



**The Corporation of the County of Northumberland  
County Council  
Minutes**

**December 18, 2024, 9:30 a.m.  
Council Chambers  
555 Courthouse Road, Cobourg, ON K9A 5J6  
Hybrid Meeting (In-Person and Virtual)**

Members Present: Warden Brian Ostrander  
Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky  
Councillor Lucas Cleveland  
Councillor Robert Crate  
Councillor Scott Jibb  
Councillor John Logel  
Councillor Mandy Martin

---

**1. Notices**

**1.a Accessible Format**

If you require this information in an alternate format, please contact the Accessibility Coordinator at [accessibility@northumberland.ca](mailto:accessibility@northumberland.ca) or 1-800-354-7050 ext 2327.

**1.b Meeting Format**

This Council Meeting was held using a hybrid meeting model. The public were invited to attend in-person in Council Chambers, view the meeting via the live stream, or join online or by phone using Zoom Conference Technology.

**2. Call to Order**

Warden Brian Ostrander called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

**2.a Territorial Land Acknowledgement**

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

**3.a Agenda dated December 18, 2024**

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-900**

**Moved by** Councillor Robert Crate

**Seconded by** Councillor Scott Jibb

"**That** the County Council agenda for Wednesday, December 18, 2024 be approved, as amended, to include a time sensitive New Business Item (18.3) regarding a communication from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding 'Encampment Initiatives'."

**Carried**

**4. Declarations of Interest**

- *Councillor Mandy Martin declared a disqualifying interest with regards to agenda item 17.c (1) 'Delegation 'Art Gallery of Northumberland'*
- [Link to Declaration of Interest Form](#)

**5. Presentations**

**5.a Outgoing Warden's Remarks and 2024 Year in Review Video Presentation**

Warden Brian Ostrander

- Video link: <https://youtu.be/oKvap6GOGvk>

**6. Presiding Officer for the Election of Warden and Deputy Warden**

Maddison Mather, Manager of Legislative Services / Clerk

**7. Election of Warden**

**7.a Motion to Proceed with the Election of the Warden**

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-901**

**Moved by** Councillor Lucas Cleveland

**Seconded by** Councillor Brian Ostrander

"**Whereas** the Northumberland County Procedural By-law provides for the election of a Warden;

**Now Therefore Be It Resolved That** Council proceed with the election of Warden for one year, commencing on the 18th day of December, 2024."

**Carried**

**7.b Motion to Call for Nominations for Warden**

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-902**

**Moved by** Councillor Lucas Cleveland

**Seconded by** Councillor Brian Ostrander

"**That** Brian Ostrander be nominated as Warden of the County of Northumberland; and

**Further That** Brian Ostrander consents to be nominated for the position of Warden."

**Accepted**

**7.c Nominators Speak to the Nominations**

**7.d Second and Final Call for Nominations for Warden Position**

**7.e Motion to Close Nominations for the Warden Position**

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-903**

**Moved by** Councillor Olena Hankivsky

**Seconded by** Councillor Robert Crate

"**That** nominations for the election of Warden be closed."

**Carried**

**7.f Appointment of Scrutineer (if required)**

N/A

**7.g Vote (if required)**

N/A

**7.h Warden-Elect Confirmation**

Maddison Mather, Manager of Legislative Services / Clerk

- Brian Ostrander was acclaimed as the Warden of the County of Northumberland.

**7.i Motion to Authorize the Destruction of the Ballots (if required)**

N/A

**7.j Declaration of Office by Warden-Elect**

Administered by Maddison Mather, Manager Legislative Services / Clerk

**7.k Warden Presented with Warden's Chain of Office and Pin**

**7.l Warden's Remarks, Warden Takes the Chair**

**8. Election of Deputy Warden**

**8.a Motion to Proceed with the Election of Deputy Warden**

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-904**

**Moved by** Councillor Robert Crate

**Seconded by** Councillor Scott Jibb

"**Whereas** the Northumberland County Procedural By-law provides for the election of a Deputy Warden;

**Now Therefore Be It Resolved That** Council proceed with the election of Deputy Warden for one year, commencing on the 18th day of December, 2024."

**Carried**

**8.b Motion to Call for Nominations for Deputy Warden**

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-905**

**Moved by** Councillor Robert Crate

**Seconded by** Councillor Lucas Cleveland

"**That** Olena Hankivsky be nominated as Deputy Warden of the County of Northumberland; and

**Further That** Olena Hankivsky consents to be nominated for the position of Deputy Warden."

**Accepted**

**8.c Nominators Speak to the Nominations**

**8.d Second and Final Call for Nominations for Deputy Warden Position**

**8.e Motion to Close Nominations for the Deputy Warden Position**

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-906**  
**Moved by** Councillor Lucas Cleveland  
**Seconded by** Warden Brian Ostrander

"That nominations for the election of Deputy Warden be closed."

**Carried**

**8.f Appointment of Scrutineer (if required)**

N/A

**8.g Vote (if required)**

N/A

**8.h Deputy Warden-Elect Confirmation**

Maddison Mather, Manager of Legislative Services / Clerk

- Olena Hankivsky was acclaimed as the Deputy Warden of the County of Northumberland

**8.i Motion to Authorize the Destruction of the Ballots (if required)**

N/A

**8.j Declaration of Office by Deputy Warden-Elect**

Administered by Maddison Mather, Manager Legislative Services / Clerk

**9. Greetings from Dignitaries**

*[Warden Ostrander assumed the role of Presiding Officer of the meeting]*

**9.a MP Philip Lawrence, Member of Parliament for Northumberland-Peterborough South**

**10. Recess**

*[Council recessed at 10:18 p.m. until 10:34 a.m.]*

**11. Adoption of Minutes**

**11.a County Council Minutes of November 20, 2024**

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-907**  
**Moved by** Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky  
**Seconded by** Councillor Mandy Martin

"That the minutes of the County Council Session of November 20, 2024 be approved as distributed and the determinations contained therein be deemed those of Council."

**Carried**

**12. Business arising from the Minutes**

N/A

**13. Communications**

**13.a Correspondence, 'Establishment of an Ontario Rural Road Safety Program'**

- Good Roads Association
- Municipality of North Perth
- Town of the Blue Mountains
- Town of Pelham
- Town of Parry Sound
- Township of Amaranth

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-908**

**Moved by** Councillor John Logel

**Seconded by** Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

**Whereas** official statistics from the Government of Ontario confirm that rural roads are inherently more dangerous than other roads; and

**Whereas** despite only having 17% of the population, 55% of the road fatalities occur on rural roads; and

**Whereas** rural, northern, and remote municipalities are fiscally strained by maintaining extensive road networks on a smaller tax base; and

**Whereas** preventing crashes reduces the burden on Ontario's already strained rural health care system; and

**Whereas** roadway collisions and associated lawsuits are significant factors in runaway municipal insurance premiums; and

**Whereas** preventing crashes can have a significant impact in improving municipal risk profiles;

**Now Therefore Be It Resolved That** Northumberland County Council, having considered the correspondence regarding the 'Establishment of an Ontario Rural Safety Program', request that the Government of Ontario take action to implement the rural road safety program that Good Roads has committed to lead, noting it will allow Ontario's rural municipalities to make the critical investments needed to reduce the high number of people being killed and seriously injured on Ontario's rural roads; and

**Further Be It Resolved That** County Council direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to the Honourable Doug Ford (Premier of Ontario), Honourable Prabmeet Sarkaria (Minister of Transportation), Honourable Kinga Surma (Minister of Infrastructure), Honourable Rob Flack (Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness), Honourable Lisa Thompson (Minister of Rural Affairs), Honourable Trevor Jones (Associate Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response), Honourable Sylvia Jones (Deputy Premier and Minister of Health), the Honorable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development and MPP for Northumberland-Peterborough South), Good Roads, the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC), and Northumberland County's 7 Member Municipalities."

