



**The Corporation of the Town of Cobourg
2021 Public Budget Submissions Public Meeting**

Monday, November 23, 2020

5:00 P.M.

Electronic Participation

Join Zoom Public Meeting Link to Participate Live.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82942855703?pwd=YXVxcFZKTndkdW9MdVREMnZyRmtnZz09>

Meeting ID: 829 4285 5703

Passcode: 902725

Dial by your location

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Pages

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. INTRODUCTION

Chair, Deputy Mayor Seguin, explains the general purpose of the meeting, to receive suggestions and budget submissions from Cobourg Citizens that will help inform the Town of Cobourg Council of their priorities for programs and services for the upcoming budget year in advance of the 2021 Budget deliberations.

3. DECLARATION OF PECUINARY INTREST

4. GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

- 4.1. Town of Cobourg 2021 Operating and Capital Budget Calendar and Engagement.

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5. PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS

Deputy Mayor Seguin explains the order of public submissions and requests all persons addressing the public meeting to state their name and address for the official record of the public meeting.

- 5.1. Written Public Submissions provided to the Town of Cobourg.
5.2. Oral Public Budget Submissions to be heard at the Public Meeting.

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6. ADJOURNMENT

Town of Cobourg Releases 2021 Budget Schedule

All budgetary meetings will take place via Zoom videoconference, public encouraged to participate.

Cobourg, ON (November 16, 2020) – The Town of Cobourg would like to inform residents that the 2021 Budget Schedule Division Staff Presentation meetings have been scheduled. All meetings will be held virtually by Zoom videoconference beginning in December 2020.

"Preparing the 2021 budget during the COVID-19 pandemic will be a challenge, but Town staff are working hard to bring their department priorities to Council so that the final budget will range from 0% to 1% for 2021. We appreciate your participation and comments," said Suzanne Séguin, Deputy Mayor for the Town of Cobourg.

Residents are encouraged to provide input on the 2021 Municipal Operating and Capital Budget by submitting a delegation to Council for the Regular Council meeting on Monday, November 23, 2020. Delegation requests can be made online by visiting the Town of Cobourg's new eSCRIBE page: www.cobourg.ca/subscribe, clicking on the meeting date and hitting 'Delegation request'.

2021 Municipal Operating & Capital Budget Schedule

MEETING	ABOUT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	OPEN / CLOSED
Public Submissions	Members of the public are given the opportunity to submit comment on the 2021 budget.	Nov.23	5 p.m.	Zoom	Open
Community Grant Presentations	Community organizations have the opportunity to make presentations to Council.	Dec. 7	5 p.m.	Zoom	Open
Division Staff Presentation Meetings	Directors/Managers will update Council & the public on potential capital projects, special one-time projects & anticipated requests for staffing level changes for 2021-2023. No delegations at this meeting.				
	✓ Planning and Development Services ✓ General Government Services ✓ Economic Development ✓ Venture13 Innovation Centre ✓ Art Gallery of Northumberland ✓ Public Library	Dec.8	1:30 p.m.	Zoom	Open
	✓ Public Works ✓ Environmental Services ✓ Protection Services – Fire Department	Dec.15	1:30 p.m.	Zoom	Open
	✓ Community Services ✓ Protection Services – Police Services	Dec.17	1:30 p.m.	Zoom	Open
Draft Budget Released	Draft Budget released for Public Review/Comment	Dec.22	-	-	-

Special Council Budget Session	Special Budget Council Session/Committee of the Whole: Budget is reviewed in its entirety by Council. <i>If a second session is needed it will be scheduled for January 22, 2021 beginning at 10 a.m.</i>	Jan.21, 2021	10 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Council Chambers or Zoom	Open
Final Budget Approved by Council	The Draft 2021 Municipal Operating & Capital Budget is submitted for final approval by Council.	Feb.16, 2021	6 p.m.	Council Chambers or Zoom	Open

For further information on the 2021 Municipal Operating and Capital Budget please visit www.cobourg.ca/budget.

