

March 21, 2016
Cobourg, ON –

CTA Calls for Zero Tax Increase to Stimulate Local Economy *Calls on council to show leadership*

The Cobourg Taxpayers Association (CTA) today called on Council to approve a zero tax increase budget for 2016.

In a letter addressed yesterday to the Mayor and members of Council, CTA President Lydia Smith asked that they show leadership by instructing staff to produce a 2016 Town budget resulting in no increase in the municipal portion of property taxes that citizens pay.

“It is time to return to the cost of living baseline and a zero budget increase starts the process.”

She noted that over 25% of Cobourg’s population are seniors on fixed incomes.

“Every tax increase takes more money out of the hands of seniors and hard-working middle and low income families. This money could be used instead to stimulate the local economy”.

Smith said that lower municipal taxes would also be the best economic development strategy for retaining existing retail and manufacturing businesses and attracting new firms and families to Cobourg.

“By applying some creative thinking and trimming some of the waste, it is possible to have no increase”.

Council needs to show that they are listening to their citizens.

“Holding the line on tax increases is the best prescription to restore economic prosperity to the Town”.

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