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For Immediate Release



CITY OF WELLAND APPROVES 2019 WATER/WASTEWATER BUDGETS

Welland, ON - Welland City Council approved the 2019 Water/Wastewater Operating and Capital Budgets at the March 5, 2019, Council meeting. Council also approved an increase in capital funding for water and wastewater infrastructure of \$500,000.

Council sets a yearly budget to provide revenue and spending estimates for the delivery of water and wastewater treatment to ensure residents and stakeholders receive safe drinking water and effective wastewater collection, which are essential to a healthy community. The 2019 water/wastewater budgets will allow the city to provide sustainable water services, maintain current water infrastructure, and prepare for future infrastructure needs.

Included in the water budget is a rate increase for cost, consumption, service, and treatment of water.

	2019	Increase per year
Water Fixed Cost (Yr)	\$130.84	\$0.25
Water Consumption rate (m ³)	\$2.0358	\$0.1458 m ³
Wastewater Service Charge (Yr)	\$185.41	\$0.07
Wastewater Treatment Rate (m ³)	\$2.7532	\$0.1740 m ³
Comm. Wastewater Treatment (m ³)	\$2.7532	\$0.1740m ³

The rate increase will ensure the following:

- Support public health by providing safe drinking water
- Be environmentally responsible with effective wastewater collection
- Undertaking of capital projects for replacement and upgrading of watermains and wastewater sewers
- Maintain, repair, and replacement of watermains, valves, meters, and hydrants
- The water and wastewater/storm-water rates also support operating and maintenance activities, including regulatory compliance and purchasing of water treatment services from Niagara Region

“Our approved 2019 Water/Waste Water budget attempts to strike a balance between consumer affordability and the replacement of aged infrastructure,” said David McLeod, City Councillor & Budget Chair. “Every year, infrastructure replacement becomes more expensive and so does the cost of operating a leaking water/waste water system. As Budget Chair I am appreciative of the debate surrounding this challenge. In the coming years, I am hopeful that we can find innovative solutions that can deliver significant improvements to our water distribution system, because meaningful change is what I believe our citizens want staff and council to strive for.”

QUICK FACTS

Water and wastewater are regulated services and must meet legislated requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Sustainable Water and Sewage Systems Act, and the Clean Water Act. The City of Welland

provides safe drinking water to more than 52,000 residents and takes approximately 1,500 water samples per year. For more information on City of Welland budgets or water quality standards visit welland.ca.

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