



## **For Immediate Release**

**June 19, 2025**

### ***Richmond County Approves 2025–2026 Budget with No Increase to Tax Rates and Continued Investment in Community Wellbeing***

**Richmond County, NS** – Richmond County Council has approved its 2025–2026 municipal budget, holding the line on both residential and commercial tax rates. The balanced \$17.47 million operating budget reflects Council’s commitment to financial responsibility while continuing to reinvest in community priorities such as healthcare, housing, waste management, and affordability.

“Council and staff worked hard to avoid a tax increase this year because we understand the real impact rising costs are having on our residents,” said Warden Lois Landry. “Instead, we chose to focus on protecting essential services, investing in long-term sustainability, and supporting the wellbeing of our residents—especially those most vulnerable.”

#### **Key Highlights of the 2025–2026 Budget**

##### **✔ No Tax Rate Increases**

Richmond County maintains a residential rate of \$0.85 and a commercial rate of \$2.15 per \$100 of assessment, with no increases for the coming fiscal year.

##### **✔ Expanded Low-Income Property Tax Exemption**

Council has increased supports through the Low-Income Property Tax Exemption Program, recognizing affordability challenges faced by many residents.

##### **✔ Strong Commitment to Community Support**

The County continues to offer meaningful contributions through tax exemptions for community halls, non-profit organizations, and churches, as well as an expanded community grants program open throughout the year. These investments reflect Richmond’s commitment to enabling grassroots leadership and volunteerism across our communities.

##### **✔ Healthcare and Housing Investments**

Significant funds are allocated for physician recruitment, the Strait Richmond Hospital Foundation, CBU’s new medical school, seniors’ safety initiatives, and support for housing-related infrastructure. Council continues to prioritize the long-term health and wellness of its residents.

✔ **Waste Management Upgrades and Transition**

Ongoing improvements at the Waste Transfer Station support regulatory compliance and better service delivery. This year also marks the transition to in-house curbside collection, a proactive move in anticipation of changes related to circular materials and extended producer responsibility.

“This budget represents our continued focus on people and place,” said Warden Landry. “We are investing wisely today so that Richmond County remains a healthy, welcoming, and affordable place to live for years to come.”

To view the full 2025–2026 budget, please visit [www.richmondcounty.ca](http://www.richmondcounty.ca).

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