**Carried**

**14. Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion**

- 14.a December 2, 3 and 4, 2024 Standing Committees 'Recommendations to Council - Summary Chart'**
- 14.b Community Health Committee  
- December 3, 2024**
- 14.c Corporate Support Committee  
- December 3, 2024**
- 14.d Economic Development, Tourism and Land Use Planning Committee  
- December 4, 2024**
- 14.e Finance & Audit Committee  
- December 3, 2024**
- 14.f Public Works Committee  
- December 2, 2024**
- 14.g Social Services Committee  
- Meeting cancelled**

**15. Adoption of Items Not Requiring Separate Discussion**

*[Warden Ostrander relinquished the Chair to Deputy Warden Hankivsky at 10:40 a.m.]*

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-909**

**Moved by** Councillor Mandy Martin

**Seconded by** Councillor Robert Crate

"**That** Council adopt all recommendations from the five Standing Committees, as contained within the Committee Minutes (meetings held December 2, 3 and 4, 2024), with the exception of the following items (referenced from the Standing Committee Minutes), that will be held for discussion:

- Community Health Committee, Item 8.a, 'Report 2024-156 'Long-term Care Staffing Challenges' – **Held by Councillor Logel**

**And Further That** the items listed above and held for separate discussion each require a separate resolution."

**Carried**

**16. Consideration of Items Requiring Separate Discussion**

**16.a Items Recommended by Standing Committees for Separate Consideration**

- 1. Community Health Committee Meeting (December 3, 2024), Item 5.a, Delegation, Haliburton, Kawartha Lakes, Northumberland (HKLN) Drug Strategy 'Situational Assessment of a Four Pillar Approach to Addressing the Drug Poisoning Crisis'**

*[Deputy Warden Hankivsky relinquished the Chair back to Warden Ostrander at 10:42 a.m.]*

Kate Hall, Co-Chair

Dan Record, Chair

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-910**

**Moved by** Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

**Seconded by** Councillor John Logel

"**Whereas** the Community Health Committee received the delegation from the Haliburton, Kawartha Lakes, Northumberland (HKLN) Drug Strategy regarding 'Situational Assessment of a Four



Pillar Approach to Addressing the Drug Poisoning Crisis' for information and recommended that County Council identify this item for separate discussion at the December 18, 2024 County Council meeting; and

**Now Therefore Be It Resolved That** County Council receive the presentation for information."

**Carried**

2. **Corporate Support Committee Meeting (December 3, 2024), Closed Session Item 4.a, Matters pertaining to labour relations or employee negotiation regarding 'Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) 3725 - 2024 Bargaining (Community & Social Services)'**

*[Item was considered in Closed Session]*

3. **Economic Development, Tourism and Land Use Planning Committee Meeting (December 4, 2024), Closed Session Item 4.a, 'Matters pertaining to confidential negotiations regarding broadband'**

*[Item was considered in Closed Session]*

#### **16.b Motion(s) for Held Item(s)**

1. **Community Health Committee, Item 8.a, 'Report 2024-156 'Long-term Care Staffing Challenges'**

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-911**

**Moved by** Councillor John Logel

**Seconded by** Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

"**Whereas** item 8.a from the December 3, 2024 Community Health Committee meeting was held by Council for separate discussion at this meeting, the item being 'Report 2024-156 'Long-term Care Staffing Challenges'; and

**Now Therefore Be It Resolved That** County Council adopt the following:

- **That** County Council receive the report for information, noting that County Council supports the recruitment strategies outlined within the report."

Carried

**17. New Business - 2025 Budget**

**17.a Report 2024-164, Finance '2025 Budget' - Presentation**

Matthew Nitsch, Director Finance / Treasurer

*[Councillor Martin left the meeting at 11:23 a.m. until 11: 25 a.m.]*

*[Deputy Warden Hankivsky left the meeting at 12:25 p.m.]*

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-912**

**Moved by** Councillor Robert Crate

**Seconded by** Councillor John Logel

“**That** County Council receive Report 2024-164 ‘2025 Budget’ for information.”

Carried

**17.b Follow-up from November 20, 2024 County Council Meeting**

*[Council recessed at 12:33 p.m. until 1:06 p.m.]*

**1. Report 2024-165, Public Works 'Delivery of Programs and Services for Road and Bridge Related Infrastructure Assets'**

Denise Marshall, Director Public Works

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-913**

**Moved by** Councillor John Logel

**Seconded by** Councillor Mandy Martin

“**That** County Council receive Report 2024-165 ‘Delivery of Programs and Services for Road and Bridge Related Infrastructure Assets’ for information.”

Carried

**2. Report 2024-166, Public Works 'County Owned Bridge Assets Located on Member Municipality Right of Ways'**

Denise Marshall, Director Public Works

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-914**

**Moved by** Councillor Scott Jibb

**Seconded by** Councillor Mandy Martin

"That County Council receive Report 2024-166 'County Owned Bridge Assets Located on Member Municipality Right of Ways' for information."

**Carried**

**3. Report 2024-167, CAO 'Budget 2025 - Municipal Restructuring Study'**

Jennifer Moore, CAO

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-915**

**Moved by** Councillor John Logel

**Seconded by** Councillor Mandy Martin

"That County Council receive Report 2024-167 'Budget 2025 - Municipal Restructuring Study' for information."

**Carried**

**4. Report 2024-168, Corporate Services 'Compensation Freeze'**

Lisa Ainsworth, Director Corporate Services

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-916**

**Moved by** Councillor Scott Jibb

**Seconded by** Councillor John Logel

"That County Council receive Report 2024-168 'Compensation Freeze' for information."

**Carried**

**5. Closed Session #1**

**Matters pertaining to personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees and labour relations or employee negotiations (Hiring Freeze) (Item Going Direct to Council)**

*Municipal Act Sections 239.(2.b) and (2.d)*

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-917**

**Moved by** Councillor Robert Crate

**Seconded by** Councillor Scott Jibb

"**That** this Council proceed with the next portion of the meeting being closed to the public at 1:21 p.m.; and

**Further That** the meeting is closed to the public as permitted under the Municipal Act Sections 239.(2.b) and (2.d) in order to address matters pertaining to personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees and labour relations or employee negotiations (Hiring Freeze), and that Jennifer Moore, Matthew Nitsch, Lisa Ainsworth, Darrell Mast, Kim O'Leary, Cheryl Sanders and Maddison Mather remain present."

**Carried**

**6. Motion to Rise and Results from Closed Session #1**

*[Deputy Warden Hankivsky returned to the meeting in Closed Session at 1:25 p.m.]*

*[Deputy Warden Hankivsky left the meeting in Closed Session at 1:26 p.m. until 1:27 p.m.]*

*[Councillor Jibb left the meeting at 2:08 p.m. in Closed Session]*

**Matters pertaining to personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees and labour relations or employee negotiations (Hiring Freeze)**

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-918**

**Moved by** Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

**Seconded by** Councillor John Logel

"**That** this Council rise at 2:14 p.m.; and

**Further That** the confidential resolution moved in Closed Session regarding matters pertaining to personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees and labour relations or employee negotiations (Hiring Freeze), is hereby referred to this open session of Council for adoption."

**Carried**

## 17.c Deliberations

Matthew Nitsch, Director Finance / Treasurer

### 1. Review of Items Deferred by Council to 2025 Budget Deliberations

#### 1. Golden Plough Lodge and Northumberland County Archives and Museum Additional Financing Requirements

##### **Council Resolution 2024-12-18-919**

**Moved by** Councillor Lucas Cleveland

**Seconded by** Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

##### **(a) Main Motion**

“**That** County Council, having considered the verbal update regarding the Golden Plough Lodge and Northumberland County Archives and Museum Additional Financing Requirements, approve taking the \$6 million that was earmarked for a Joint Operations Base to immediately pay down \$6 million of the \$16,596,025 for the additional GPL / NCAM financing requirements.”

**Carried**

**Moved by** Councillor Mandy Martin

**Seconded by** Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

##### **(b) Main Motion**

“**That** County Council, having considered the verbal update regarding the Golden Plough Lodge and Northumberland County Archives and Museum Additional Financing Requirements, authorize the use of County reserves to finance the additional project cost, anticipated to be approximately \$10,596,025, noting that Infrastructure Ontario permits municipalities to apply for a debenture retroactively for up to a period of 5 years, should Council decide to apply for a project debenture in the future.”

##### **Council Resolution 2024-12-18-920**

**Moved by** Councillor John Logel

**Seconded by** Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

**(c) Lay on Table - Item 17.c [1.1(b)]**

"That County Council lay the motion on the table."

**Carried**

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-921**

**Moved by** Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

**Seconded by** Councillor Lucas Cleveland

**(d) Motion to Reconsider - Item 17.c [1.1(a)]**

"That County Council reconsider the motion."

**Carried**

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-922**

**Moved by** Councillor Mandy Martin

**Seconded by** Councillor Lucas Cleveland

**(e) Main Motion**

**That** County Council, having considered the verbal update regarding the Golden Plough Lodge and Northumberland County Archives and Museum Additional Financing Requirements, approve taking the \$6.5 million that was earmarked for a Joint Operations Base to immediately pay down \$6.5 million of the \$16,596,025 for the additional GPL / NCAM financing requirements."

**Carried**

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-923**

**Moved by** Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

**Seconded by** Councillor John Logel

**(f) Bring Back from Table - Item 17.c [1.1(b)]**

"That County Council take the motion from the table"

**Carried**

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-924**

**Moved by** Councillor Mandy Martin

**Seconded by** Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

**(g) Main Motion**

"**That** County Council, having considered the verbal update regarding the Golden Plough Lodge and Northumberland County Archives and Museum Additional Financing Requirements, authorize the use of County reserves to finance the additional project cost, anticipated to be approximately **\$10,096,025**, noting that Infrastructure Ontario permits municipalities to apply for a debenture retroactively for up to a period of 5 years, should Council decide to apply for a project debenture in the future."

