



2016 GENERAL FUND BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The 2016 tax rate will increase by 2.15 cents from the current rate of \$1.2485 to \$1.2700 per \$100 of Assessment.

This represents an increase of \$49 on a property assessed at \$225,000.

- The tax base for Quispamsis is now at \$1.648 billion, which represents a 1.39% increase (\$22.5m) over the 2015 tax base.
- In 2007 and 2008 our tax rate was \$1.2656; in 2009 the rate was reduced and has been under the 2007 rate since that time. The 2016 rate will be less than 1/2 a cent above the 2007 rate.
- In 2016, the Community Funding and Equalization Grant will be increased to \$155,323, about \$55,000 over the amount we received for 2015. Since 2012 we have seen a total decrease in our equalization grant of \$659,529, or about 4.0 cents on the current tax rate. There has been nothing received to indicate whether this grant will continue at the current level or not.
- Effective April 1 we will no longer receive funding from the "Municipal Fine Revenue Sharing" program due to cancellation of this program by the province. For 2016 this represents a reduction in our revenue by \$61,716. For 2017 and subsequent years, the reduction for the full year will be \$82,288 or about 1/2 a cent on our tax rate.
- The total 2016 budget of \$22,687,026 reflects an increase in Total Expenditures of \$801,769.

The Net Budget, or total property tax revenue will increase by 635,628 or 3.13% over 2015, and is made up of:

Increased expenses	\$801,769
Increased Other Revenue (reduced total budget)	- 111,177
Increased Grant Revenue (reduced total budget)	- 54,964
Increase in Property Tax Revenue	<u>\$635,628</u>

- The cost of residential garbage and compost pick-up commencing January 1 and curb-side recycling commencing May 1, is included in the 2016 budget at total cost of \$1,121,000. This total also includes a one-time outlay of \$125,000 for recycling bins, advertising and promotion of this new service, pick-up from town dumpsters and containers, as well as the same bulky item pick-up service we have been providing to our residents.
- A transfer of \$165,000 from our Operating Reserve Fund will help to mitigate the cost of solid waste pick up in our tax rate. As a result of this and other decisions by council during budget deliberations, the increase in our tax rate for 2016 will be only 2.15 cents.



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- Debt Service Cost is now at 10.6% (*total debt cost as a % of total budget*). Note that again there is **no** provision for borrowing for capital expenditures with the exception of a capital lease for \$400,000.
- There is no provision in this budget for transfers to Reserve Funds
- Capital expenditures this year, targeted at \$3.6 million are funded from the General Operating Budget, \$1.5 m, and Gas Tax Funds \$1.2 m, \$400,000 from a capital lease, and \$425,000 from our capital reserve fund and include:
 - \$1,018,845 on Community Services Department capital projects, the major projects include: replacement of the Meenan's Cove Boat Launch; Lighting at Meenan's Cove Ball Field; and additional structural work at the Quispamsis Memorial Arena.
 - \$911,000 for equipment for Transportation Services;
 - \$168,000 for Local Improvements, Storm Sewer work and Traffic Calming;
 - \$1,474,000 is included for repairing and paving portions of the following streets:

Kallars Hill Road	Hammond River Road	Logan Drive
Valleyview Drive	Quispamsis Road	Stephen Court
Woodward Crescent	Cardinal Terrance	Grant Drive
Serenety Street	Marianne Drive	Boyd Avenue
Shadetree Lane		
- The Kennebecasis Regional Police Budget and the KV Fire Department is shared between Quispamsis and Rothesay at an approximate 60/40 split. The total town contribution to these protective services is \$6.0 million and has increased by \$156,000 or almost 1.0 cent over 2015.
- Our Protective Services budget also includes \$201,000 for our 60% share of the Telecom 911 service provided to the Kennebecasis Valley.
- KV Public Library operating budget is shared between Quispamsis and Rothesay based on population, with an annual adjustment for an estimated population increase. The approved budget is \$214,000, which represents an increase of 16% from 2015. Quispamsis share for 2016 is at 61.6% for a total cost of \$132,746.
- Our Public Transit budget is now at \$156,000, which is a decrease of \$16,000 from the expected costs for 2015 due to a full year for the realignment of the COMEX routes, and 2015 fare increases. The budget also includes the cost of snowplowing and maintenance of bus shelters, and this year \$2,500 was included to cover the cost of promotion of the COMEX service that the town subsidizes.



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- Enterprise Saint John – Quispamsis' share is included at \$112,000, slightly over 16% of the total Municipal Funding, which has not changed since 2013.
- Regional Facilities – Quispamsis' share of our legislated commitment to the following facilities in Saint John is now slightly over 16.5%, our share includes:

Harbour Station	\$116,180
Trade and Convention Centre	\$161,406
Imperial Theatre	\$ 85,317
Aquatic Centre	\$ 133,502
Saint John Arts Centre	<u>\$ 20,617</u>
QUISPAMISIS TOTAL SHARE OF REGIONAL FACILITIES	<u>\$517,022</u>

This total is a 12.5% increase of \$57,477 over 2015. (It should be noted that the 2015 budget also showed a 12.5% increase in this line item.)

- Together, our share of the Saint John Regional Facilities and Enterprise Saint John budgets total \$629,055 for 2016. Since amalgamation in 1998, we have contributed over \$7 million to these organizations located in Saint John.
- Grants and Donations include the following:
 - \$ 7,135 Pro Kids
 - \$ 3,000 Crimestoppers
 - \$ 2,500 Cherry Brook Zoo
 - \$ 500 NB Special Olympics
 - \$ 1,500 Saint John Theatre Company
 - \$ 5,000 OASIS Youth Centre
 - \$ 25,000 Support for YM/YWCA for Syrian Refugees
 - \$ 1,500 Elementary Literacy Friends
 - \$ 5,000 Dalhousie Medicine NB (*5th of 10 year commitment*)
 - \$ 5,000 Key Industries Building A Brighter Tomorrow Campaign
 - \$17,500 UNBSJ Forging the Futures Campaign (*10th of 10 year commitment*)
- As a result of new legislation effective January 1, 2013, we are obligated to share the cost of “Collaborative Services and Regional Planning” for Region 9, Regional Services Commission, based on our pro rata share of tax base plus population. Our 14.9% share of the \$44,198 municipal portion of the budget for this item is \$7,102.
- Again for 2016, the town will be providing life guards at both the Gondola Point Beach and the Meenan’s Cove Beach at a total cost to the town of \$66,700 for the summer season. The cost is about a \$3,000, increase over 2015.