

Council's decision to affect commercial, industrial rates

boundary to recover the cost of services like transit, sidewalk plowing and street lighting. Last year, these services cost \$4.6 million. Ward 4 Councillor Rick Malboeuf's motion approved by council in an 8-3 vote says that the urban levy will be reduced to 50 per cent this year, followed by one uniform tax rate starting in 2017.

This means rural residents will see an increase this year of \$12.38 per \$100,000 of the assessed value of their home, representing a 5.73 per cent increase on the Town portion of

their tax bill.

Meanwhile, urban residents will see a decrease of \$1.74 per \$100,000 of assessment, which translates into a .71 per cent decrease in Town taxes.

While a notice of motion from a councillor is normally made public at least two weeks before it's on the agenda for a decision, council voted 9-2 in favour of waiving the rules of procedure to accommodate the motion on short notice due to 2016 budget timelines.

At the residents' meeting hosted by the Des-

tinuation Campbellville Community Association (DCCA), facilitator Donna Danielli helped guide the discussion to focus on the key points citizens want to make when speaking to council. These include their position on the lack of public notification, suspension of council's rules of procedure, the fact the services paid for by the urban levy — such as transit — aren't currently available in the rural area, and more.

DCCA president Liz Lambrick noted the association is not taking a position on the issue, but rather working to inform its members so that they can make their own decisions.

"It's a terrible precedent to be set; we're paying something for nothing. We're not getting any additional services for paying that (tax)," said rural Miltonian Kathryn Lemke.

She went on to express concern about the impact the tax change will have on rural businesses.

According to the Town's number crunchers, a commercial business in the rural area will be paying an extra \$18.03, while an industrial operation will be faced with a hike of \$29.21

per \$100,000 of assessment on the Town portion of their 2016 tax bill.

Meanwhile, a commercial business in urban Milton will see a Town tax decrease of \$2.54 and an industrial business, a reduction of \$4.11 for every \$100,000 of the assessed value of their property.

"It's already hard enough for people out here in the rural area to maintain their business," noted Lemke.

Local farmer Peter Lambrick urged those at the session to be mindful of their words when speaking to council and avoid calling the urban tax levy an "urban surcharge."

"They (urban residents) are paying their taxes, just as we are paying our taxes," he said. "They're paying for services that we don't get."


"Should we request a bus that goes up and down Guelph Line?" suggested fellow farmer John Opsteen. "We have to look at what the next step is if this (bid to council) doesn't work."

Other residents in attendance also voiced worries about whether their input at the budget session will actually make a difference.

“It's a terrible precedent to be set; we're paying something for nothing. We're not getting any additional services for paying that.”

Kathryn Lemke
Local resident

The Corporation of the Town of Milton



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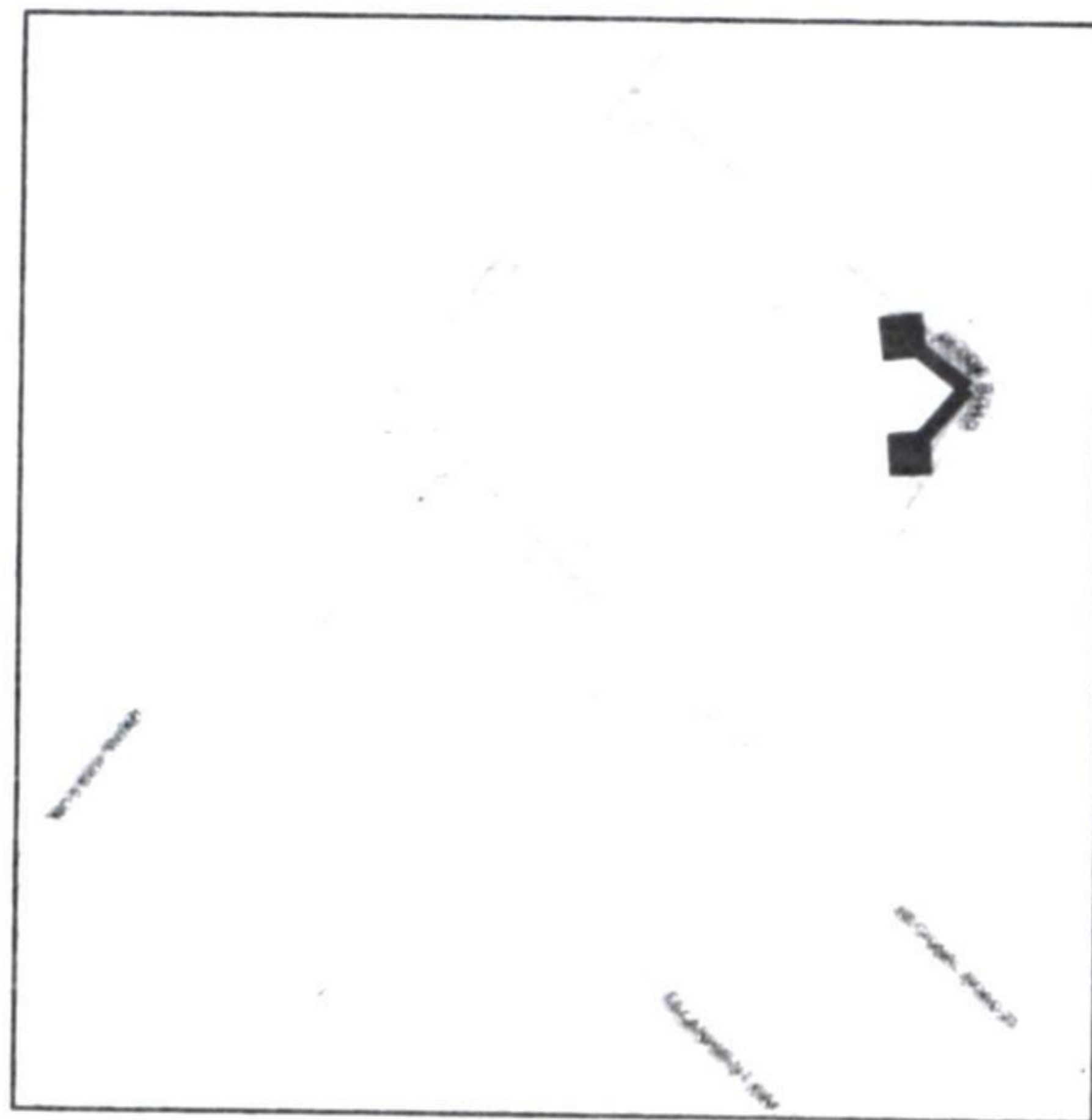
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Notice of Temporary Road Closure Peddie Road, East of Regional Road 25

The Town will be completing a road crossing on Peddie Road for future development.

In order to expedite this work, Peddie Road will be closed through the curved portion of the road from a point 300 metres east of Regional Road 25 to a point 20 metres easterly thereof, on:

**Monday, February 8, 2016 at 7:00 am until
Monday, February 15, 2016 at 7:00 pm**



Access to businesses west and north of the closure will be maintained via Regional Road 25 and No. 5 Side Road.

Any inquiries should be directed to:

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