**Carried**

**2. Art Gallery of Northumberland Funding Request**

*[Councillor Martin left the meeting at 2:40 p.m.]*

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-925**

**Moved by** Councillor Lucas Cleveland

**Seconded by** Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

"**Whereas** at the November 20, 2024 County Council meeting, Council deferred consideration of Item 5.a from the November 5, 2024 Finance & Audit Committee meeting, the item being 'Delegation - Art Gallery of Northumberland' and specifically Committee Resolution 2024-11-05-778, to the December 18, 2024 County Council meeting; and

**Whereas** the Northumberland Art Gallery plays a vital role in the cultural and educational landscape of Northumberland County, offering accessible artistic experiences, exhibitions, educational programs, and community engagement for all residents of the County; and

**Whereas** the gallery has demonstrated its positive impact on local economic development by attracting visitors, supporting local artists, and promoting tourism within Northumberland; and

**Whereas** the gallery is facing increasing costs due to inflation, rising operational costs, expansion needs, community demand for expanded programs, which affect its

ability to maintain high-quality programming and accessibility for all residents; and

**Whereas** investment in the arts has shown to increase community wellbeing, foster social cohesion, and contribute to overall quality of life; and

**Whereas** the Town of Cobourg Residents have been the sole funders of the Gallery for 60 years despite it serving the entirety of the Northumberland Art Community for all those years; and

**Whereas** the Gallery recently lost its ability to apply for trillium grants this year and had to reduce services, hours and forced the Director to make personal sacrifices in order to keep staff employed until this situation could be resolved; and

**Whereas** the Art Gallery of Northumberland has now made the request of the Cobourg tax base for an increase in operational funding to the amount of \$250,000, a \$100,000 increase over the previous year's budget;

**Now Therefore Be It Resolved That** Northumberland County Council approve the following:

1. Approve an increase in budget line item to help fund the Art Gallery of Northumberland for the fiscal year 2025 & 2026 in the amount of \$100,000 in each year to support operational needs, programming expansion, and capital improvements as all outlined in the gallery's funding request to Cobourg Council; and
2. This budget line item shall remain at \$100,000 for the next two budget cycles as Gallery operational funding to be transferred directly to Cobourg for distribution to the Gallery on sole condition that Cobourg Council continues to match its \$150,000 amount funding and/or exceed it for the next two years; and
3. Council direct staff to collaborate with the Northumberland Art Gallery on long-term funding strategies lasting beyond these initial two years and explore potential grants and partnerships to support sustainable financial growth for



the gallery in future years throughout the County of Northumberland;

**Further Be It Resolved That** this resolution be forwarded to Northumberland County's 7 Member Municipalities for information and the Honourable David Piccini (Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development and MPP for Northumberland-Peterborough South) to demonstrate how Cobourg and Northumberland County are able to find collaboration and compromise for the benefit of our shared communities and resources."

**Carried**

**2. Review of Other Items**

*[Councillor Martin returned to the meeting at 2:47 p.m.]*

**1. Additional Levy Impact**

- Funding for the County's Community Grant Program
- Municipal Restructuring Study

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-926**

**Moved by** Councillor John Logel

**Seconded by** Councillor Robert Crate

**“That** County Council direct staff to send a letter to each of Northumberland County’s 7 Member Municipalities to determine interest in pursuing a municipal restructuring study, with a response deadline of March 3, 2025.”

**Carried**

**2. Other (No Levy Impact)**

*[Council recessed at 2:48 p.m. until 3:02 p.m.]*

*[Councillor Cleveland and Councillor Martin did not return from the recess at 3:02 p.m.]*

*[Councillor Jibb returned to the meeting during the recess]*

- County Owned Bridges

### 3. **Proposed Compensation Reductions**

*[Councillor Cleveland and Councillor Martin returned to the meeting at 3:05 p.m.]*

*[Councillor Cleveland left at 3:50 p.m. and did not return]*

*[Deputy Warden Hankivsky left the meeting at 3:52 p.m. and returned at 3:54 p.m.]*

#### **Council Resolution 2024-12-18-927**

**Moved by** Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

**Seconded by** Councillor Scott Jibb

“**Whereas** the By-law to ‘Provide for the Remuneration and Expenses of County Council Members’ delegates authority to the Treasurer to annually update the annual salaries of Members of Council as per the Consumer Price Index for Ontario on December 1<sup>st</sup> of each year; and

**Now Therefore Be It Resolved That** County Council approve a compensation freeze for Northumberland County Council Members, effective December 1, 2024 to November 30, 2025.”

**Defeated**

#### **Council Resolution 2024-12-18-928**

**Moved by** Councillor Lucas Cleveland

**Seconded by** Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

“**That** County Council approve a full hiring freeze effective as of December 18, 2024 for a period of three months for ALL positions; and

**Further That** County Council direct staff to bring forward a report to a future Special Council meeting, within that three month period, outlining options for how we are going to move forward as a Council to reduce staff numbers.”

**Defeated**

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-929**

**Moved by** Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

**Seconded by** Councillor Mandy Martin

“**That** County Council direct staff to arrange for a Special County Council meeting in January, 2025 to discuss concrete steps for an organizational / service delivery / cost savings review including but not limited to all staff positions.”

**Carried**

**3. Summary / Budget Deliberations**

- Deliberation on presented options for reducing levy impact to 6.5% target

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-930**

**Moved by** Councillor John Logel

**Seconded by** Councillor Robert Crate

“**That** County Council approve adding an additional interest revenue amount of \$250,000 for the 2025 budget.”

**Carried**

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-931**

**Moved by** Councillor Robert Crate

**Seconded by** Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

“**That** County Council adopt a **6.12%** levy increase (after growth) for the 2025 budget.”

**Carried**

**18. New Business (Continued)**

**18.a Report 2024-169, Corporate Services 'Appointment of Council Members to Standing Committees of Council'**

Maddison Mather, Manager Legislative Services / Clerk

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-932**

**Moved by** Councillor Scott Jibb

**Seconded by** Councillor Robert Crate

“**Whereas** Standing Committee appointments for the 2022-2026 term of Council occurred at the December 14, 2022 County Council meeting; and

**Whereas** Standing Committee assignments are generally for the full-term of Council, however changes to Committee membership may be required each year to reflect a change in Warden; and

**Whereas** at the December 13, 2023 County Council meeting, there were some changes in Committee membership to accommodate for the 2024 Warden;

**Now Therefore Be It Resolved That** County Council receive Report 2024-169 'Appointment of Council Members to Standing Committees of Council' for information, noting that no changes are required to Standing Committee assignments in 2025."

**Carried**

**18.b Report 2024-170, Corporate Services 'Final 2025 Meeting Schedule - County Council and Standing Committee Meetings'**

Maddison Mather, Manager Legislative Services / Clerk

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-933**

**Moved by** Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

**Seconded by** Councillor John Logel

**"That** County Council, having considered Report 2024-170 'Final 2025 Meeting Schedule - County Council and Standing Committee Meetings', adopt the 2025 meeting schedule for County Council and Standing Committee meetings as presented; and

**Further That** County Council direct staff to circulate a copy of the 2025 meeting schedule to Northumberland County's 7 Member Municipalities and publish on the County's website."

**Carried**

**18.c Communication from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding 'Encampment Initiatives' - Presentation**

Jennifer Moore, CAO

Glenn Dees, Director Health and Human Services

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-934**

**Moved by** Councillor John Logel

**Seconded by** Councillor Robert Crate

**“That** County Council, having considered the staff presentation regarding a communication from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding ‘Encampment Initiatives’, hereby pledge to use Provincial funding, including the additional top-up to the Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit (COHB) funding towards ending encampments in Northumberland County; and

**Further That** County Council direct staff to send a copy of this resolution to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.”

**Carried**

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-935**

**Moved by** Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

**Seconded by** Councillor Scott Jibb

**“That** County Council, having considered the staff presentation regarding a communication from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding ‘Encampment Initiatives’, direct staff to send urgent correspondence to Northumberland County’s 7 Member Municipalities regarding available land in Member Municipalities that the County could utilize to expand emergency shelter capacity to provide accessible accommodations for individuals currently living in encampments, noting the January 3, 2025 deadline to submit a business case to the Province.”

