



Placentia

Newfoundland & Labrador

SEMI-ANNUAL COMMUNITY UPDATE



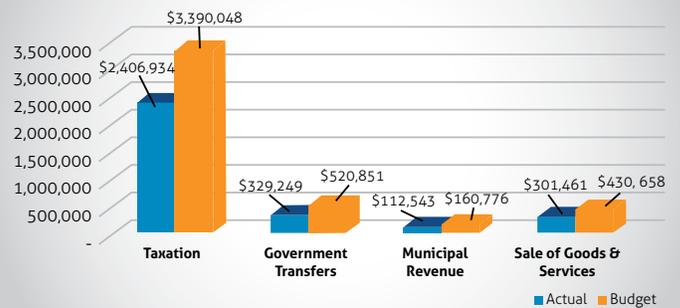
FINANCIAL Update

The Finance Committee of Council recently completed a detailed review of our financial picture following six months of operations under the 2017 Municipal Operating Budget.

At the end of June 2017, the Town had collected 70% of budgeted revenue for a total of \$3,150,187. Because of the commitment of residents and businesses in paying their taxes, our collection rates continue to be strong. We thank residents for their support in this regard. The expenditures at the end of June were ranked at 52% of budget at a value of \$2,355,424.00. This combination of strong fiscal management and collection rates provides a healthy financial position at mid-year.

The tables shown provide a comparison of each budget area in operational revenue and expenses. Management will continue to monitor the expenses in comparison to budget with a goal of completing the year in alignment with the forecasted balanced budget. Residents and businesses with outstanding tax balances are encouraged to settle accounts to avoid interest and collection measures.

Operational Revenue as of June 30, 2017



Operational Expenses as of June 30, 2017



IMPROVING Infrastructure, IMPROVING Service



DUNVILLE WATER LINE PROJECT

The next phase of infrastructure improvements program aimed at improving delivery of water services began this month with the start of a project that will see the installation of a new main water line and service lines in Dunville. The project will take place along the Main Road from the area near Fewer's Road to Station Road. The project is valued at \$1,966,906.41 and is cost shared with the Provincial and Federal Governments under the Clean Water Waste Water funding program. The contractor for the project is M.J. Hickey Construction Ltd. and the engineering consultant is Progressive Engineering and Consulting Ltd.

This project is a continuation of a plan adopted by council in 2014 aimed at improving water service in the community. Previous projects under this plan included the completion of phase one of main line and service lines in Freshwater and the installation of new water storage tanks in Freshwater and Jerseyside. Goals of the plan include further line replacements, a change of the water supply for Dunville and construction of a new water treatment facility.

RECENT PROJECTS COMPLETED

Several other projects have been completed in recent months including:

- The deteriorated waste water forcemain in the Bond's Path area has been replaced and the lift station in this area has been upgraded to facilitate increased capacity.
- Lift station upgrades have been completed at Blenheim Street, Orcan Drive and Southeast Road
- Work has been completed to sink the main water line crossing Placentia Gut. This line was identified as becoming unsecure from the bottom of the sea and has now been secured. Cost of this project was \$46,000 with funding provided by the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment.

STREET MAINTENANCE

Throughout the spring and summer, the Public Works Department has been working to patch pot holes on municipal streets. This work will continue as needed throughout the year. Residents are encouraged to report pot holes on municipal streets by contacting the Town Hall.

Council has approved the expenditure of \$100,000 for the paving of several municipal streets. Town Management has worked with the Public Works Department to identify and prioritize streets that require pavement upgrades. Several of these streets will be completed this summer.



BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS

Upgrades to the Placentia Bay Cultural Arts Centre have been completed. This included the installation of new sound and stage lighting systems, stage and flooring improvements and enhancements to the kitchen facility. These improvements were in response to suggestions received from user groups and are designed to increase the functionality of the facility. The improvements were completed in partnership with the Department of Tourism, Culture, Industry and Innovation and the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency.

Through a partnership with the Placentia Area Development Association improvements have been made to "The Hut" which houses the office, storage and rehearsal space for Placentia Area Theatre d'Heritage. Improvements included installation of new windows and various interior and exterior renovations.

The Wellness Room upstairs at Unity PARC Arena has seen new flooring installed. This improvement makes the room more comfortable and suitable for use by various fitness and recreation programs which have been successfully held in the space over the last year. This upgrade was funded by the Community Healthy Living Fund.

PERMITS

The Town has issued permits for five new residential developments and nineteen accessory buildings so far in 2017. Activity is increasing at the Argentia Industrial Park with the return of Husky Energy and prospects of other new ventures are in the planning stages. Mobile Vendors continue to flourish with short-term services being provided in such fields as mobile pressure washing, roadside sales, art retail, and car detailing.



