



Lord Selkirk School Division News Release Budget 2020-2021

At its Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, March 3, 2020, the Board of Trustees of the Lord Selkirk School Division approved a 2020-2021 school year Operating Fund Budget totaling \$59,050,940 and a Capital Fund Budget totaling \$367,438. The budget represents a 0.50% increase in expenditures **allowing the Division to reduce the Property Tax Mill rate by 0.32%.**

The Board of Trustees was very mindful of the budgetary impact on local taxation, and worked diligently to find cost savings, balancing the educational needs of our students with declining enrollment and reduced provincial funding.

Funding Sources and Impact on Taxpayers

Provincial funding is a key component of total operational revenue. For the fourth consecutive year, Provincial funding granted to the Division decreased by 2%. For the 2020-2021 budget, this is a reduction of \$503,676 in revenue.

Local property taxation represents 43.51% of the remaining revenue budget. The Division's mill rate for 2020 will be set at 14.8839. This represents a mill rate decrease of 0.0471 mills or 0.32% to the taxpayers of the Lord Selkirk School Division.

The average homeowner with a house valued at \$315,225 will see a decrease of \$6.68 annually.

Highlights:

- Approximately 1,000 respondents completed an online pre-budget survey to help inform decisions for the budget.
- A collaborative review of the vocational programs in the high school will be completed with the Province.
- Maintaining programs and staffing in schools was a priority in developing the budget.
- Mental health and supports/services for students and staff was a top priority identified throughout the survey.

The Board has kept expenditure increases to a minimum. As directed by the Minister of Education, Lord Selkirk School Division is compliant with respect to the special requirement guidelines and the administration expenditure cap.

For further information, please contact:

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