**Carried**

**19. Closed Session #2**

- 19.a. Corporate Support Committee Meeting (December 3, 2024), Closed Session Item 4.a, Matters pertaining to labour relations or employee negotiation regarding 'Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) 3725 - 2024 Bargaining (Community & Social Services)' (Item recommended by Standing Committee for Separate Discussion)**

*Municipal Act Section 239.(2.d)*

- 19.b Economic Development, Tourism and Land Use Planning Committee Meeting (December 4, 2024), Closed Session Item 4.a, Matters pertaining to 'confidential negotiations regarding broadband' (Item recommended by Standing Committee for Separate Discussion)**

*Municipal Act Section 239.(2.k)*

*[Council recessed in Closed Session at 4:18 p.m. until 4:22 p.m.]*

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-936**

**Moved by** Councillor John Logel

**Seconded by** Councillor Robert Crate

"**That** this Council proceed with the next portion of the meeting being closed to the public at 4:17 p.m.; and

**Further That** the meeting is closed to the public as permitted under the Municipal Act Section 239.(2.d) in order to address matters pertaining to labour relations or employee negotiations regarding 'Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) 3725 - 2024 Bargaining (Community & Social Services)', and that Jennifer Moore, Lisa Ainsworth, Glenn Dees, Maddison Mather and Cheryl Sanders remain present; and

**Further That** the meeting is closed to the public as permitted under the Municipal Act Section 239.(2.k) in order to address matters pertaining to confidential negotiations regarding broadband, and that Jennifer Moore, Dan Borowec, Dwayne Campbell, TJ Flynn, Maddison Mather and Cheryl Sanders remain present."

**Carried**

**20. Motion to Rise and Results from Closed Session #2**

**20.a Closed Session Items from Standing Committees Requiring Separate Discussion**

- 1. Corporate Support Committee Meeting (December 3, 2024), Closed Session Item 4.a, Matters pertaining to labour relations or employee negotiation regarding 'Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) 3725 - 2024 Bargaining (Community & Social Services)'**

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-937**

**Moved by** Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

**Seconded by** Councillor Scott Jibb

"**That** this Council rise at 4:57 p.m.; and

**Further That** the confidential resolution moved in Closed Session regarding matters pertaining to labour relations or employee negotiations regarding 'Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) 3725 - 2024

Bargaining (Community & Social Services)', is hereby referred to this open session of Council for adoption."

**Carried**

**2. Economic Development, Tourism and Land Use Planning Committee Meeting (December 4, 2024), Closed Session Item 4.a, Matters pertaining to 'confidential negotiations regarding broadband'**

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-938**

**Moved by** Councillor Mandy Martin

**Seconded by** Councillor Scott Jibb

"**That** the confidential resolution moved in Closed Session regarding matters pertaining to confidential negotiations regarding broadband, is hereby referred to this open session of Council for adoption."

**Carried**

**21. Enactment By-laws**

**21.a A By-law to Amend By-law 41-2023, being a By-law to Adopt the Estimates for General Purposes for the Municipal Corporation of the County of Northumberland for the Years 2024-2026, in order to Readopt the 2025 Budget**

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-939**

**Moved by** Councillor Mandy Martin

**Seconded by** Councillor Robert Crate

"**That** By-law 46-2024 being A By-law to Amend By-law 41-2023, being a By-law to Adopt the Estimates for General Purposes for the Municipal Corporation of the County of Northumberland for the Years 2024-2026, in order to Re-adopt the 2025 Budget be introduced, deemed to be read a first, second and third time, passed, signed and sealed this 18th day of December, 2024."

**Carried**

**22. Proclamations**

N/A

**23. Media Questions**

**24. Closed Session Business – Public Updates**

N/A

**25. Confirming By-law**

**25.a A By-law to confirm the proceedings of a meeting of County Council held on December 18, 2024**

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-940**

**Moved by** Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

**Seconded by** Councillor Scott Jibb

"**That** By-law 47-2024 being a By-law to confirm the proceedings of a meeting of County Council held on December 18, 2024 be introduced, be deemed to be read a first, second and third time, be passed, signed and sealed."

**Carried**

**26. Adjournment**

**Council Resolution 2024-12-18-941**

**Moved by** Councillor Robert Crate

**Seconded by** Deputy Warden Olena Hankivsky

"**That** Council adjourn at 5:01 p.m."

**Carried**

---

**Brian Ostrander, Warden**

---

**Maddison Mather, Clerk**





# 2025 Budget

Regular Council Meeting  
December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024

*\*Due to rounding, numbers presented may not add up precisely to the totals provided and percentages may not precisely reflect the absolute figures.*



# Presentation Outline

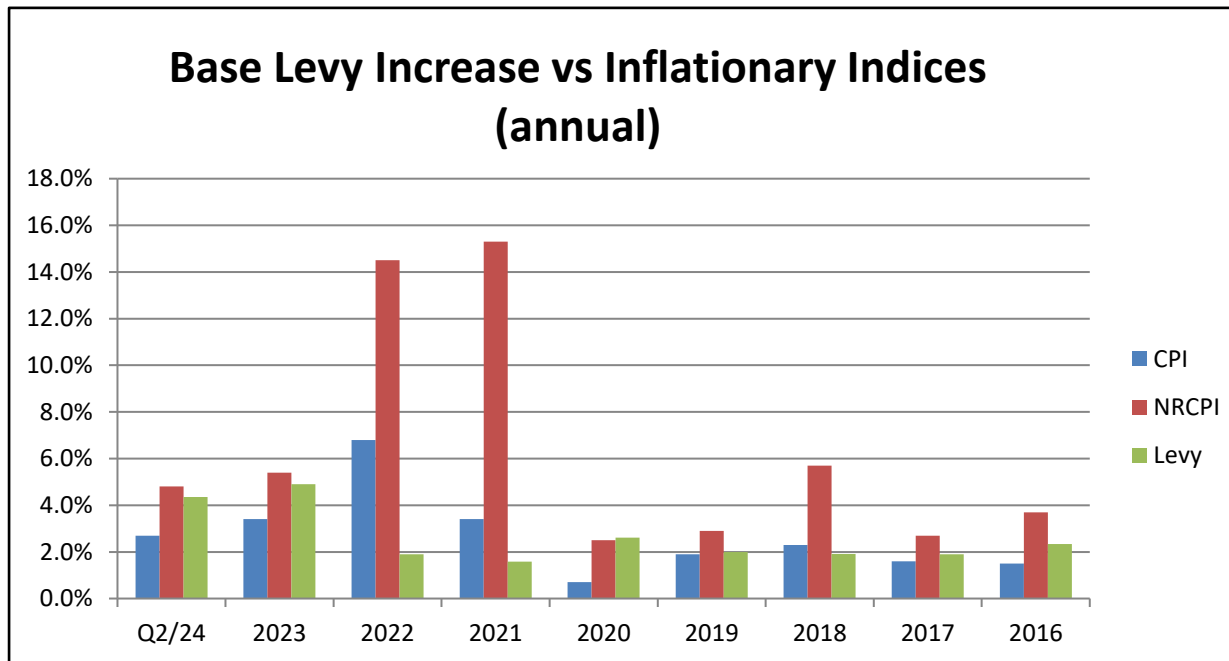


- Budget Considerations and Trends
  - Levy
  - Reserves
  - Debt
- Economic Outlook
- Revised 2025 Draft Budget
- Questions/Next Steps

