

Municipality of Glenella - Lansdowne  
2019 Budget Highlights

*How much money does the municipality raise in taxes?*

The 2019 municipal operating budget is \$1.95 million, and money raised from taxes cover \$1.5 million of this (or 79%). \$333,000 (or 17%) comes from money received from other revenue, \$72,000 (or 4%) transfers from reserve funds.

Other revenue include Provincial Municipal Grants based on per capita, as well as for provincial road maintenance. It also includes money received for crown lands, Community hall rentals, interest income, tax penalty income, equipment rental income as well as our share of the tax sharing agreement with the Neepawa Personal Care Home and gas tax revenue.

*What kind of expenses are in the operating budget?*

The expenses for the operating budget are broken down into 10 categories.

1. **General Government Services** include Council Indemnities and wages of Office Staff as well as all expenses that relate to the two municipal office including telephone, hydro, supplies, audit and legal fees for the municipality, conventions, education and training, liability insurance, grants, hydro and insurance to the Arden Museum.
2. **Protective Services** include all expenses that relate to the two Fire Department including the fire halls, equipment, supplies, 911 service, as well as worker compensation fees and animal control (beavers). New this year is the bylaw enforcement officer we have hired and his fees are also included in this department.
3. **Transportation Services** include the wages of the patrol operators, as well as all expenses that relate to the operation of the equipment including fuel, repairs, insurance as well as all expenses that relate to the two municipal shops. It includes gravel, culverts, signs, as well as expenses that were formerly charged to the respective LUD's which include sidewalk repairs and street lighting. This is the largest category of the budget and represents 44% of the operating budget.
4. **Environmental Health Services** include all expenses that relate to the two Waste Disposal Grounds including wages, recycling fees, repairs and maintenance of the grounds and insurance, as well as payments to Progressive Wastes for the transfer site in Arden. Also included in this category are all expenses that relate to the operation of the Tenby Well and our share of the Halston well.
5. **Public Health and Welfare Services** include all expenses that relate to the maintenance of the four cemeteries we look after, as well as the Tenby School. Also included in this category is the Provincial levy to our municipality for social assistance. In 2005 the Province assumed the responsibility of social assistance and in return charges the municipalities a levy for this service.
6. **Environmental Development Services** include our portion of the expenses for operation of the Neepawa & District Planning District, which include the Development Officer, planning and

zoning meetings, conditional use hearings, etc. Also included are expenses that relate to survey monument restoration.

7. **Economic Development Services** include our levy to two veterinarian districts – Gladstone and Neepawa, as well as the Whitemud Watershed Conservation District, our levy with NADCO, and expenses that relate to Tenby School.
8. **Recreation and Cultural Services** include all expenses that relate to the operation of the Community Hall in Glenella and operating grants given to both the Lansdowne Recreation Committee and the Glenella Recreation Committee, insurance on the all Arden and Glenella Recreation facilities and grants to parks in both Arden and Glenella, as well as the Green Team wages.
9. **Fiscal Services** include tax discounts and debenture debt charges. The municipalities have eight debentures combined. The first two debentures represent the municipal portion of the construction of the personal care home in Neepawa. They were taken in 2007. Glenella's was a 20 year \$140,000 debenture, with annual payments of \$12,023. Lansdowne's was a 15 year \$200,000 debenture, with annual payments of \$20,327. The municipality has made 11 annual payments and the current balance outstanding is \$37,520 and \$9,995 respectively. A decrease in interest rates has allowed for both of these debentures to be paid off early, Glenella in 2022 (six years early), and Lansdowne's this year (three years' early).

The next two debentures relate to the Arden Water and Sewer. The first is the one for the lagoon. It was taken in 2008 and was a 20 year \$400,000 debenture, with annual payments of \$40,740.88, which come out of the gas tax revenue. The municipality has made 10 annual payments and the current balance outstanding is \$53,477. It will be paid off in 2020 (eight years early). The second debenture that relate to Arden Water and Sewer is covered by frontage on the taxes. It was taken in 2010 and was a 15 year \$43,500 debenture, with annual payments of \$4,776.07. The municipality has made 9 annual payments and the current balance outstanding is \$10,878. It will be paid off in 2021.

