



CITY OF CORNER BROOK 2020 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Overall Budget

- Total spending in the 2020 budget is \$36,558,400. This represents an increase of just \$810,500 or 2.27% over our 2019 budget. This is approximately the same as inflation.
- Increased costs associated with additional Capital account for \$265,200 or 33% of this budget increase.
- The City's debt servicing costs have been reduced to under 14% of total annual expenditures.

Poll Tax

The Poll Tax has been eliminated. This "double tax" unfairly targets young people and those with low income. It is an administrative burden to small business. Of course, currently billed and outstanding amounts will still need to be collected.

Property Taxes

There will be no increases to residential and commercial property tax, and service levies.

Business Tax

There will be no increases to business taxes and the 10% downtown business improvement levy will not be collected in 2020.

Public Works Improvements

The City will be making much needed changes in the way we tackle common maintenance activity.

- Curb and sidewalk repair budget to increase by 31%
- New equipment purchases for street cleanup
- Additional funds for asphalt repairs due to water cuts
- New issue tracking software to provide more timely feedback on citizen complaints

Climate Change

In addition to mitigating the effects of climate change by employing more robust infrastructure, the City will do its part to reduce Green House Gas emissions. We recently tabled our Local Action Plan outlining a number of specific measures we will be taking.

Tourism

The City continues to invest in tourism. After hiring a new tourism coordinator last year, the City plans to task additional resources to building a regional tourism destination. Additional investments include:

- Purchase and operate street train on a permanent basis
- Fund completion of projects outlined in STAR report, including regional motorized and non-motorized trail development, regional branding, establishment of destination festivals and events
- Summer 2020 Festival to be announced soon

Health and Wellness

The works has been completed to establish high level costing and conceptual design for a new Regional Aquatics Centre based on Grenfell Campus. The City will continue to pursue funding for construction and operation. Other new investments include:

- Doubling of the budget for playground improvements
- Additional programming at the Civic Centre for small children and seniors
- Establishment of three new community gardens