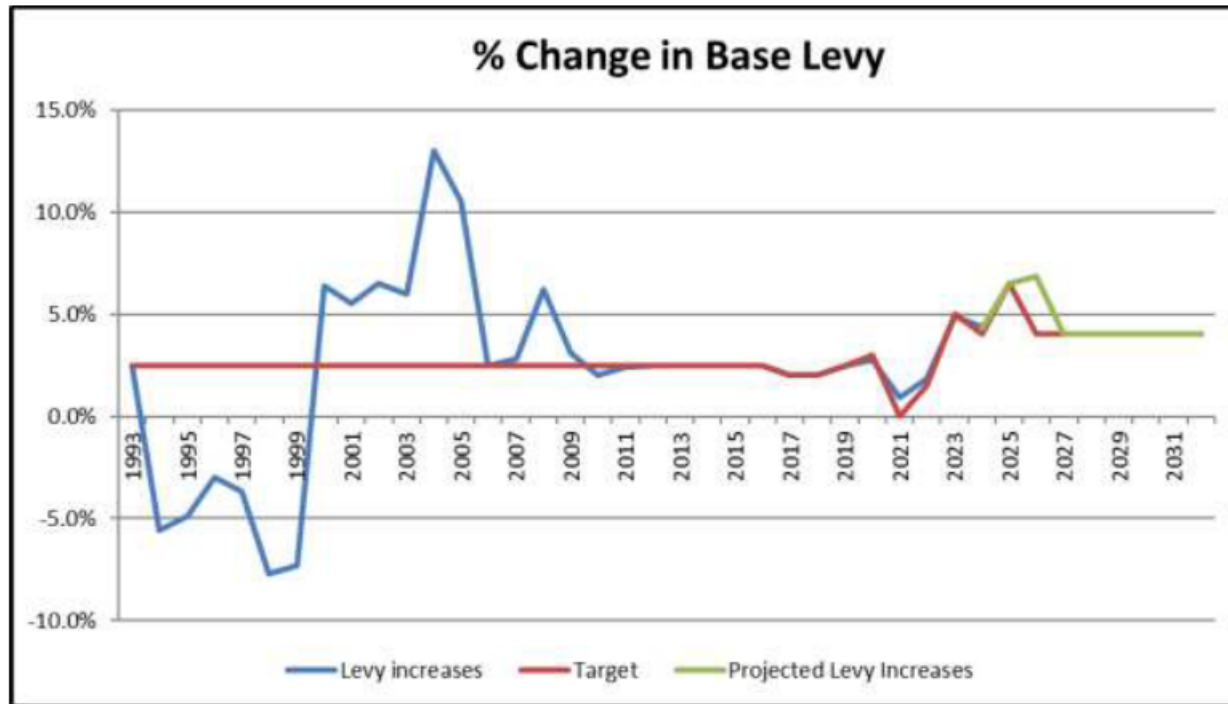
# Budget Considerations - Levy



- Need to consider inflation (CPI and NRCPI)
  - Not keeping pace with overall inflationary pressures
  - Significant erosion of Operating and Capital Budgets 2021 & 2022
  - Risk of maintaining service levels
  - Compounds on Infrastructure Deficit
  - Cost escalations realized for Long-term Capital plan

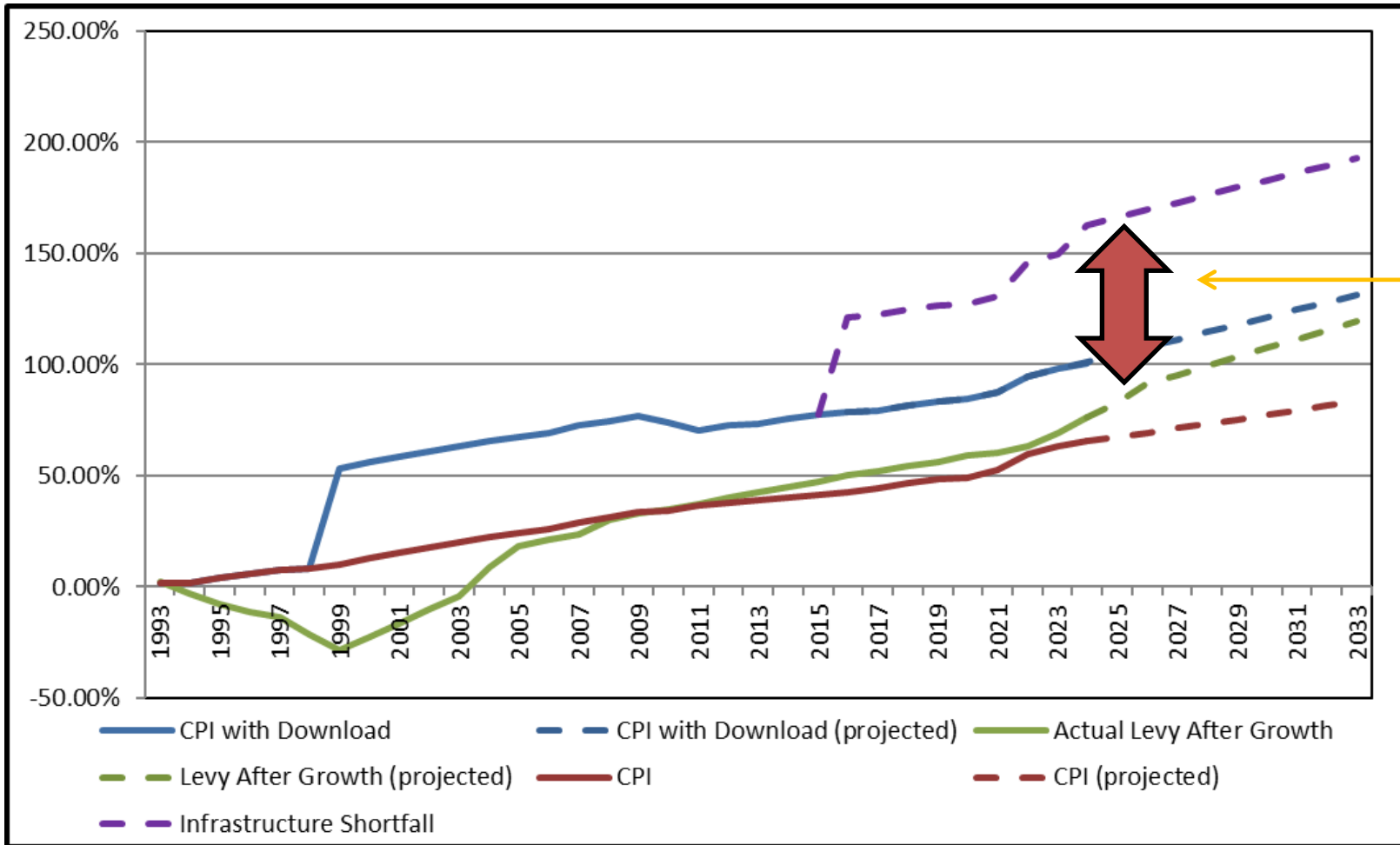


# Budget Considerations - Levy



- Primarily stable levy increases since adopting LTFPF
- Recent levy increases below inflation causing pressure
- Not keeping pace with inflation risks return to erratic increases in future years
- Years of insufficient levy increases compound in long term plan as base moving forward in future years
- The draft 2025 budget levy increase (excluding the GPLNCAM debenture payment) is below inflation at 1.38%
  - This is expected to put pressure on service levels