The next four debentures relate to equipment purchases. The first debenture was for the purchase of the tractor in Glenella. It was taken in 2014 and was a 5 year \$90,000 debenture, with annual payments of \$19,630. The municipality has made 4 annual payments and the current balance outstanding is \$19,141. It will be paid off this year. The second was for the purchase of a Grader in Arden. It was taken in 2017 and was a 5 year \$242,000 debenture, with annual payments of \$51,501.77. The municipality has made 2 annual payments and the current balance outstanding is \$147,109. It will be paid off in 2021. The third was for the purchase of the gravel crushing equipment. It was also taken in 2017 and was a 5 year \$260,000 debenture with annual payments of \$56,497.43. The municipality has made 1 annual payment and the current balance outstanding is \$214,316. It will be paid off in 2022. Finally, there was the purchase of the Arden Fire Truck, taken in 2017 and was a 10 year \$100,000 debenture with annual payments of \$11,589.40. The municipality has made 1 annual payment and the current balance outstanding is \$92,727. It will be paid off in 2027.

**The last category on the budget is transfers** and it includes all transfers to reserve funds including general reserve, equipment replacement reserve fund, building fund, capital development fund, fire department fund and gas tax reserve fund.

*What else is on my tax bill?*

There are also School taxes which are calculated by the individual school districts and given to the municipalities to include on their tax statements. Any questions regarding the school taxes should be directed to the school division.

Education Property Tax Credit was \$700 in 2018. This credit applies to your principal residence only and is deducted off your property tax bill if you were the registered owner of a single dwelling unit which is your principal residence on which you paid property taxes. The Province has changed the rules on this tax credit effective 2019, it will be applied against education taxes only and has eliminated the \$250 threshold. Some properties may see a decrease in the tax credit received which will result in an increase in property taxes paid.

Farmland School Tax Rebate rate for 2018 was 80%. This rebate applied to all school tax on farmland only and must be applied for, it is not automatically deducted off your tax bill. All residents who received a rebate in 2018, automatically receives the application form in 2018, however the municipal office also receives blank application forms. The deadline for prior years' school tax rebate was March 31, 2019.

*Are there any capital expenditures this year?*

This year's capital budget allows for the purchase of a used Rescue Unit for the Arden Fire Dept., an additional used pickup truck, a snow blower for the tractor, upgrades to the recycling buildings on both the Arden Transfer Site and the Glenella Waste Disposal Grounds

There are also plans to build a new Municipal Shop in Arden as well as renovations to the existing shop to accommodate the Arden Fire Equipment as well as a meeting area and washrooms. We have estimated \$500,000 for this and plan to take a 20-year debenture.

We plan to replace the existing bridge at Riverside Colony at the estimated cost of \$350,000 and will utilize \$150,000 of reserve funds with the balance of \$200,000 coming from a 10-year debenture.

We are finalizing phase 1 of our rural water project with cooperation from the Manitoba Water Services Board and a grant under the Clean Water and Wastewater Project.

We are also upgrading the water meters in Glenella and upgrading the utility software and meter reading equipment in both Glenella and Arden utilizing funds from the utility reserve as well as from the former LUD's. Once completed both systems will be on the same software and be more automated.

The Greensand Filtration System will be completed in the Glenella Water plant with the costs cost shared with Manitoba Water Services Board on a 50/50 basis, with our share paid utilizing a ten-year debenture

Our five-year capital budget includes plans to purchase a used firetruck for Glenella in 2020, new graders in 2020 and 2022, mowers in 2021 and 2023. We are also allocated money each year for rural water expansions and office equipment.

*Will there be another substantial increase in the water bills?*

The Public Utilities Board sets the water rates, not the Council for the Municipality of Glenella-Lansdowne. Both utility systems are run separately from the municipal operating system and cannot run in a deficit position. In 2012, there was a water rates study completed for the Glenella Water System, filed with the Public Utilities Board and their water rates were established.

A utility rate study on the Arden Water System is currently on hold but should be completed by 2019-2020 and will result in what could be a substantial increase in the water and sewer rates in Arden. The water system which was put in 2008, have never has a rate study to determine that the costs incurred were covered by the rates charged. Once the water rates study is completed, it will be filed with the Public Utilities Board who will ultimately determine the water rates to be charged.