

**Niagara Region Departments Base Budget**

<b>Object of Expenditure</b>	<b>*2024 Budget</b>	<b>~2025 Budget</b>	<b>\$ Variance</b>	<b>% Variance</b>	<b>Note</b>
Labour Related Costs	325,925,508	342,992,027	17,066,519	5.24%	(1)
Administrative	28,103,924	29,245,927	1,142,003	4.06%	(2)
Operational & Supply	31,126,409	33,724,952	2,598,543	8.35%	(3)
Occupancy & Infrastructure	19,581,992	20,186,019	604,027	3.08%	(4)
Equipment, Vehicles, Technology	15,030,437	16,942,692	1,912,255	12.72%	(5)
Community Assistance	264,515,183	357,143,281	92,628,098	35.02%	(6)
Partnership, Rebate, Exemption	33,758,986	51,735,683	17,976,697	53.25%	(7)
Financial Expenditures	72,589,124	69,052,792	(3,536,332)	-4.87%	(8)
Transfers to Funds	61,699,182	64,543,144	2,843,962	4.61%	(9)
Intercompany Charges	(2,235,783)	(3,580,594)	(1,344,811)	60.15%	(10)
Expense Allocations to Capital	(140,000)	(140,000)	-	0.00%	
<b>Total Expenditures before Indirect Allocations</b>	<b>849,954,962</b>	<b>981,845,923</b>	<b>131,890,961</b>	<b>15.52%</b>	
Indirect Allocations recovery from Rate, Courts & Transit	(33,314,200)	(33,897,656)	(583,455)	1.75%	(11)
Capital Allocations recovery from Rate, Courts & Transit	(381,333)	(853,059)	(471,727)	123.70%	(12)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>816,259,429</b>	<b>947,095,208</b>	<b>130,835,779</b>	<b>16.03%</b>	
Taxation	(19,186,650)	(21,191,019)	(2,004,369)	10.45%	(13)
Federal & Provincial Grants	(442,584,681)	(543,889,937)	(101,305,256)	22.89%	(14)
By-law charges & Sales	(6,603,211)	(6,365,467)	237,744	-3.60%	(15)
Other Revenue	(54,582,905)	(57,219,286)	(2,636,381)	4.83%	(16)
Transfers from Funds	(10,339,704)	(23,327,827)	(12,988,123)	125.61%	(17)
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>(533,297,151)</b>	<b>(651,993,536)</b>	<b>(118,696,385)</b>	<b>22.26%</b>	
<b>Net Departmental Levy</b>	<b>282,962,280</b>	<b>295,101,670</b>	<b>12,139,390</b>	<b>4.29%</b>	

\*includes in-year adjustments

~excludes program changes for New Programs, Growth Costs and Capital Financing

Notes:

1. Labour related costs pressures of \$17.1 million include fully funded staffing costs including positions approved in 2024 for partial year (\$3.6 million), base pressures in accordance with collective agreements including overtime, WSIB, and replacement pay (\$11.0 million), and People Strategy (\$2.8 million).

2. Administrative costs pressures of \$1.1 million include contract price increase pressures for insurance (\$0.6 million) and consulting fees (\$0.2 million), and inflationary pressures for phone costs and radio licenses (\$0.1 million).

3. Operational and Supply cost pressures of \$2.6 million include fully funded offload nurse costs (\$1.4 million), program and medical supplies (\$0.3 million), and contract price increase pressures in hired equipment and winter salt (\$0.3 million).

4. Occupancy and Infrastructure cost pressures of \$0.6 million include inflationary pressures in building repairs and maintenance (\$0.5 million) and grounds contracts and janitorial supplies (\$0.1 million).

5. Equipment, Vehicles, Technology cost pressures of \$1.9 million include contract price increases in IT software (\$0.9 million), inflationary increases in parts supply and repairs and maintenance (\$0.8 million), and fuel increases (\$0.1 million).