# Budget Considerations - Levy

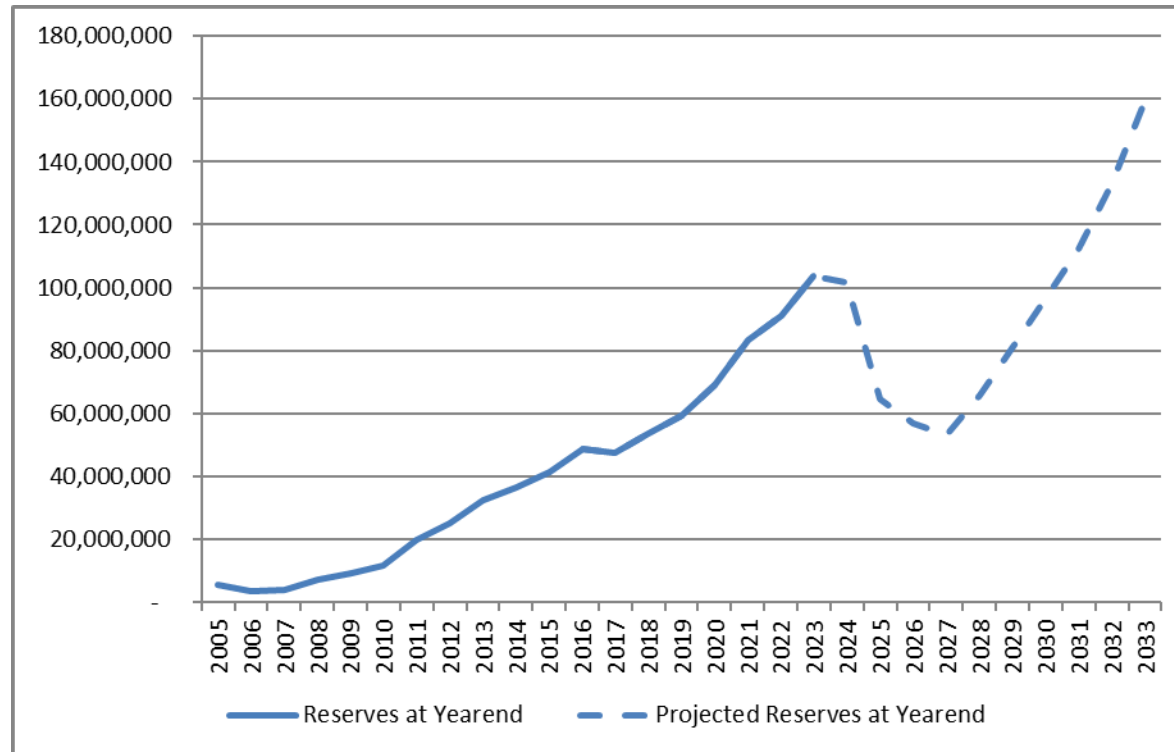


Current Funding Gap

# Budget Considerations – Reserves



Forecasted Yearend Reserves

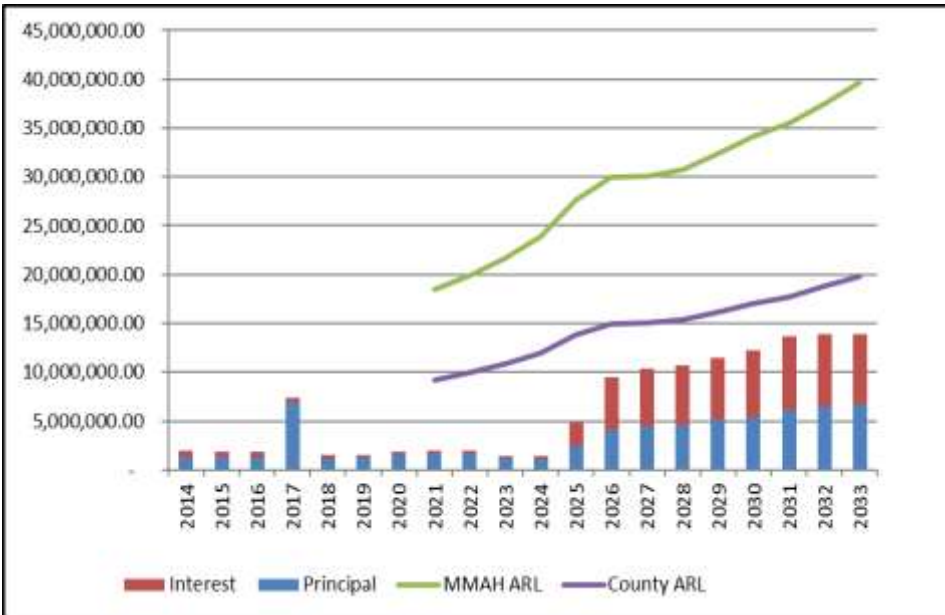


- Utilization over next 5-10 years for financing large projects and rate stabilization
- Projected reserve balance will be depleted in 2027 to less than that of comparator average before gaining ground again towards financing future needs
- Consistently building into operating budgets
- Contributions are aligned to priorities in AM Plan
- AM Plan, Master Plans identify significant future needs

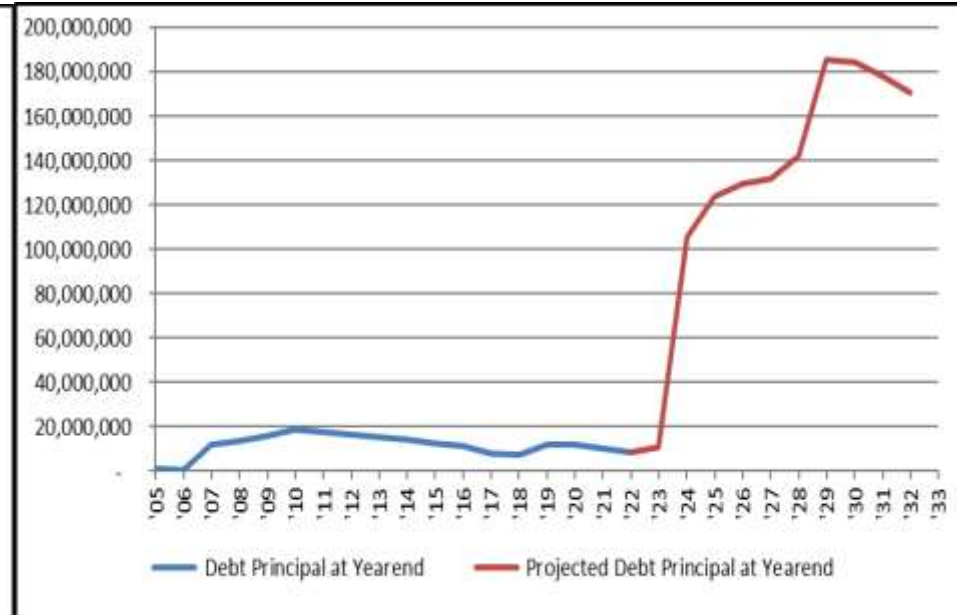
# Budget Considerations – Debt



Debt Repayment Schedule



Forecasted Yearend Debt



- Currently well below forecasted MMAH Annual Repayment Limit (ARL)
- Encroaching on County ARL established under newly adopted Debt Policy
- Will require greater utilization of reserves in future models to limit debt servicing costs
- Will take on new debt in the next few years increasing debt utilization, higher interest rates
  - GPL/NCAM Redevelopment
  - Elgin Park Redevelopment and Ontario Street Project
  - Placeholders Social Housing Expansion Projects, Brighton Paramedic Base, Consolidated Operations Facility (JOB)

# Economic Outlook



- Inflation has come down, but the County is still dealing with the effects of high inflation in 2022 to 2024.
  - 2.0% - CPI October 2024 (year over year)
  - 4.8% - NRCPI Q2 2024 (year over year)
- Looming tariff dispute with US poses a risk for procurement
- The Bank Of Canada overnight interest rate has been reduced five times in 2024 and is currently at 3.25%
- Long-term bond rates have remained flat but are forecasted to increase in 2025
- Household affordability remains a challenge for many after coming through a period of high inflation and interest rates



# Revised 2025 Draft Budget - Background



Council Approved 2025 budget levy increase adopted on December 13, 2023 was calculated as follows:

	<u>Amount \$</u>	<u>Levy Impact %</u>
2024 Levy	\$74,097,987	
2025 Levy	<u>\$81,981,967</u>	
Increase	\$7,883,980	10.64%
Estimated Growth	<u>\$1,481,196</u>	2.0%
<b>Levy Increase After Growth</b>	<b>\$6,402,020</b>	<b>8.65%</b>

These numbers included a draw of \$500K from the rate stabilization reserve to partially offset the pressure from the initial GPLNCAM debenture payment

# Revised 2025 Draft Budget – Background



The updated growth estimate for 2025 has the following impact on the levy increase (after growth)

Revised Growth Estimate	<u>\$1,170,748</u>	1.58%
<b>Revised Levy Increase (after growth)</b>	<b>\$6,713,232</b>	<b>9.06%</b>

# Revised 2025 Draft Budget – New items



The following is a list of the new items that should be considered for inclusion in the 2025 budget following the multi-year budget policy requirements

	<b>Amount \$</b>	<b>Levy Impact %</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Public Works Issue Paper – Fire Radio System	\$100,000	0.13%	Approved
Public Works Issue Paper – Security System Improvements	\$162,500	0.22%	Closed Item
310 Division Shelter On-site Security	\$400,000	0.54%	Approved
310 Division Shelter ECE By-law Compliance costs	\$587,700	0.79%	Approved
Salaries and Benefits	\$205,000	0.28%	Update budget estimates to payroll actuals
GPL Construction Funding Subsidy	\$647,411	0.91%	Change due to update schedule
GPL Level of Care Basic Premium	\$78,840	0.11%	Change due to update schedule
GPLNCAM Debenture change to 20-year term	\$428,667	0.58%	Recommended by Finance and Audit Committee
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,637,118</b>	<b>3.56%</b>	

# Revised 2025 Draft Budget – New items



- The total of all new items would increase the levy requirement by \$2,637,118 or 3.56%. This would result in an increase of **\$9,350,349 or 12.62%** after growth.
- It should be noted that no levy funding has been allocated to the treatment bed program that was piloted in 2024. The program continues in the draft budget but is being funded by the \$217,000 carryover from 2024.

