



## New Years Message

### Message From the Mayor

Dear Residents,

On behalf of Town of Springdale Staff and Council, I would like to wish all residents a very Happy New Year. The beginning of a new year is a time to reflect on our accomplishments, set new goals, and look ahead with optimism. I am very pleased to present a balanced 2025 budget of \$3,814,434.80 million, with minimal tax increases to the residents and businesses of our community. A 0.25 increase to the annual mil rate will ensure Council's commitment to improving infrastructure, and to provide quality services and amenities to the residents of Springdale. This year's Budget is about addressing our community's shared priorities and moving forward in 2025. None of this would be possible without the support and collaboration of our residents, businesses, and local organizations. Together, we will continue to build a community that we can all be proud to call home. Let's make 2025 a year of growth, connection, and opportunity. From our families to yours, Happy New Year!



### Reflecting on 2024

Last year, our community made significant strides to improve infrastructure within all Departments. These improvements are intended to enhance operational efficiencies and improve the day-to-day services we provide to our residents.

#### Recreation Department:

We continue to upgrade the George Huxter Memorial Park Green Space with the development of a new accessible washroom facility. This new addition to the park better enables us to host local events while improving accessibility to important amenities. Continuing with our accessibility improvement initiatives, 2024 also saw the installation of a new Elevator/Lift servicing Manuel Hall. This lift replaced the previously used access ramp and provides ease of access to individuals with mobility issues. In addition to the new elevator/lift, Manuel Hall washrooms and kitchen received a facelift with the addition of new flooring, paint and cabinetry, enhancing its functionality and appeal. These renovations significantly improve comfort and convenience for all user groups.



The Springdale Stadium plant system received an upgrade with the addition of a new condenser unit improving efficiency and reliability in ice surface maintenance for both the stadium and curling club.

Consistent with our efforts to improve energy efficiency, two heat pumps were also installed at the Springdale Curling Club. Heat pumps will reduce energy consumption and operating costs while providing a more comfortable environment for players and spectators alike.

### **Public Works:**

The Public Works Department have made ongoing improvements to ensure that we operate effectively and efficiently to meet the community's needs. The Public Works Depot received recent upgrades to improve efficiencies in the building structure both functionally and economically. The installation of new windows, insulation and lighting systems have improved functionality and has reduced operational costs.

The Public Works Department has also added a new John Deer Backhoe to its fleet. The Backhoe is the most utilized piece of equipment in the Department. Equipment reliability is very important in providing timely responses to emergency water leaks and the provision of new services.

### **Springdale Fire Department:**

In 2024, the Town received funding approval for the purchase of a new Fire Truck. Funding was awarded under the province's fire vehicle program. The new fire truck is currently being manufactured and should be in service late 2025. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our Fire Department for their service, resilience, and unwavering commitment to our community over the course of 2024.



### **Looking Ahead:**

The 2025 budget will see us remain steady on our priorities of road upgrades, community infrastructure investment and the commitment of maintaining and improving frontline services.

### **Main Street Capital Works Project:**

One of the most significant initiatives this spring is the Main Street Upgrade Capital Works Project. This project is consistent with the Town's asset management plan to replace aged infrastructure which is of significant importance to the Town's operation. The section of Main Street from the Little Bay Road Intersection to Juniper Road will undergo a comprehensive upgrade which will include:

- Water and Sewer System Upgrades: The project will modernize our aging water and sewer infrastructure, ensuring reliable service for decades to come and supporting future growth.
- Asphalt Replacement: The project includes a full repaving of Main Street, addressing wear and tear to provide smoother and safer travel for vehicles and pedestrians.

- Sidewalk Enhancements: New sidewalks will improve accessibility and safety for pedestrians while adding to the aesthetics of our downtown core.

Construction is expected to begin in April and continue through the spring. We are committed to minimizing disruptions and will keep you informed every step of the way with updates on timelines, road closures, and progress.

### **Softball Field:**

The softball field will receive some TLC with the addition of new material in the infield as well as the warning track. A renovated infield ensures a smoother, safer playing surface, reducing the risk of injuries caused by uneven terrain or loose material. We look forward to hosting future softball competitions in 2025.

