

## **2017 Water and Sewer Combined Billing**

### **Why have the Water Bills increased?**

The base amount of sewer has been removed from the Kirkland Lake tax levy. Only those residents connected to the municipal sewer system will have the additional 80% levy on their Utility Bill.

### **How much of the new Utility Bill is sewer?**

At its meeting of November 22, 2016, Council passed Bylaw 16-080 setting the Water and Sewer rates for 2017. Council agreed to a 3% increase in Water with Sewer rates being 80% of the Water Rate.

This decision was made after consideration of a 20-year water/sewer capital plan recommended by OCWA.

### **How does this translate for individual residents?**

**If your 2016 quarterly water bill was \$108.55**, multiply it by 3% to get the 2017 water rate:

$\$108.55 \times 3\% = \$3.26$  increase in water from 2016 to 2017 TOTAL WATER = \$111.81

2017 Sewer will be  $\$111.81 \times 80\% = \$89.44$  TOTAL SEWER

2017	WATER =	\$111.81
	SEWER =	\$89.44
<b>TOTAL QUARTERLY BILL =</b>		<b>\$201.25</b>

### **Why a 3% increase in Water and Sewer?**

Council has agreed to a 3% increase to allow for money to be invested into the Water and Sewer Reserve Funds to ensure funds are available for the capital works needed as per the OCWA 20-year plan.

This 3% for 2017 allows for \$117,246 in transfer to the Water Reserve Fund; and \$119,318 to be transferred to the Sewer Reserve Fund.

### **Will there be a decrease in the 2017 Tax Bill?**

The net sewer amount will be removed from the tax levy and a separate fund dedicated to sewer revenue and expenses created. However, until the 2017 budget has been finalized and the rates set by Council, the amount of change in the tax bills is not possible to calculate.

Council and senior staff are now in the budget process.

Residents will NOT see any difference in the first installments of 2017 tax bills (March and April) as these bills will be 50% of 2016 taxes (and 2016 taxes included sewer).

### **Was there proper notification and discussion on this change in Water and Sewer Billing**

September 20, 2016 – Council accepted KPMG Operational Review at an Open Meeting with the recommendation to remove sewer from tax levy

October 18, 2016 – Discussion with Council at Open Meeting concerning water/sewer rate study

November 1, 2016 – Notice of intent to set rate bylaw was given at Council Meeting; continuation of discussion with Council at Open Meeting concerning the water/sewer study from prior meeting

November 22, 2016 – Bylaw setting rates was passed

December 2016 – Notice in Northern News Municipal Update, Town website, and sent with each water bill

### **Why does it look like there are duplicate amounts in the Water Bill?**

You are NOT being billed twice...CODE #01 for flat water and #02 for metered water -- CODE #04 for flat sewer and #05 for metered sewer.