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Media Contacts

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About The Town of Cobourg

The Town of Cobourg is a lakeside community (population 19,440) located on the north shore of Lake Ontario halfway between Toronto and Kingston and has been recognized multiple times by MoneySense Magazine as "One of Canada's Best Places to Live" in populations under 25,000.

Founded in 1798, Cobourg is rich in heritage offering a vibrant downtown, sophisticated small town atmosphere and renowned waterfront that serves as a popular getaway destination. As the largest town in Northumberland County, Cobourg is personified by historic Victoria Hall, hosts a 27.4 million community centre, an educated and skilled labour force, flourishing commercial sector and supportive municipal government. Cobourg has received the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Sustainable Communities Award, accolades from the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act Alliance, and multiple heritage, environmental, and event awards.

CALENDAR

NOV

16

Public Engagement Begins

Help identify areas of focus for the Town's current and long-term financial priorities.

NOV

23

Public Submission Meeting

Council will review public submissions.

DEC

7

Community Grant Presentations

Applicants present information to Council.

5 p.m.

Division Staff Presentation Meetings

All meetings begin at 1:30 p.m. via Zoom Videoconference.

DEC

8

- Planning and Development Services
- General Government Services
- Economic Development
- Venture13 Innovation Centre
- Public Library
- Art Gallery of Northumberland

DEC

15

- Protection Services - Fire Department
- Public Works
- Environmental Services

DEC

17

- Protection Services - Police Services
- Community Services

DEC

22

Draft Budget Released

The 2021 Draft Budget will be released for public review and feedback.

JAN

21

Special Council Budget Session

The 2021 Draft Budget is reviewed in its entirety by Council from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

10 a.m.

If a second session is needed, it will be scheduled for January 22, 2021 beginning at 10 a.m.

FEB

16

Final Budget Approved

The 2021 Draft Operating and Capital Budget is submitted for final approval by Council.

www

cobourg.ca/budget

All meetings will be available for livestream at

www.cobourg.ca/escribe

Marina Budget

Nov 20, 2020

Fully User-Pay Promise

Past Mayor's and CAO's have said "The Marina is fully user-pay" Boat and yacht owners should pay their own way.

June 2009

"Deputy Mayor Gil Brocanier said all money for the marina comes from marina revenues and its reserves, not the taxpayer".

Northumberland News Jun 17, 2009

Nov 2013

From COW Report by Bill Watson Nov 18, 2013

3.0 BACKGROUND Cobourg Marina operates as a standalone business unit within the town's corporate structure. As a result the marina does not receive funding from the municipal tax base. The town relies solely on revenues generated from use fees to pay all of the capital and operating cost of the marina

<https://cobourg.civicweb.net/document/73091>

Feb 2016

"The Cobourg marina facility operates on a user pay basis being wholly funded from fees received for rentals and usage."

From report by CAO Stephen Peacock
<https://cobourg.civicweb.net/document/73091>

During this homelessness and pandemic crisis in Cobourg, with many single mon's struggling to find a place to live, as well as food, it's hard for us to remember back when every dollar counts. Are we going to take money from them by using tax dollars to support the marina? This expensive, exclusive-use facility has less than 200 participants.

...” internet research: the results showed conclusively that rents rise after tax changes sufficiently to fully absorb 80-90% of the change in landlord tax payments! This estimate is highly significant statistical”

This is a perfect opportunity for Councillor’s, who truly believe in fairness to the poor in Cobourg, to draw a line in the sand, to say NO to public money being spent to pay for the Marina.

This is the fundamental question: Will our Council continue to maintain the promise that the Marina is “fully user-pay.”

The current Marina Reserve Fund stands at \$ 475K

		MARINA BUDGET	
	Item	Money spent & owing	Planned Spending
1	2014 - 32 dock / slip additions	\$ 290K	
2	Raising electrical wiring, high lake water (2020)	\$ 260K	
3	Remained of \$310K – spent next year		\$ 50K
4	Dock Replacement over next 5 years – info from Paul Gauthier		\$ 1.2M
5			
6	Security gates (2021)		\$ 60K
7			
8	Upgrade G dock 50A (2021)		\$ 31K
9	Power to C D docks (2022)		\$ 100K
10			
11	TOTAL	\$ 550K	\$ 1.441M
12	<i>Estimated annual debt service @3.5% for 15 years</i>	\$ 58K	\$ 130K
13			

This total debt service is more than double the expected marina net profit.(which for the last 9 years has averaged \$ 77K)

From item 4: Is Paul Gauthier correct about the \$ 1.2M. Doesn't council, in order to make an informed decision, deserve a professional / independent and up-to-date reserve fund study?

