## **Strathcona County 2021 Consolidated Budget**

"A budget is more than a series of numbers on a page; it is an embodiment of our values." - Barack Obama

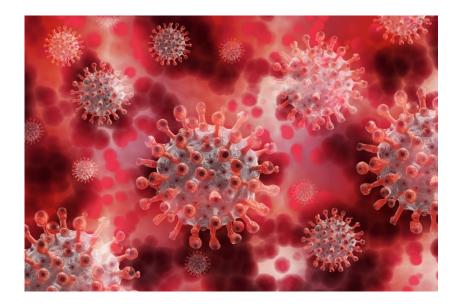






## Hindsight and 2020

- Direction from AHS resulted in the temporary closure of recreation facilities and outdoor amenities
- Temporary layoff of ~500 employees
- Increased demand for PPE
- Reimagining the way we work
  - Number of staff in one vehicle
  - Increased frequency in cleaning of offices and meeting spaces
  - Increased demand for technology and other IT solutions
- Increased need for signage and communication support





### **Safety-based response**

- Committed to supporting the safety of residents, visitors and staff
- Creating a balance between maintaining service levels and reimagining the way we work
- Working closely with public health officials
- Practices are evidence-based and current







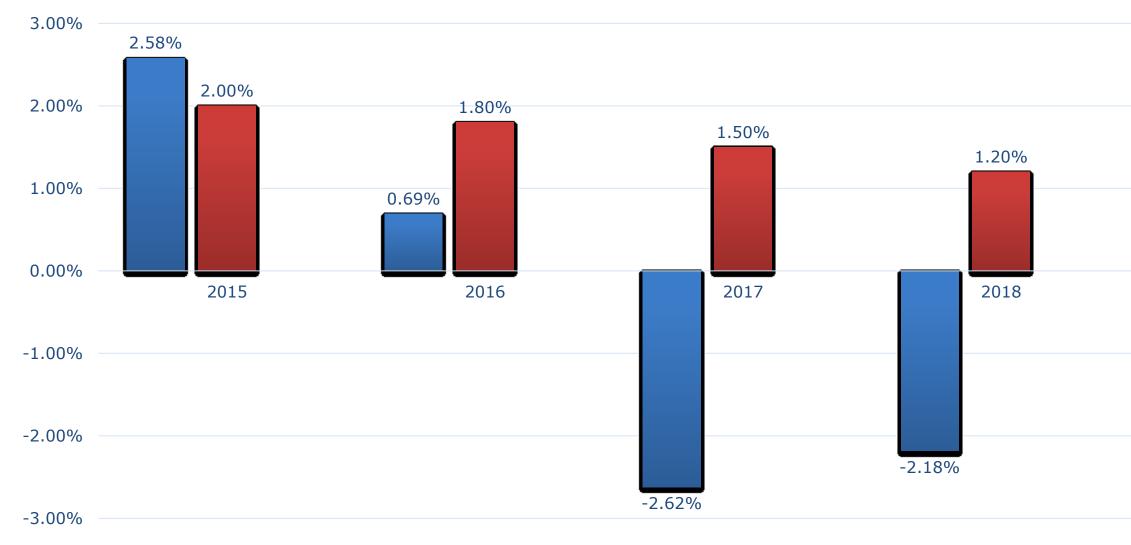
## **Priority-based process**

- Prioritizing and re-prioritizing
- Balancing service delivery with economic impact
- Listening to our community
- Resource and capacity limits
- New initiatives weighed against grant dollars, legislative requirements and growth





### Tax rate increase versus annual inflation



■ Tax rate increase ■ Inflation







### Summary

- Commitment to safety
- Sustaining service levels
- Maintaining infrastructure
- Creating efficiencies
- Leveraging grant dollars
- Investing in growth

### Administration recommends a 0.81% tax rate increase.



Thank you



# **Presentation outline**

2021 Consolidated Budget:

- Budget overview
- Operating budget highlights
- Capital budget highlights
- Summary





# **Impacts – external bodies**

Municipal Stimulus Funding - \$13.9 million of which \$1,855,540 will be funded from reserves (to be completed by December 31, 2021)

Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program - COVID-19 Resilience Stream \$11,420,000 of which \$2,519,259 will be funded by the County (to be completed by December 31, 2021)





# **Key considerations**

### **Unknown Future Impacts:**

Postponement of Assessment Model Review

Impacts of COVID – 19 on County Operations

Provincial Government – Budget and other Financial Changes

"The key is to manage those things that are under our control and **prepare for those that are not!**" (Strathcona County 2018 Budget Presentation)





# **Key considerations**

### Tax rate changes 2016 to 2020

	Budgeted Tax	Tax Rate
Year	Rate Change	Bylaw
2020	1.21%	0.00%
2019	0.83%	0.83%
2018	-2.18%	-2.18%
2017	-2.15%	-2.62%
2016	0.70%	0.70%



RATHCONA

# **Key recommendations**

- Services and service delivery are **maintained** at current Council ۲ approved levels
- Municipal tax dollar **increase** of **0.81%** ۲
  - > where 1% municipal tax dollar equates to ~ *\$2.230 million*
- Utility rate **increase** of 1.19% ٠
  - Increase of \$1.49 per month (\$16.92 per year) for the average urban customer
  - where 1% utility rate equates to ~ \$440 thousand
- Library tax dollar **increase** of 0% ٠
  - > where 1% library tax dollar equates to ~ **\$99 thousand**





# **Key recommendations**

- 2021 Consolidated Operating Budget Recommendation • \$376.8 million
  - $\succ$  Municipal operations = \$307.1 million
  - $\succ$  Utility operations = \$58.9 million
  - $\succ$  Library operations = \$10.8 million

 2021 Capital Budget recommendation – \$53.9 million Debt - no new debt being recommended







The 2021 Budget achieves the objectives of delivering balanced and fiscally responsible operating and capital budgets that...

- Reflect the programs and services required to meet current resident, business and industry needs;
- Provide agility in a time of economic uncertainty; and
- Position the County to ensure a financially sustainable future while at the same time recognizing the environment which we operate.





# Thank you

