



## 2017 BUDGET INFORMATION

The Council of the Township of Machar has approved a 2017 levy of \$1,735,528 up \$73,638 from the 2016 levy of \$1,661,890. The Overall Levy Change for 2017 is 2.76%. This is in line with previous years: 2.7% in 2016 and 2.5% in 2015. The effect on an individual's property tax will vary depending on its assessment change from last year, but dollar amounts are expected to be minimal. The Tax Impact on a Median/Typical Property - Single Family Home is \$29.11 for 2017 or 2.09%.

Funding to the municipality through the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund was increased by \$19,600 in 2017. We saw an increase of \$45,242 or 26.6% to our Policing costs for 2017 which is year 3 of 5 in a phase in under the new billing model implemented by the Province. We committed to a new Fire Pumper in 2017, this is in addition the new Fire Tanker delivered in 2016. Our South River Machar Volunteer Fire Dept was successful in achieving Superior Tanker Shuttle Accreditation (see information in our 2017 Spring Newsletter) which has resulted in insurance premium savings for our citizens.

Our costs for South River Machar Fire Dept increased by 3.3% in 2017, South River Machar Arena was held to 2% to coincide with our Township road operations and Landfill, South River Machar Library is up 2.75%. Our costs for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit saw no increase and Provincial Ambulance/Emergency Medical Services is up 3%, District Social Services saw a very slight increase at less than 0.5%, Home for the Aged 1.2% and Property Assessment is slightly lower.

We have committed \$15,000 to the South River Lions Club Sesquicentennial 2017 Project to construct a Community Pavilion on the South River Machar Arena grounds in celebration of Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday. This is a partner project with the Village of South River contributing an equal amount and the Lions Club contributing a larger amount. Parks and Recreation includes an upgraded boat launch for Eagle Lake at our Eagle Lake Estates Park. The project consists of a dock walkway and pre-cast concrete ramp to improve accessibility. The upgrade will provide proper access to Eagle Lake.

Road construction projects for 2017 include a single surface treatment over the entirety of Riding Ranch Rd and updating of our Public Works fleet from a 2005 to a new Pick-Up. We continue to commit the necessary funds to improve the maintenance and quality of our overall road network. In a comparison of 2016 Tax Rates, we continue to have the lowest Tax Rate in the area and in the last 2 years have experienced the greatest growth of the Joint Building Committee municipalities. JBC municipalities are: Burks Falls, Ryerson, Joly, Machar, South River, Strong and Sundridge.

Mayor Lynda Carleton  
Township of Machar