



Municipality of the District of Lunenburg



2026-2027 Budget Highlights

This year's budget focuses on delivering responsible, balanced investments that enhance everyday services while preparing the District of Lunenburg for the future. With new community programming space, improved transit, strengthened affordability measures, and increased support for local organizations, the budget advances growth in a thoughtful, sustainable way that benefits all residents.



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Quality of Life, Affordability & Social Inclusion

Programs that support residents through rising costs and social challenges.

Targeted Property Tax Relief

- \$650K program budget ($\approx 1.5\text{¢}$ tax equivalent)
- Rebates of \$280 / \$490 / \$700 based on income up to $\sim \$61,860$
- Example: Average home (\$254,890) $\rightarrow$ \$2,065 tax bill at \$0.81

Water Programs (Drought & Climate Response)

- \$30K water relief program
- \$540K for expanded private well financing programs
- \$150K for a permanent public water filling station

Recreation Facility Improvements

- Year 1 of \$4M upgrade to the Municipal Activity and Recreation Complex (MARC)
- Year 1 of \$4M upgrade to Sawpit Wharf
- Miller Point Park enhanced accessibility for trails and roads
- Mush-a-Mush vault toilets and road improvements
- New pickleball courts through community partnership

Mobility & Safety for Vulnerable Residents

- \$25K Seniors' Safety Program
- \$90K operating support for Lunenburg County Wheels
- Transit fixed route investment \$600K
- New \$20K Municipal grant for local food banks
- Exploration of additional support programs





Infrastructure Upgrades, Expansion & Management

Supporting a growing municipality through planned investments and asset management.

Cookville Wastewater Expansion

- \$24.5M total project budget, with more than \$16M in secured grants
- Funding allocated this year

Centre School Demolition

- \$4.5M project to improve safety and secure land

Provincial J Class Road Improvements

- \$350K for the Municipality's mandatory contribution

Trails, Parks & Open Spaces

- Trail capital: Dynamite Trail (\$20K), LaHave River Trail (\$15K), Bull Run Trail (\$32K), Adventure Trail (\$11K)
- \$90K Canada Community-Building Fund for trail improvements
- 10% increase in support for trail organizations
- \$30K for Sherbrooke Lake environmental monitoring
- \$60K to the Open Space Strategy reserve



Climate Change Action

Helping residents improve efficiency and building long-term climate resilience.

Clean Energy Financing Program

- \$500K for home energy retrofit loans (repaid to reserves)

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Response

- \$200K core program + \$53K for additional Local Climate Change Action Plan projects

Climate Resilient Infrastructure

- Solar arrays, EV chargers, and energy-efficient building upgrades
- E-bike loan program rollout





Regional Economic Development

Investing in initiatives that strengthen the regional economy and prepare for future growth.

Transit Expansion

- \$600K for fixed route bus capital
- \$90K support for Lunenburg County Wheels
- \$315K in EPR revenue to expand service
- \$300K from reserves for implementation

Community & Business Hub (Osprey Village)

- One-time fit up of \$3M (from reserves)
- \$292K annual operating costs supported by EPR revenue
- Supports entrepreneurs, nonprofits, training, workforce development, small business growth, and community programming

Intersection Safety and Sidewalks in Osprey Village

- \$5.1M project, leveraging approximately \$4M in grants

Housing Strategy (\$159K)

- Landbank preparation
- Pre-development grants
- Support for non-profits
- Regional partnerships to plan for and build shared housing infrastructure
- Community awareness

Regional Economic Development Partnership Exploration

- \$30K program evaluation





Communications & Engagement

Strengthening engagement and improving resident access to services and information.

New! Online Services

- Efficient Online Tax Bill Portal where residents can view and pay bills
- Regional Online Permit Portal to provide time-saving building application and tracking

Public Engagement

- \$12K towards enhanced engagement
- \$20K for awareness materials

Public Outreach Tools

- Back of tax bill messaging
- Social media updates on rebates, tax sales, billing dates
- Engagement with local community support groups
- Easy to use MODL app to stay connected and updated
- Engage MODL website for information and feedback



Key Takeaways

This budget balances today's needs with tomorrow's infrastructure and climate resilience

- Over \$3.1M in grants and rebates are invested in community organizations including foodbanks, volunteer first responders, and community halls.
- Mandatory expenditures* are about 39% of operating budget
- Revenue growth has increased 7.04%
- Net operating expenditure is up 7.35%
- 1¢ on the tax rate ≈ \$427K
- Average tax bill increase (with CAP): +\$54/year, or just over \$1/week
- EPR contract: \$1.06M total benefit (revenue + savings)

* Education, Assessment, Library services, and RCMP mandatory costs are set by other levels of government. These essential services increased by approximately 5.5% over the last year.

Learn more, visit: modl.ca/budget



Watch our Budget Highlights video on YouTube [Here](#)