SAVING Energy, REDUCING Costs

PLACENTIA REGIONAL Wellness Centre

The development of a Regional Wellness Centre for the Town of Placentia remains a priority for the Town and its community partner the Placentia Lions Club. Discussions continue with the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment on the design and funding model required to ensure the facility becomes a feasible reality. Discussions have been held with Minister Eddie Joyce and senior officials in the Department about this project who report that the file continues to advance in a positive direction. Discussions have also been held with MP Ken McDonald to explore support from the Federal Government for the project. The Town and its partner the Placentia Lions Club thank the public for their continued support of this initiative.

ELECTION

Residents are reminded that the Municipal Election is **September 26, 2017**. For those considering offering themselves as candidates, Nomination Day is August 29, 2017. The Advance Poll will take place September 23, 2017. Watch for updated information on our website.

The Town of Placentia is pleased to announce that we have embarked on an Energy and Facility Renewal Program with Honeywell, our energy services partner selected through a recent Request for Proposal Process. The program will focus on identifying opportunities to upgrade our building infrastructure, conserve energy, reduce operating costs and lower environmental emissions; all contributing to an improved environment for users of our facilities.

The first phase of the program involves an assessment by Honeywell Auditors of the Town's building infrastructure to validate the current conditions. Systems such as heating, ventilation, air conditioning, mechanical equipment and lighting will be the primary areas of focus.

Once the initial assessment is complete, Honeywell will work with the Town to jointly select the upgrades that align with our energy, sustainability and facility goals. The scope of work selected will be aimed at revitalizing the Town's infrastructure while permanently reducing electrical consumption and operating costs, as well as lowering our environmental footprint.

We are excited to be starting the first phase of the program. Upgrading our infrastructure, greening our facilities and improving our energy efficiency are important to council. The program with Honeywell will support these initiatives over the long term and allow us to demonstrate our environmental stewardship to the community. The program is designed to be self-funded with guaranteed energy savings.

TAKE A LOOK AROUND: Community Improvements

Our community maintenance team has been busy this year carrying out improvements and upgrades within our town, including:

- Community clean up which collected 16 Tonnes of waste from around our town!
- Residents are encouraged to help reduce the accumulation of litter in our community. Most of the waste which is found on our streets and along roadsides is preventable. Please don't litter!
- Brush cutting which is taking place through a \$25,000 grant from the Department of Transportation and Works to carry out brush cutting on provincially owned streets
- Regular maintenance of fields, parks and green spaces continues weekly
- Street markings, including the Pride Crosswalk, have been installed
- The Walking Bridge at Larkin's Pond has been repaired and reopened
- The Boardwalk at the Great Beach has been freshly painted
- Picnic tables in various greenspaces and playgrounds have been repaired and painted
- Softball fields at the William Hogan Ball Park and the Willard Hatfield Ball Park have seen upgrades to the warning track, fencing, netting and scoreboard
- Popular tourism locations including the Seven Island Lookout and Freshwater Beach Gazebo have seen improvements and painting
- A new flag pole has been installed at the Coal Yard Playground; the cannons have returned to Fort Frederick and St. Luke's Anglican Church; and the palisades, boardwalk and gazebo at Fort Louis have been repaired and painted.
- A new speed radar sign has been installed on Prince William Drive as a part of our three-year traffic calming strategy

LOOKING FOR MORE NEWS from Council?

You can keep up to date on news from your town council by reading our monthly newsletter the **Municipal Minute!** Published each month following the regular public council meeting this newsletter is designed to keep residents informed of happenings in the town. The newsletter highlights important decisions made by council, information on expenditures and permit approvals, updates on programs, reviews of community events, good news stories, congratulatory messages and more! The **Municipal Minute** is available online at www.placentia.ca, in print at the Town Hall and can also be viewed on Channel 6 Ads. Didn't know about this until now? All previous editions of the Municipal Minute are available online! The full record of Council minutes are approved at the following Council meeting and are then posted on the town's web site for public information.

STAY INFORMED: Sign up for Placentia Aware!

The Town continues to roll out the **Placentia Aware Community Notification System**. Operating like the automated system used by the schools in our community this system is designed to provide residents with essential information. Notifications will be sent in the event of emergencies, service interruptions, street closures and other important municipal notices. You also have the choice to subscribe to receive town newsletters and information about town sponsored events. Information can be delivered to your landline or cellular phone, by text message and e-mail.

Residents are encouraged to register for this important service by visiting the Placentia Aware Sign Up page linked from www.placentia.ca. In addition, registration forms will soon be distributed by mail and are available at the Town Hall. The town will start using this system for distribution of information in August 2017.

