

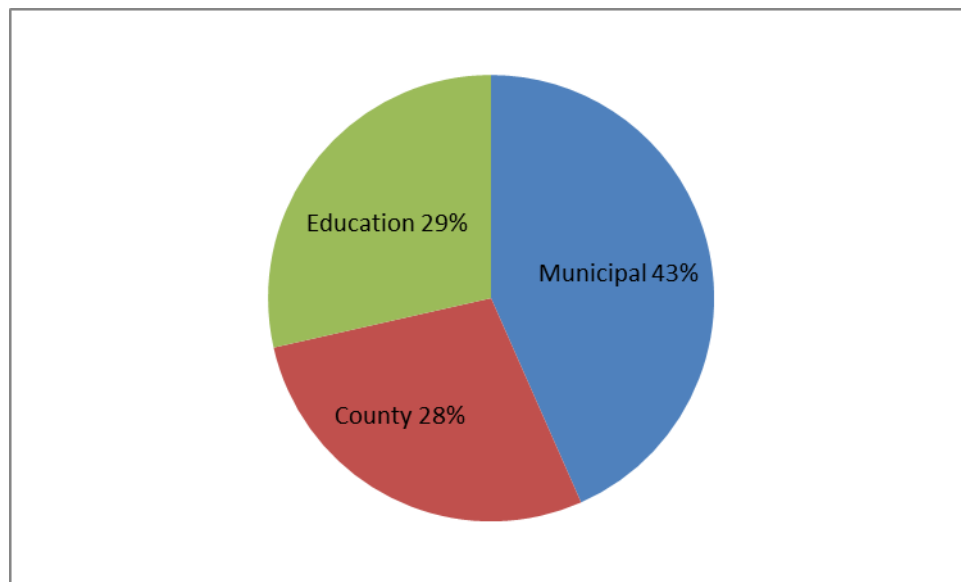
Township of Algonquin Highlands

2016 Budget Highlights

The 2016 Municipal Budget has been adopted by Council and with the County and Education tax rates, the total residential tax rate will increase by 2.18%.

The total Residential Tax Rate for 2016 will be 0.658322% which results in taxes of \$658.32 per \$100,000.00 of assessment.

The Residential Taxes are shared as follows:



Municipal Budget Highlights

Ontario Provincial Police:

- The OPP billing model, implemented by the Provincial Government in 2015, has resulted in a dramatic increase in the cost that the Municipality is required to pay for OPP services. The increase in 2016 to our Township is \$237,166, which represents an increase to our Municipal Tax Levy of 5.78%. This OPP increase will continue every year over the 5 year phase in period.

Administration:

- The Township's website will be upgraded and reconfigured for mobile use.
- The North Shore Road Office is being renovated and enlarged. The entrance to the Office will be revised to provide for accessible access, as well as barrier free washrooms. This will be completed with the benefit of funding from the Federal Enabling Accessibility Fund, in the amount of \$32,500.
- An application for a future solar installation is included in this budget.

Protection to Persons & Property:

- Fire Services will see the purchase of two new medium duty rescue vehicles. One in each of Stations 60 and 70 in accordance with the Master Fire Plan. These vehicles were tendered in 2015 and will be received in 2016.
- The replacement of a new 3/4 Ton pick-up for the Fire Services, in accordance with the Asset Management Plan is also included in 2016.

Building/By-Law:

- The Building/By-Law Department will see the purchase of a new SUV vehicle, which will provide savings in fuel costs.

Roads:

- The Public Works Garage in Dorset was replaced in 2015, and an application for future solar installations is included in the 2016 Budget for this facility.
- A new Tandem truck is being purchased, in accordance with the Township's Asset Management Plan, with the cost to be paid by the Equipment Replacement Reserve. The 2004 Tandem truck will be sold, upon delivery of the new truck.
- Reconstruction and surface treatment of Stanhope Airport Road and Buckslide Road is scheduled this year.
- Continue tar and chip maintenance program by single surface treating several roads in the Oxtongue Lake area.

Waste:

- The chipping program and removal of construction debris will continue at landfill sites.
- The Dorset Landfill Site has been converted to a Transfer Facility, and new solar-powered compaction units were installed to reduce costs.
- The Township will be commencing a landfill expansion process in 2016 for the Pine Springs site.

Airport:

- Funds have been allocated for staff to investigate development possibilities on the land to the north of the Airport and the new MNR facility.
- A new deck and accessible ramp will be constructed at the Airport Terminal Building.
- A webcam will be installed at the Airport.
- An application for future solar installations is included in this budget.

Dorset Health Hub:

- A \$20,000.00 contribution to the capital requirements for the Dorset Health Hub has been included in the budget.

Parks/Trails:

- The Township has been approved for hosting the Youth Rangers program again in 2016.
- The Stanhope Park will be receiving new accessible washrooms and walkways, with the benefit of funding from the Federal Enabling Accessibility Fund, in the amount \$18,000.00.
- A design package, providing options for replacing the Beetle Lake Trail Bridge will be reviewed this year, in preparation for any funding opportunities that may assist with the replacement of this bridge.

Recreation:

- Continued operation of various recreational programs including soccer, swim and day camp programs.
- The Dorset Recreation Centre will have renovations to the showers completed in 2016.
- The Oxtongue Lake Community Centre will have substantial repairs completed to the pointing on the building.
- The Stanhope Firefighters' Hall will benefit from the installation of a new Air Conditioning Unit.
- Several improvements will be made to the Dorset Tower in accordance with the Engineer's Report, and the public will benefit from the installation of a webcam at the Tower.

Docks and Landings:

- \$12,000.00 worth of dock and landing repairs will be completed at the Raven Lake Landing.
- Maintenance programs and minor improvements are scheduled where required at various Township access points.

Planning:

- The Township will be updating the Official Plan this year. Meetings to obtain public input will be scheduled in the near future.