

Monique Ouellet

From: Christian Velenosi <chris_velenosi@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, November 16, 2024 1:29 PM
To: Budget
Subject: EXTERNAL Statement from Rockland citizen about 2025 budget.

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Good day,

We have lived in Rockland since 2021 due to the higher cost of living elsewhere. We were staggered upon learning what the current property taxes were in 2021. Nearly as much as Barrie Ontario the once fastest growing city in Ontario.

Moving from Barrie and witnessing how the city of Rockland conducts itself has provided great insight. The city does very little to justify what we're paying already. Snow removal, above average police presence and endless street construction are the only things we have seen that could justify any of this. That being said, it is clear that the town is mismanaged with how things are planned and executed especially with construction on the roads. Calling it a bad joke would be a heavy understatement.

I believe I speak for most citizens of this town as well as the country; The government on all levels has already proven in diamonds that it cannot properly manage tax revenue and claims very little accountability when the light is shined on these findings. Therefore why should we be paying more? Your reasons outlined are unjustifiable as its clear miss management is to blame.

The town needs to look inwards and understand that it must be run like a business and thus must cut unnecessary funding to wasteful programs and irrelevant positions of employees long before they consider making these issues the responsibility of the citizens. Canadians are already heavily burdened with the provincial and federal government's mishandling of tax revenue throughout all parties.

Cost of living is still out of control despite claims from politicians. At what point is the tax we continually pay more of, going to be enough!? We pay and pay and pay and everything continues to deteriorate.

I feel the same about your budget as I do about most government budgets, disconnected from reality and the citizens.

I urge you to consider my suggestions and reconsider your position on the budget.

Thank you

-Christian