6. Community Assistance cost pressures of \$92.6 million include an increase in funded programs (\$82.2 million) which are made up of the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Program (\$67.1 million), Social Assistance rightsizing of benefits based on caseload (\$12.0 million), Homelessness contract renewals (\$2.2 million), Social Assistance enhanced benefit (\$0.9 million), Social Assistance Housing Stability Program (\$0.4 million), Housing program increases (\$1.8 million), offset by a decrease in Housing provider subsidy in line with end of mortgages (-\$2.2 million). Cost pressures also include a one-time Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care fully funded expansion of child care spaces (\$9.4 million). Non funded costs include Social Assistance enhanced benefit (\$0.9 million), Social Assistance Housing Stability Program (\$0.4 million), and Social Assistance restoring Niagara Prosperity Initiatives (\$0.3 million). These costs are partially offset by savings in Homelessness Housing Stability Program discretionary spending (-\$0.7 million).

7. Partnership, Rebate and Exemption cost pressures of \$18.0 million include costs funded by reserves inclusive of Project Eagle (\$5.4 million) and the West Lincoln Memorial Hospital (\$10.5 million), as well as Levy funded costs increases for non-mandatory development charge grants (\$1.4 million) and increased ancillary dwelling units development charge exemptions (\$1.0 million). Cost increases are offset by the wrap-up of the Building Safer Communities Fund (-\$0.3 million) which is fully funded.

8. Financial Expenditures reduction of \$3.5 million relates to reduced debt charges resulting from maturing debt and revised interest rate assumptions (\$3.1 million).
9. Transfers to Funds pressure of \$2.8 million includes sale proceeds of surplus properties transferred to Capital Reserve (\$2.0 million), savings for debt substitution (\$3.1 million), Housing provider capital subsidy (\$0.9 million), Vision Zero surplus (\$0.9 million), and Ministry of Long-Term Care funded construction subsidy (\$2.0 million), offset by a reduction of Homelessness Prevention Plan funding (-\$6.2 million).
10. Intercompany Charges increase of \$1.3 million relates to an increase in Vision Zero expenses allocated to Courts (\$1.0 million), and fleet rent increases reflecting capital replacement costs (\$0.3 million).
11. Indirect Allocations recovery increased by \$0.6 million due to inflation and contract price increases in IT costs, building maintenance, administrative, and insurance premiums.
12. Capital Allocations recovery increased by \$0.5 million due to the nature and value of the shared capital projects planned for 2025.
13. Taxation includes an increase of \$2.0 million for payment-in-lieu tax revenue (\$2.0 million).
14. Federal & Provincial Grants increase of \$101.3 million includes additional funding from the Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Program (\$67.2 million), Social Assistance rightsizing of benefits based on caseload (\$12.0 million), Social Assistance employment services and program delivery (\$4.9 million), Ministry of Long-Term Care construction subsidy (\$2.0 million), Seniors legislated staffing levels and base funding increase (\$5.3 million), Housing program increases (\$1.8 million), Public Health Ministry of Health, Dispatch, and Ministry of Children Community and Social Services increases (\$2.1 million), reallocation of Infection Prevention and Control funding from Other Revenue (\$0.3 million), additional offload nurse funding (\$1.4 million), and one-time funding from Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care for the expansion of child care spaces (\$9.4 million). These are offset by a reduction of Pandemic recovery funds (-\$1.1 million), Homelessness Prevention Plan funding (-\$1.5 million), Housing provider subsidy in line with end of mortgages (\$1.6 million) and the wrap-up of the Building Safer Communities Fund (-\$0.3 million).
15. By-law Charges and Sales decreased by \$0.2 million relating to reduced signal maintenance for lower area municipalities (\$0.2 million).
16. Other Revenue is higher by \$2.6 million which includes sale proceeds of surplus properties (\$2.0 million), legislative increases to Seniors accommodation fees mandated by the Ministry of Long Term Care (\$0.9 million), and reallocation of revenue from Infection Prevention and Control funding moved to Federal & Provincial Grants (\$0.3 million).
17. Transfers from Funds include an increase of \$13.0 million relating to transfer from hospital reserve to support the West Lincoln Memorial Hospital (\$10.5 million), transfer from reserve for Project Eagle (\$5.4 million), offset by a reduction in one-time transfers for Homelessness Prevention Plan capital investments (-\$2.4 million).