## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Centre Hastings Council Approves 2025 Budget, Prioritizing Infrastructure and Capital Programs

January 30<sup>th</sup> 2025 - Centre Hastings Council is pleased to announce the approval of the municipality's 2025 budget, reflecting a year-over-year property tax levy increase of 8.17%. Once growth considerations are taken into account, the increase comes in at 5.49%. The total forecasted expenses for 2025 amount to \$11.66 million, with other sources of revenue covering \$4.80 million. The balance of \$6.86 million will be derived from property taxation.

A significant portion of the budget this year has been allocated towards capital programs and infrastructure replacement, which will enhance the quality of life for residents and support future growth. The capital budget totals \$2.39 million, with \$2.06 million earmarked for essential projects, including the replacement of plow trucks and fleet, as well as critical road rehabilitation and bridge replacement initiatives.

Key upcoming projects include the much-anticipated full rehabilitation of St. Lawrence Street East. This project is slated to begin construction in early May 2025 and will continue through to the fall of 2026. In addition, the municipality will carry on with hardtop preservation work on various roads, including Carson Road, Slab Street, and Quin-Mo-Lac Road, ensuring these vital transportation links remain in optimal condition for years to come.

Moreover, the budget encompasses funds for the procurement process aimed at the full replacement of Sills Road Bridge, set to commence in 2026. These capital expenditures are vital for the safety and accessibility of our community, showcasing Centre Hastings' commitment to prioritizing infrastructure improvements.

For taxpayers, the anticipated impact will be an average annual increase of approximately \$63 for every \$100,000 of assessed value, translating to roughly \$5 per month. This strategic budget aligns with the municipality's goals to foster sustainable growth and sustain the amenities available to residents.

"We believe this budget effectively addresses the pressing needs of our community while laying the groundwork for future development," said Mayor Deline. "Investing in our infrastructure is essential, and we are committed to ensuring that our municipality is prepared to grow and meet the challenges of tomorrow."

For further information about the Centre Hastings 2025 budget, please visit our official website or contact our office directly.

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