If you care what the residents want for their town - read the 19 pages of the Waterfront User Needs RESIDENTS Survey. (especially page 2, and 7 and 8 and 11)

EXTRA Explanations

- Reduced 2020 revenue at Marina because of Covid 19 and high water.
- Operations budget is approx. \$ 760 K (a huge budget for a seasonal facility)
- Marina current Reserve Fund stands at approx. \$ 475 K
- The push to spend extra millions on travelift for a hundred boaters used twice a year to lift 50 boats
- Listen carefully because, in the past, staff has promised "revenue generation" but has not promise "profit generation"
- Paul Gauthier reported in 2015 in his 15 page asset management report for \$ 1.2 M dock replacement he specifically states that the Marina cannot afford a travelift *"The projected reserve fund is insufficient to fund the cost for boat handling equipment, storage compound expansion and replacement of Dock's C, D, E, & F. Alternate source of funding will be required to cover these cost"- Sept 2015*
(Paul Gauthier <https://cobourg.civicweb.net/document/59406>)

*Ted Williams
Cobourg Resident*

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Brent Larmer](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: (EXTERNAL SOURCE) delegation for Cobourg budget meeting to be shared with council Nov 23/20
Date: November 23, 2020 12:17:34 PM

Hi Brent,

Many thanks for circulating this with council today. Could you please put an accent on Seguin and confirm you have received this email?

Best
Terry Marrocco

For Budget Meeting Nov 23, 2020

Dear Honorable Deputy Mayor Seguin and Cobourg Town Council,

How can we do better than a tree?

Delegation for 2021 Cobourg Budget, re strategic plan create a climate action plan,
Potential Opportunity to collaborate: Urban Forest Management Plan and Retrofitting..

For our long-term vision of Cobourg, do we see us enjoying green canopied streets or do we see solar paneled congregated dwellings, no tall trees, nor shade for greenery, residents would walk, cycle to go to community gardens and local parks? We must plan our budgets now to align with the vision we have for 5, 10, 20 years hence.

Request to integrate budget to green standards plan, including retrofitting plan with using costed budget items for our trees, grass, shrubs, and Cobourg Urban forest plan. We must collaborate now in the planning stages with urban forest canopy and retrofitting.

Re Status of Our Urban Forest Plan drafted in 2018,... 2020 revised update of budget is for new tree planting \$70,000. Urban forest first directive to hire a lead still is not done to integrate this with other Cobourg departments.

In the committee of the Whole Oct 26, 2020 report, our arborist'urban forest

Rory Quigley' gave a great report outlining need for accurate counting of trees in Cobourg. Now his plan must be costed to start getting bylaws and regulations and rest of first year of plan with all departments in order to get the Urban forest plan off the shelf and implemented economically in Cobourg.

Also at Oct 26 meeting, Judy Smith our Environmental officer outlined the need for retrofitting here in Cobourg. She also said we need to plant more trees. With retrofitting as it currently stands, the solar panels would dictate that only mature trees be spared. Certainly, no potential mature trees planted near any retrofitting. This potential conflict with trees can be avoided now with direct collaboration. We need an integrated sustainability plan which encompasses trees and many different researched components for human made alternatives to climate change.

Judy Smith and Rory Quigley are most knowledgeable, can we give them the resources to collaborate to have BOTH tree canopy AND energy sustainable homes?

Attached, below

Article "A nature -based approach to climate change", Bill Morris and John Lounds December 30, 2019 Globe and Mail, which includes adaptations to flooding as well as cooling etc.

