



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Council brings down \$19.9M operating budget for 2022

(Gander, NL – January 12, 2022) On Wednesday, January 12th, Corporate Services Chair, Councillor Wilson Hoffe, presented the Town Council of Gander’s budget for 2022.

Council’s overall operating budget for 2022 has matching revenues and expenditures in the amount of \$19,897,211, an increase of \$941,975 or 5% over the 2021 budget. Much of this increase will go toward mitigating a projected operating deficit, reducing our long-term debt, and making strategic investments in our future.

In 2022, Council will introduce a revised and more equitable business tax classification system which will more closely align its rates with those of other municipalities. While this will generate approximately \$240,000 of additional annual revenue in 2022, most businesses will see only a small change, either a slight increase or a modest decrease in their tax bill.

The residential property tax mil rate will increase from 7.3 mils to 7.6 mils while the mil rate for commercial properties will move from 7.15 mils to 7.7 mils. There will also be an increase in the residential water and sewer levy of \$100 per household, increasing it from \$450 to \$550 annually. This increase is necessary to offset higher operational costs for water and wastewater treatment. Overall, an average household appraised at \$250,000 will see an increase of between \$15 and \$16 per month.

During the budget presentation, Councillor Hoffe announced Council’s commitment to investing \$450,000 toward the development of approximately 15 acres of new commercial land at the corner of Cooper and James Boulevards. This will be in partnership with the Gander International Airport Authority and will further solidify Gander as the dominant retail service hub for the central region.

“In 2022, we will be taking meaningful measures to address a significant projected operating deficit, reduce our long-term debt and continue to make strategic investments in our future. This will be challenging as we continue to navigate a pandemic, contend with inflationary pressures on the cost of many goods and services, and a slowed but steady economic return to normal.” – ***Councillor Wilson Hoffe, Chair of Corporate Services***

The budget presentation and schedule of tax rates and fees are now available at www.gandercanada.com/budgets.

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