WHERE IS YOU MONEY (2015 BUDGET

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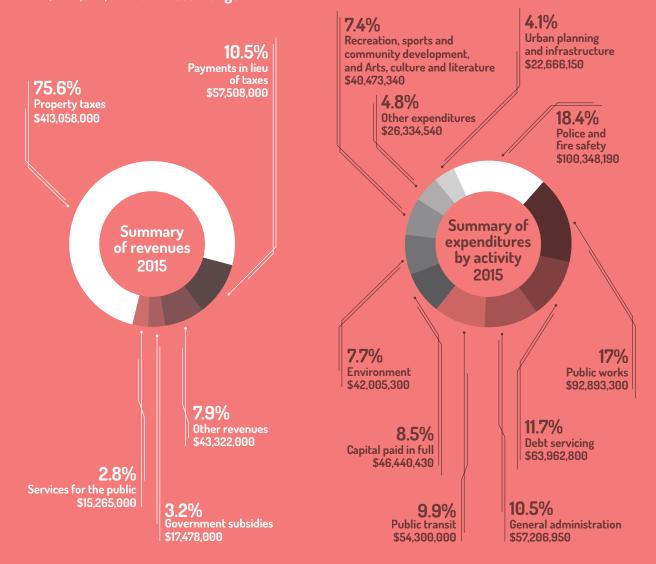


KEEPING SPENDING UNDER CONTROL

\$546,631,000 balanced budget

The work done by the Commission de révision des dépenses et des services enabled Gatineau to identify recurrent savings in the order of \$6.3 million. This work will continue with the objective of achieving \$15 million in recurrent savings by 2018.

In reassessing some of our practices, Gatineau was also able to avoid an additional \$3.4 million in costs.



A Budget of Decisions

The 2015 budget is the outcome of a full year of intensive work. We began by pooling all of our electoral programs into a formal Council program that sets out our mandate's main priorities. In this way, we were correcting a key weakness identified by numerous observers who had indicated that Gatineau has been paying a high price for the lack of clear orientation, in the order of \$4 to \$5 million according to the Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton report of January 22, 2013.

Our priorities are now clear, and better defined than ever. Thanks to this budget, we are setting the stage for the future by attempting to generate wealth by investing in our libraries (for the first time since the merger), in our employment nodes, in our downtown, and in our neighbourhoods. Thanks to this budget, we will continue to be one of the most active cities in Quebec when it comes to the enormous catch-up challenge we face with our infrastructures.

This budget also reflects our rigorous approach. We completely redesigned how we function. We introduced an ongoing expenditure review process. We stopped allocating money by sector. We refused to scatter our efforts, and instead focused our actions on specific objectives. These principles will continue to guide us in the coming years.

Maxime Pedneaud-Jobin, Mayor

Projects that Look to the Future

Over the next four years, Gatineau plans to invest \$67 million, mainly in the following development projects:

Development of the downtown

- \$32 million to double annual municipal investments in the downtown, the priority being on the development of the ruisseau de la Brasserie and Aubry/Laval areas; and
- the subsidy aimed at promoting residential construction will be extended for another six years, or until 4,000 new dwellings have been built.

Improvement of the library network

- \$21.9 million will be invested in a new library in the Plateau area, followed by the renewal of the Lucy-Faris and Guy-Sanche libraries.

Other projects throughout Gatineau (\$10.1 million)

- renovation of parc des Cèdres;
- heritage protection of the Deschênes rapids;
- oxygenation of lac Beauchamp;
- urban revitalization of the old city centres in the Aylmer, Gatineau, Buckingham and Masson-Angers sectors; and
- significant investments to stimulate the utilitarian use of bicycles, including a new pathway connecting the Masson-Angers and Buckingham sectors along rivière du Lièvre.

And in addition to all of these projects, you have the \$43 million Jacques-Cartier street redevelopment project.

Municipal Taxes

The overall municipal tax increase in 2015 comes to 2.9%, or \$70 for a median residential tax account (on a property assessed at \$237,700):

• 1.9% of the basic tax increase will be used to maintain current services.



• 1% for infrastructures: since this dedicated tax was introduced in 2012, it has helped limit the deterioration of our infrastructures.

In 2015, Gatineau will continue to reassess its approaches in order to further improve its efficiency. It also intends to continue diversifying its revenue sources in order to reduce its dependence on property taxes.

Record Investments in Infrastructure Maintenance

These investments are critical if we are to stop the deterioration in our municipal infrastructures and, ultimately, limit expenses. This year, \$171 million will be earmarked for infrastructure maintenance. The main areas are as follows:

- million dollars
 Road repairs
- million dollars
 Water supply and sewer system repairs
 - million dollars
 Municipal buildings
- million dollars
 Radio communication
- million dollars
 Plants and pumping stations
 - million dollars (minimum)
 Housing
- million dollars
 Renewal of the vehicle and equipment flee
- million dollars
 Computer services
 - million dollars

 To redesign our facilities next to the new \$75 million Société de transport de l'Outaouais (STO) garage

Fiscal Pact

Our budget is a serious, rigorous and lengthy exercise that was undermined by what the Government of Quebec called the transitional fiscal pact for 2015, and that we called the imposed fiscal setback. By striking out at the tax offsets and QST refund to which we were entitled, the Government of Quebec assaulted our financial foundation, and this in a most cavalier manner, without any notice, and just days before the budget was to be presented. In the interest of ensuring the financial health of cities across Quebec, it is of utmost importance that the province cease giving them responsibilities while at the same time reducing their revenues.

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BUDGET

For additional information about the 2015 municipal budget, visit the municipal Web site at gatineau.ca/budget.

Consult the Municipal Council's program online at gatineau.ca/programmeduconseil.



Également disponible en français dans les centres de services et le site Web municipal.