Sincerely,

Cobourg residents:

Terry Marrocco, [REDACTED]
Bonnie Westcott, [REDACTED]
Yvonne Michalski, [REDACTED]
Dianne Graham, [REDACTED]
Nancy Marrocco, [REDACTED]
Marie-Noelle Maillard, [REDACTED]
Patricia Morgan, 711 [REDACTED]
Sister Mary Rowell, [REDACTED]
Rob Hunter, [REDACTED]

A nature-based approach to climate change

- The Globe and Mail (Ontario Edition)
- December 30, 2019
-

FRANK GUNN/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bill Morris was the president of Accenture Canada until his retirement in 2019.

John Lounds is the president and CEO of the Nature Conservancy of Canada.

As concern about climate change reaches new levels, Canada has a rare opportunity to be a bigger percentage of the climate solution than it is a percentage of the problem.

It's simple math. We emit 1.6 per cent of the world's greenhouse gases, but we possess a much greater share of the globe's pristine habitats. Specifically, we boast 9 per cent of the forests and one-quarter of the wetlands remaining on Earth. Ecosystems such as forests, wetlands and grasslands play a critical role in sequestering and storing carbon. Recent studies show that nature can provide around one-third of the climate solution. With our abundance of the world's natural assets, we have the opportunity and responsibility to champion nature's role in fighting climate change by protecting and restoring our forests, wetlands and grasslands.

Nature is not the whole answer, but it could be a consequential part of addressing what for many is now an intractable state of affairs. Some will debate whether it can solve a third of the problem but given that nature only attracts 3 per cent of climate capital, there's serious upside and opportunity.

A nature-based approach offers a menu of solutions for removing carbon from the atmosphere while we wait for advanced technologies to become viable. This is why the federal government promises to plant two billion trees over the next decade, helping Canada meet its 2050 commitments.

Planting trees is a proven, scale-able remedy for absorbing carbon. In addition, it will help to cool urban areas, create buffers along our waterways and restore wildlife corridors in Southern Canada. We should get on with it, ensuring it's sustainable and biodiverse.

Beyond trees, we know agriculture accounts for 8.5 per cent of Canada's emissions and offers potential for atmospheric carbon removal. We need to support farmers and ranchers with programs that incentivize carbon storage such as cover crops and conserving natural grasslands for pasture. Conservation solutions in Canada's peatlands are vital for these tremendous carbon sinks, particularly when permafrost starts to melt. Our coastlines and wetlands also offer natural solutions to adapt to the effects of climate change such as floods. What's missing is a prioritized list of answers for Canada accompanied by how much of the problem each can solve, and at what cost.

While Ottawa intends to spend at least \$3-billion on planting trees and land conservation over the next 10 years, what gets less attention is how large corporations are emerging as funders of nature-based solutions.

Each week we hear corporations announcing net-zero carbon targets with nature playing an important role. When its employees spoke up, Amazon announced a net-zero target and US\$100-million to restore forests and wetlands. The global airline industry is setting emission-reduction targets and offsetting carriers'

remaining carbon. Maple Leaf Foods and Canadian Natural Resources have comprehensive plans including nature-based solutions to support their own net-zero commitments. Between public and private funders – and enabled by the sustainable finance movement – there is now a growing demand for nature-based solutions.

How can Canada lead? We can continue to set high standards for sustainable forestry, protect and restore our southern forests, wetlands and grasslands, and work with Indigenous and local communities in the north to conserve large areas of natural habitats. We could collaborate with our world-leading banks, insurers and pension funds to create deal structures that are compelling to our landowners. We might even create a carbon offset market that's trusted, transparent and efficient. And since this would-be fertile ground for Canadian scientists and technologists, how about an institute for nature-based solutions?

One challenge is ensuring we don't sacrifice emissions reductions by enabling organizations and individuals to simply offset their footprints. But set aside the challenges. We should jump on this now. If one large, sparsely populated country can demonstrate how to leverage nature for solutions, we can improve the planet's prospects and create a new, clean industry at the same time.

Albert Einstein famously said that “we shall need a substantially new way of thinking if humanity is to survive.” He also said “look deep into nature and then you will understand everything better.”

When it comes to nature, Canada is poised to lead the way.