### **Indian River Walking Trail:**

Money has been earmarked in the 2025 budget to address the deterioration of the stairs and board walks in the section of the trail leading to George Huxter Memorial Park. Allocating these funds is a vital investment in recreation, local infrastructure and the health of our residents. A well-maintained trail encourages residents of all ages to stay active, promoting physical and mental well-being.



### **Marina Infrastructure:**

Council has taken the first step to Marina development in the 2025 budget. Council is currently seeking Ministerial approval to purchase a piece of waterfront property, including a dock and laydown area. This initiative is a forward-thinking investment in the community's economic and recreational future. Securing this prime location lays the foundation for a future marina development that could serve as a hub for boating, fishing, and waterfront activities. A marina would not only enhance local tourism and attract visitors but also create opportunities for new businesses, such as restaurants, shops, and marine services.

### **Community Engagement and Communication:**

Community Engagement and communication continues to be a priority for the Town. We encourage residents to register for Voyent Alert. Voyent Alert is a multi-purpose communication service provided by the Town of Springdale to keep you informed of critical events like floods, fires, extreme weather as well as day-to-day communications such as road maintenance and closures, water advisories, etc. For information on how to register visit [register.voyent-](https://register.voyent-)



alert.com or contact the Town Office. In addition to Voyent Alert, the Town will be upgrading its community sign on the Town Office property to improve community messaging and to better promote local special events.

## **Service Reminders:**

### ***Property Taxes***

**PAYMENT METHODS** - The Town of Springdale accepts cash, cheque, debit or credit for payments. Please be advised that payments can also be made online through your banking institution. Citizens can make payments at Scotiabank, BMO, CIBC or online.

**PAYMENT PLANS** - For your convenience the Town will accept equal payment plans in order to keep your account in good standing. For your convenience post-dated cheques can be mailed or dropped off at the town office.

**DISCOUNT DATE** – All taxes are due and payable by March 31, 2025. Citizens will receive a 2% discount on property, business and water & sewer if paid by March 31, 2025. Seniors will no longer be eligible for discounts based on age as directed by Municipal Affairs under the new Towns and Local Service Act.

**PROPERTY ASSESSMENT** - Property Assessment is the process of establishing a dollar value for property tax purposes. The Municipal Assessment Agency completes property assessments for the Town of Springdale. The Town is not involved in any way with the property assessment process. The Assessment Act, 2006 requires a re-evaluation of property every three years. The current assessments are based on the market value of a property as of January 1, 2024 and have been calculated based on property's physical characteristics and property sales in the area. Also please be advised that the appeal period will be 60 days from the date of the assessment notice.

If you have any questions, please contact the town office at 709-673-3439 or email [info@townofspringdale.ca](mailto:info@townofspringdale.ca)

### ***Reminder For New Business Start-ups***

Re: Business Permits and Service NL Approval

The first step to obtaining a business permit from the Town of Springdale is to submit plans and specifications to Service NL for a required plan review. The purpose of the plan review is to ensure projects are in compliance with the Fire and Life Safety Code as well as the Buildings Accessibility Act and Regulations. Service NL registration is subject to a final inspection before occupancy. Once the final inspection is complete and all requirements are met, the Town will then issue a permit to occupy. Please be reminded that if this is a new construction, a development permit is also be required.

### **Plans and Specifications**

Plans and specifications for new construction, alteration, renovation, extension, and/or change of use or occupancy of a building (including patios or decks) shall provide sufficient information to show that the

proposed work will conform to the National Building Code of Canada (NBCC), the Fire Protection Services Act and regulations and the Buildings Accessibility Act and Regulations. For plans and specifications for all NBCC Part 3 buildings, the designer shall be a professional architect or engineer skilled in the work concerned except for Group A assembly occupancies (ie church, arena etc.) where the buildings total occupant load does not exceed 50 persons.

For more information visit Service NL website at <https://www.servicenl.gov.nl.ca/licenses/index.html>