



New Release  
For immediate Release

### **The Cities of New Brunswick's Association's initial reaction to the 2019-2020 provincial budget**

**(Fredericton, March 19th, 2019)** – The Cities of New Brunswick Association is not surprised by the Government of New Brunswick's 2019-2020 budget tabled today at the Legislative Assembly. However, there are concerns that the Province missed an opportunity to demonstrate the critical role that municipalities of all types play in supporting sustainable, livable communities and a strong provincial economy.

« During the last few months, Premier Higgs and the Government of New Brunswick were very receptive to our message about the important role that municipalities have on the economic growth of this Province » says Cities of NB Chair and Mayor of Miramichi, Adam Lordon.  
« Unfortunately this does not seem to be reflected in the 2019-2020 budget. »

While the cities understands the importance of practicing fiscal restraint and balanced budget, we are concerned with the Government's decision to :

- Delay funding for critical infrastructure projects which will have a dramatic impact on the economy activity within some cities in the coming year.
- Delay on the promise for a fair share of cannabis revenue to cover municipal public safety and administrative costs.
- Not mention a much needed broad review and reform of our current municipal system.

« We encourage the Government of New Brunswick to continue with their open and transparent dialogue with NB Cities » says Lordon. « This is a good start in building our Provincial and Municipal partnership, however these delays will have a dramatic impact on the Cities economies and our ability to help keep driving New Brunswick's economy and population growth forward. »

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