

For Immediate Release

**April 1, 2016
Cobourg, ON –**

Council Plays Cruel April 1st Joke on Taxpayers *Spend and tax trend continues*

The Cobourg Taxpayers Association (CTA) says Council played Cobourg taxpayers for fools last night when it voted to bring in a 2.9% property tax increase because of higher municipal spending.

“It was a cruel joke on taxpayers”, said CTA Secretary Dennis Nabieszko.

To say, after six months of budget negotiations, that the most they can cut was a measly 0.2% raises some serious questions about the Town’s financial future based on a continuing tax and spend trend line.

It sends a terrible message to fixed income seniors and hard working middle and low income families, said Nabieszko.

By having Cobourg Taxpayers shell out 2.9% more in property taxes, the Mayor and Council are saying “We know how to spend your money better than you do”.

And it tells new businesses thinking of relocating here to think again.

“As a Town, our economic development strategy is to tax and spend our way to prosperity”.

Nabieszko said taxpayers should brace themselves for next year because the Town’s approved Budget shows it plans to grow property taxes by a staggering \$4.4 Million or 19.9%.in 2017.

What is frustrating is that staff and Council continue to ignore the evidence that high taxes are a drag on the economy.

“Council have once again demonstrated that they have no interest in paying anything more than lip service to their citizens”.

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