# Revised 2025 Draft Budget



The following is a list of savings and other adjustments (recommended by staff) that will reduce the levy requirement in 2025 to 6.32%

	<b>Amount \$</b>	<b>Levy Impact %</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Issue Papers</b>			
GPL Env Services Reserve Strategy IP	\$217,500	0.29%	Reduction to the minimum requirement
GPL Life Enrichment Staffing IP	\$26,970	0.04%	Reduce because of revised schedule
GPL Dietary Services Staffing IP	\$28,945	0.04%	Reduce because of revised schedule
BECN and Tourism Tech Reserves IP (2)	\$20,000	0.03%	Postpone
Waste – Lumber and Shingle Diversion Program IP	\$250,000	0.34%	Postpone
Natural Heritage Weather Event and Land Acquisition Reserves IP (2)	\$20,000	0.03%	Postpone
Natural Heritage Truck Replacement IP	\$60,400	0.08%	Postpone
Legal/Legislative Services Assistant	\$84,058	0.11%	Postpone
Made in Northumberland Rent Supp IP	\$52,000	0.07%	Postpone
Information Management Strategy IP	\$50,000	0.07%	Postpone

# Revised 2025 Draft Budget



	<b>Amount \$</b>	<b>Levy Impact %</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Other items</b>			
Dedicated Infrastructure Levy Increase	\$740,980	1.0%	Postpone Increase
Dedicated Housing Levy Increase	\$740,980	1.0%	Postpone Increase
Increased Waste Revenue (bag tags and tipping fees)	\$200,000	0.27%	Adjusting for increased activity (no price increases)
HSEP External Services Savings	\$13,500	0.02%	
Interest Revenue	\$250,000	0.34%	Adjust to be more in line with actuals
Reduce Transportation Base Levy by OCIF increase	\$625,351	0.84%	OCIF Funding was higher than anticipated
473 Ontario Street Construction Financing Interest	\$470,468	0.63%	Levy requirement shifts due to updated schedule
Elgin St Phase One Debt Servicing	\$75,724	0.10%	Debenture was less than budgeted
Waste Collection Contract Indexing	\$250,000	0.34%	Budgeted for increase but indexing reduced contract costs
Transportation Construction – County Road 31	\$492,000	0.66%	Postpone project
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,668,876</b>	<b>6.30%</b>	

# Revised 2025 Draft Budget



- If all of the items above are adjusted to reduce the levy increase in 2025, the adjusted levy increase (after growth) will be **\$4,681,474 or 6.32%**.
- This is 0.18% below the target of 6.5% established by Council.
- The following items have also been adjusted in the revised 2025 budget but do not have an impact on the levy – except for the change in the 473 Ontario Street project noted above.
  - GPLNCAM Redevelopment Project
  - GPL Operating Costs – after move into new building
  - 473 Ontario Street Housing Project
  - Brighton Emergency Services Base
  - Internal Chargebacks (Will need to be adjusted if council makes any other changes to the 2025 draft budget)

# Revised 2025 Draft Budget



## **Addition items to be considered by council are:**

- Salary Freeze – Council and Directors
- Hiring Freeze
- Items Referred to budget deliberations
  - Finance and Audit Committee recommendation to provide \$100,000 funding to the Art Gallery of Northumberland
  - Finance and Audit Committee referral of Report 2024-158 GPLNCAM Redevelopment Project Financing to budget deliberations
    - Update From Treasurer
- Allocation of Funds to Community Grant Program for 2025
- Municipal Restructuring Study

The additional items above are NOT included in the revised 2025 draft budget (6.32% increase). Any changes will impact the total levy increase.



# Revised 2025 Draft Budget (Cash)



## Draft Cash Budget Summary

Operating expenses	\$147.3M
Capital	\$80.6M
Debt Principal Repayment	\$2.4M
Change in Reserves	<u>(\$31.2M)</u>
	\$199.1M
Grants & Subsidies	\$65.4M
Other Non-levy Revenue	\$34.1M
Debt/Construction Financing	<u>\$19.6M</u>
Levy	\$80.0M

# Revised 2025 Draft Budget (Accrual)



## Draft Accrual Budget Summary

Cash based budget	\$199.1M
Less:	
Debt Principal Repayment	\$2.4M
Capital Purchases	\$80.6M
Debt/Construction Financing	\$19.6M
Add:	
Amortization	\$9.8M
Future Employee Benefits	\$0.4M
Landfill Post-Closure Liability	<u>\$0.6M</u>
Accrual based budget	\$107.3M

# Tax Rate Impacts



## Estimated Residential Tax Rate



2024

$$.005612210 \times \$265,000^* = \mathbf{\$1,487}$$

2025

$$.005962024 \times \$265,000 = \mathbf{\$1,580}$$

**Increase for the average home would be \$93**

- Average home value represents MPAC Current Value Assessment (CVA) data
  - CVA is used for annual property tax billing calculations (not market values)
  - CVA represents valuation dates of January 1, 2016
  - MPAC assessment update has been postponed again (typically all properties updated on 4-year cycle). Property assessments for the 2025 property tax years will continue to be based on January 1, 2016 CVA.

\* Median home value in Northumberland County per MPAC based on single family detached home.

The analysis above is based on preliminary assessment roll and 2024 existing tax policy which are subject to change.

# Next Steps



December 18 – Review of information requested by council at the November 20 council meeting



December 18 - Consideration for Budget approval at regular Council meeting



Begin implementing immediately upon approval. Tax rates/ratios to be approved April/May





## **Ministry Municipal Affairs and Housing Encampment Initiatives**

Jennifer Moore, CAO  
Glenn Dees, Director Health and Human Services

December 18, 2024

# MMAH Encampment Initiatives

---

- ▶ Email received from MMAH Saturday December 14<sup>th</sup> with letter from Minister Paul Calandra
- ▶ Letter highlights initiatives to
  - ▶ Protect community safety
  - ▶ Support those living in encampments with funding opportunities
- ▶ Legislative Changes
  - ▶ Proposed amendments to the Trespass to Property Act
  - ▶ Proposed new Restricting Public Consumption of Illegal Substances Act, 2024
- ▶ Funding to support those living in encampments
  - ▶ Homelessness prevention
  - ▶ Access to alternative accommodation
  - ▶ Temporary accommodations
  - ▶ Long-term affordable housing

# MMAH Funding Initiatives

---

- ▶ Intent of funding initiatives
  - ▶ Tied to clearing out encampments
  - ▶ Provide funding to municipalities that demonstrate their commitment to and show results in winding down encampment sites
  
- ▶ Requirements for consideration of all funding initiatives
  - ▶ MMAH must receive a written pledge form the local Service Manager to use the funds towards ending encampments
  - ▶ All funding proposals to be forwarded by Service Manager to MMAH
  
- ▶ Funding initiatives
  - ▶ Additional funding under Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit (COHB) (\$5.5M)
  - ▶ Encampment Response Initiative (\$20M)
  - ▶ Last Mile Funding Initiative (\$50M)

# COHB Funding

---

- ▶ Monthly portable housing benefit program that assists eligible households with their housing costs
  - ▶ Pays the difference between 30 per cent of the household's income and the average market rent in the area
  - ▶ Recipients of social assistance, COHB pays the difference between the shelter allowance and the household's rent and utilities costs
  - ▶ Program is administered by the Province
  
- ▶ Updated 2024-25 Allocation

Initial Funding	Additional Funding	Total Funding
\$173,100	\$55,100	\$228,200



# COHB Funding

---

- ▶ Requirements for top-up COHB Funding
  - ▶ Targeted to individuals in shelter system such that space can be freed-up to address immediate shelter needs for individuals in encampments
  - ▶ Written pledge from Service Manager
  - ▶ Submission of Take-up Plan to MMAH by Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>
- ▶ MMAH anticipates will support County for ‘approximately’ 10 individuals from shelters in longer-term housing
- ▶ All conditions of funding outlined in COHB Program Guidelines apply

# Encampment Response Funding

---

- ▶ Supports urgent expansion of shelter capacity
  - ▶ Creation of additional alternative emergency accommodations expanding shelter capacity for individuals living in encampments
  - ▶ Temporary structures such as tiny cabins and sprung structures
  - ▶ May also be used for operations of these shelters and remediation of encampment sites up to March 31, 2025
  
- ▶ Application requirements for Encampment Response Funding
  - ▶ Written pledge from Service Manager
  - ▶ Business case submission in Ministry-prescribed template
  - ▶ As part of the business case, Service Managers will also be required to provide an estimate of the existing number of unique encampment sites, addresses and the encampment residents within them
  - ▶ Submission of business case by January 3, 2025

# Encampment Response Funding

---

- ▶ Proposals evaluated based on criteria in business case template and should include
  - ▶ Demonstrated capacity to expand temporary shelter availability
  - ▶ Provide for alternative accommodations quickly through temporary sprung structures, tiny homes, etc.
  - ▶ Clear implementation strategy including partnerships with grassroots level agencies
  - ▶ Plans for encampment site restoration efforts, where applicable
  
- ▶ Monthly updated reporting required
  - ▶ Number of encampments and residents
  - ▶ Number of residents moved from encampments to shelter and housing

# Encampment Response Funding

---

- ▶ County does not currently have any suitable properties that could be used based primarily on space and/or proximity to services
  
- ▶ Propose issuance of expression of interest to member municipalities for suitable land considering
  - ▶ Ownership status
  - ▶ Size of property
  - ▶ Site access
  - ▶ Available site servicing
  - ▶ Site plan approval
  - ▶ Proximity to amenities/services such as shops, services, medical, community facilities, etc.
  - ▶ Ability to provide sufficient supports while permanent affordable housing solutions are being pursued

# Encampment Response Funding

---

- ▶ Ineligible costs
  - ▶ Operating costs after March 31, 2025
  - ▶ Beds provided in hotels/motels and vouchers for hotels/motels
  
