

# THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF CALLANDER

## MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Re: 2019 Budget – General Ratepayer

At a Meeting on May 7, 2019, Council for the Municipality of Callander adopted its 2019 General Ratepayer Budget. The Budget process consisted of public meetings held on March 12, 19 and 26 and April 2, 8, 24 and 30, 2019.

The 2019 Budget will continue to move the Municipality towards achievement of the goals and priorities identified in the 2019 Strategic Plan.

In addition to maintaining existing service and programming levels, Council is focused on continued investment in infrastructure and further development of the Asset Management Plan which will guide future needs and planning while ensuring continued fiscal responsibility.

Callander's 2019 key Budget Initiatives include the following:

- In accordance with the 5-year infrastructure plan, rehabilitate King Street including ditching and culverts and undertake improvements to MacDonald Road, Pinecreek Road South and Tillicum Bay Road.
- Undertake a Road Needs Study and culvert/drainage assessment in order to inform and update the 5-year infrastructure plan.
- Develop a Community Economic Development Strategy
- Continue to host the various annual community events.
- Explore opportunities for shared services with neighboring municipalities.
- Continue with beautification initiatives and improvements to Centennial Park and the land near the municipal dock.
- Finalize and implement a new municipal website.

The 2019 Tax Levy increase (i.e. required property taxes to balance the budget) is 2.98% (3.72% in 2018).

The 2019 Tax Rate increase (i.e. how the levy is distributed amongst the assessed properties) is 1.44% (2.10% in 2018).

The average 2019 residential tax increase is \$57 (for the combined municipal and education tax rates) which is less than the \$72 increase in 2018.

Council wishes to thank the citizens of Callander for their valuable input throughout the 2019 Budget process.