2019

### **City of Moncton Holds the Tax Rate and Sees Positive Growth**

**Moncton** – Moncton City Council adopted its 2020 Budget during the December 2, 2019 Public Council meeting. Residents' tax rate remains at \$1.6497 per hundred dollars of assessed value. In addition, following a successful year, the overall assessment base for the City increased by 4.07% for 2020 compared to 3.84% in 2019.

#### **Highlights of the 2020 Operating Budget, set at \$163.7 million, include:**

- Assessment increased by 4.07% in total, with increases of 3.81% in residential assessment and of 4.57% in non-residential assessment.
- Community funding and equalization grant – Based on the City's positive assessment increase, the equalization grant from the Province was reduced by \$800,000. The City will receive \$3.1M compared to \$3.9M in 2019.
- Slight increase of \$100,000 in fiscal and debt charges in 2020.
- Costing for RCMP policing increased by approximately 7.15% from 2019. Major factors include the addition of 4 new members and other cost increases.
- Codiac Transpo – Budget increase by more than \$530,000 (7.6%) from 2019 to support new routes and services.
- The City is contributing \$4.2M in grants to local organizations in 2020. This amount includes an allocation of \$832,000 to the Moncton Public Library.

#### **Highlights of the City's \$60.3 million Capital Budget include:**

- \$7.4 million in total contributions from the Operating Budget to help reduce debt financing requirements. This approach has been a strategic priority for the last several years and is helping to reduce the City's overall borrowing requirements and debt.
- Net Debt Borrowing for 2020 Capital Projects will total \$25.41M for General and Utility Funds combined.
- More than \$12.9M in projects for water and wastewater infrastructure improvements and renewal.
- More than \$12.5M in projects for storm sewer construction and improvements.
- More than \$15.4M in projects for road and sidewalk construction and improvement projects including the reconstruction of Lutz Street in the downtown core.
- More than \$10.25M in projects for other transportation services, including \$6.9M on Codiac Transpo fleet and infrastructure and \$1M on a major improvement to Mountain Road Corridor and Intersection.
- More than \$6.5M in recreation and culture expenditures, including enhancements to parks, trails, recreation master plan, and Centennial Park splash pad.

**Highlights of the \$40.1 million 2020 Utility Budget (water and wastewater) include:**

- The water and wastewater utility bill for a typical household in Moncton\* (average household use of 272 cubic meters as defined by the Province of New Brunswick) will increase by \$8.00 per year, or \$2.00 per quarterly bill. These figures are based on an annual bill of \$1,066 or quarterly bill of \$266.50. Included is a \$210 fee for the Greater Moncton Waste Water Commission (GMWC), which remains unchanged from 2019. This fee goes towards various improvements and upgrades at the wastewater facility as well as infrastructure improvements to Moncton's water distribution system.

\*Households in Moncton typically consume less water than the provincial average, thus reducing the expected amount of the water and wastewater rate increase.

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