



**TOWNSHIP OF EDWARDSBURGH CARDINAL  
DISCUSSION ITEM**

**Committee:** Committee of the Whole – Administration and Operations

**Date:** February 20, 2025

**Department:** Finance

**Topic:** 2025 Draft Operating Budget

**Background:** Attached is the 2025 draft operating budget. This budget reflects a 3% increase in the municipal tax rate. Assuming the county rate stays at 6.14%, and there is no increase in the education levy, the total tax increase will be 3.676%. This translates to an increase of \$48.30 for every \$100,000 in assessed value. With the median assessment value in Edwardsburgh Cardinal at \$199,000 in 2024, this will result in a year-over-year increase of \$96.12.

The increase in the tax rate is primarily driven by a compensation review that was undertaken in the fall of 2024, which was placed in effect on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. This adjustment made to salaries replaced a traditional cost of living adjustment for the year. The other factor is the impact of inflation on the operating budget. Inflation drives up the cost of materials, utilities, fuel and other essential resources required to run township services, such as public works, emergency services, and maintenance of infrastructure.

Managers will present proposed one-time budget items and changes to service levels for consideration. These items and changes have been included in the consolidated budget that has been presented. The proposed adjustments are aimed at addressing specific needs and priorities, and council will have an opportunity to assess their impact on the 2025 budget.

If council wishes to increase the budgeted amount beyond what is presented, it will require an increase in the municipal tax rate above 3%.

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Treasurer

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