- ▶ 310 Division Street shelter opening
  - ▶ Increases current capacity for people experiencing homelessness
  - ▶ Purpose-built shelter
  - ▶ Cost-efficient and responsive to the needs of people experiencing homelessness
  - ▶ Centralized support
  
- ▶ Brookside encampment dissolved

# Last Mile Funding

---

- ▶ Supports housing projects in advanced stages of construction whereby funding could result in faster completion
  
- ▶ Application requirements for Last Mile Funding
  - ▶ Written pledge from Service Manager
  - ▶ Business case submission in Ministry-prescribed template
  - ▶ Submission of business case(s) by January 10, 2025
  
- ▶ Proposals must be
  - ▶ Commitment-ready
  - ▶ Ability to sign a contribution agreement within the fiscal year (Mar. 31, 2025)
  - ▶ Shovel-ready
  - ▶ Construction to commence within 120 days of signing the contribution agreement
  - ▶ Demonstrate value for money
  - ▶ Align with current Canada-Ontario Community Housing Initiative (COCHI) guidelines

# Last Mile Funding

---

- ▶ County does not currently have any suitable developments that could be used based on project timelines
  
- ▶ 473 Ontario Street Status
  - ▶ Archaeological Study and Indigenous Communities Engagement underway
  - ▶ Geotechnical study and railway implications underway
  - ▶ Tree removal and preservation efforts are on hold pending direction from the archaeological consultant and the Ministry's recommendations
  - ▶ Proceeding with design
  
- ▶ 123 King Street Colborne Status
  - ▶ Zoning bylaw amendment application submitted targeting site intensification up to 40 units
  - ▶ Draft RFP for consulting services underway
  - ▶ Drafting RFP for Construction
  
- ▶ Elgin Park Redevelopment Status
  - ▶ Anticipate construction completion summer 2025

# Questions



If you require this information in an alternate format, please contact the Accessibility Coordinator at [accessibility@northumberland.ca](mailto:accessibility@northumberland.ca) or 1-800-354-7050 ext. 2327



## By-law 46-2024

---

### **A By-law to Amend By-law 41-2023, being a By-law to Adopt the Estimates for General Purposes for the Municipal Corporation of the County of Northumberland for the Years 2024-2026, in order to Readopt the 2025 Budget**

---

**Whereas** Subsection 291 (1) of the *Municipal Act, 2021, SO 2001 C.25 (the "Municipal Act")* provides that a municipality may prepare and adopt a budget covering a period of two to five years in the first year to which the budget applies or in the year immediately preceding the first year to which the budget applies; and

**Whereas** on December 14, 2023, Northumberland County Council approved a three-year budget, spanning 2024 through 2026; and

**Whereas** Subsection 291 (4) of the *Municipal Act* provides that for the second and each subsequent year to which a multi-year budget applies, the municipality shall, in the year or the immediately preceding year,

- (a) review the budget for that year;
- (b) make such changes as are required for the purpose of making the provisions of the budget for that year comply with the requirements of section 289, except clause 289 (4) (b), or section 290, except clause 290 (4) (b), as the case may be; and
- (c) readopt the budget for that year and for subsequent years to which the budget applies;

**Now Therefore Be It Enacted** as a by-law of the Council of the Corporation of the County of Northumberland as follows:

1. **That** By-law 41-2023 be amended by replacing the total expenditure amount for the year 2024 listed in enactment clause one of By-law 41-2023 with the amount of \$224,732,697;

If you require this information in an alternate format, please contact the Accessibility Coordinator at [accessibility@northumberland.ca](mailto:accessibility@northumberland.ca) or 1-800-354-7050 ext. 2327

2. **That** By-law 41-2023 be amended by replacing the total revenues amount for the year 2024 listed in enactment clause two of By-law 41-2023 with the amount of \$224,732,697;
3. **That** By-law 41-2023 be amended by replacing the total expenditures amount for the year 2025 listed in enactment clause four of By-law 41-2023 with the amount of \$235,104,611;
4. **That** By-law 41-2023 be amended by replacing the total revenues amount for the year 2025 listed in enactment clause five of By-law 41-2023 with the amount of \$235,104,611; and
5. **That** By-law 41- 2023 be amended by replacing Schedule "B" to that By-law with Schedule "A" to this By-law 46-2024.

**That** By-law 46-2024 be introduced and be deemed to be read a first, second and third time, passed, signed and sealed this 18<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2024.



Brian Ostrander , Warden



Maddison Mather, Clerk



If you require this information in an alternate format, please contact the Accessibility Coordinator at [accessibility@northumberland.ca](mailto:accessibility@northumberland.ca) or 1-800-354-7050 ext. 2327

**Schedule “A” to By-law 46-2024**

---

**Revenues**

Taxation	\$ 79,800,209
Grants & Subsidies	65,443,066
County Revenue	34,317,203
Transfers from Reserves	42,420,938
Long Term Debt	<u>13,123,195</u>
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$235,104,611</b>

**Expenditures**

Operating Expenses	\$149,864,464
Capital Expenditures	74,086,004
Transfers to Reserves	<u>11,154,143</u>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$235,104,611</b>

## 2025 Budget Analysis

	\$	% of Levy	Note
2024 Approved Levy	74,097,987		
2025 Levy adopted in multi-year budget	81,981,967		
	7,883,980	10.64%	
Budgeted Growth	1,481,960	2.00%	
<b>Original 2025 Levy Increase</b>	<b>6,402,020</b>	<b>8.64%</b>	
Adjusted Growth Estimate	1,170,748	1.58%	
<b>Adjusted Levy Increase after Growth</b>	<b>6,713,232</b>	<b>9.06%</b>	
<b>NEW ITEMS</b>			
Public Works Issue Paper – Fire Radio System	100,00	0.13%	Approved
Public Works Issue Paper – Security System Improvements	162,50	0.22%	Closed Item
310 Division Shelter On-site Security	400,00	0.54%	Approved
310 Division Shelter ECE By-law Compliance costs	587,70	0.79%	Approved
Salaries and Benefits	205,00	0.28%	Update budget estimates to payroll actuals
GPL Construction Funding Subsidy	674,41	0.91%	Change due to updated schedule
GPL Level of Care Basic Premium	78,80	0.11%	Change due to updated schedule
GPLNCAM Debenture change to 20-year term	428,67	0.58%	Recommended by Finance and Audit Committee
Art Gallery Northumberland	100,00	0.13%	Approved 18-Dec-24
	2,737,18	3.69%	
<b>Levy Increase with Proposed New Items (after growth)</b>	<b>9,450,39</b>	<b>12.75%</b>	
<b>PROPOSED ADJUSTMENTS/SAVINGS</b>			
<u>Issue Papers</u>			
GPL Env Services Reserve Strategy	217,500	0.29%	Reduction to the minimum requirement
GPL Life Enrichment Staffing	26,970	0.04%	Revised schedule
GPL Dietary Services Staffing	28,945	0.04%	Revised schedule
BECN and Tourism Tech Reserves (2)	20,000	0.03%	Postpone
Waste – Lumber and Shingle Diversion Program	250,000	0.34%	Postpone
Natural Heritage Weather Event and Land Acquisition Reserves (2)	20,000	0.03%	Postpone
Natural Heritage Truck Replacement	60,400	0.08%	Postpone
Legal/Legislative Services Assistant	84,058	0.11%	Postpone
Made in Northumberland Rent Supp	52,000	0.07%	Postpone
Information Management Strategy	50,000	0.07%	Postpone
<u>Other Items</u>			
Dedicated Infrastructure Levy Increase	740,980	1.00%	Postpone Increase
Dedicated Housing Levy Increase	740,980	1.00%	Postpone Increase
Increased Waste Revenue (bag tags and tipping fees)	200,000	0.27%	Adjusting for increased activity (no price increases)
HSEP External Services Savings	13,500	0.02%	
Interest Revenue	500,000	0.67%	Additional \$250K on top on original \$250K recommendation 18-Dec-24
Reduce Transportation Base Levy by OCIF increase	625,351	0.84%	OCIF Funding was higher than anticipated
473 Ontario Street Construction Financing Interest	470,468	0.63%	Levy requirement shifts due to updated schedule
Elgin St Phase One Debt Servicing	75,724	0.10%	Debenture was less than budgeted
Waste Collection Contract Indexing	250,000	0.34%	Budgeted for increase but indexing reduced contract costs
Transportation Construction – County Road 31	492,000	0.66%	Postpone project
	4,918,876	6.64%	
<b>Levy Increase with Adjustments (after growth)</b>	<b>4,531,44</b>	<b>6.12%</b>	
<b>COUNCIL APPROVED - NO LEVY IMPACT</b>			
Redirect tsf from reserve from Joint Operations Build to GPLNCAM overage	6,500,00		Additional \$10M from reserves