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NEWS RELEASE

County Launches 2010 Budget Process

Picton, ON - The County of Prince Edward has established its 2010 budget schedule and process. The annual budget process is one of the municipality's most important functions and central to all our programs and services. It has been structured to encourage public scrutiny and input.

There are several ways the public can provide ideas and suggestions, stay informed and participate throughout the process:

1. Review documents as they are posted on our website's budget section 'Budget 2010' www.pecounty.on.ca
2. Submit suggestions/comments through dedicated email budget2010@pecounty.on.ca or by mail to the Treasurer, 332 Main Street, Picton, ON. K0K 2T0
3. Attend meetings – they are all open to the public
4. Make a deputation at any meeting
5. Complete our on-line survey "Budget 2010 – My View" or complete and drop off a copy at any public library
6. Attend the March 30th, 2010 meeting to see a complete overview of the final budget.

The major budget considerations in 2010 will be:

- Maintaining and/or enhancing service levels
- Addressing infrastructure requirements
- Developing alternatives to deal with the loss of \$750,000 in provincial funding

The Budget Meeting Schedule provides for the capital budget, which funds infrastructure projects, to be dealt with at the beginning of the process in order to tender large projects early and gain better pricing. The operating budget, which funds programs and services, will be dealt with in a series of meetings.

The capital budget includes expenditures for infrastructure projects and capital assets. The capital budget is funded from a variety of sources including the tax levy, reserves, grants from other levels of government, issuance of debt and development charges.

The operating budget covers the costs of running the municipality. This includes road maintenance, policing, Planning and building, fire protection, emergency medical services, social services, recreation and cultural facilities and programs, waste management, library services, and others. The operating budget is funded by property taxes levied against homes and businesses in the County, user fees, and grants from other levels of government.

The Budget Meeting Schedule is attached.

To find out more about Prince Edward County, visit www.pecounty.on.ca.

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For more information contact Susan Turnbull, Commissioner of Corporate Services and Finance at 613-476-2148 ext. 241.

2010 Budget Meeting Schedule

Thursday, December 10, 2009, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Special Council meeting to consider the 2010 Capital Budget.
The Capital budget may be adopted at this meeting or it may be referred to a subsequent date.

Tuesday, February 2, 2010, 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Special Council meeting to consider the first draft of Departmental Operating budgets.

Thursday, February 4, 2010, 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

If necessary, to continue Departmental Operating budgets review from February 2.

Tuesday, February 16, 2010, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Special Council meeting to review budgets from external agencies that are funded by the municipality and other items arising from previous meetings.

Tuesday, March 2, 2010, 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Special Council meeting to consider the second draft of departmental Operating budgets and recommendations from the Grant Review Committee for not-for-profit organizations.

Tuesday, March 30, 2010, 9:00 a.m.

Special Public Council meeting to present the final draft of the Operating budget to the public.

Tuesday, April 13, 2010, 7:30 p.m.

Regular Council to pass by-law.

Note: Additional meetings may be called or meeting dates may be cancelled or changed. Check the County website or contact the Clerk's Department at 613-476-2148.