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VILLE DE / TOWN OF
Stanstead

The Stagecoach



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MAYOR'S CORNER



Jody Stone

Hi,

Summer is just around the corner, and we can already feel the arrival of the school holidays! There is still time to register your children for the various camps offered in our area so they can make the most of the summer season.

I would like to highlight the tremendous success of the **depaving activity** held on May 23 at the future park site and warmly thank all the volunteers who took part. Through your time, energy, and dedication, you have played a direct role in transforming our community and helping build a gathering place we can all be proud of. This project truly belongs to the citizens, as your ideas and vision helped guide the creation of this important space.

I believe it was important to create a welcoming and vibrant space rather than leave a neglected building at the entrance of our community. This future park will be developed in several phases, with the goal of bringing people closer to the river. For far too long, this beautiful natural resource has not been fully embraced in our downtown area. We now want to reclaim it together and turn it into a lively space for the entire community.

In another part of town, many residents took advantage of the large item collection day to do some major clean-up work on their properties. Thank you to everyone for your participation and for helping keep our community clean and welcoming.

The next **large item collection** day will take place on July 4. Due to the growing popularity of the event and in order to ensure operations run safely and smoothly, traffic flow will be modified. **The lineup will begin on Maple Street, which then becomes Villeneuve Street. Vehicles will exit the site via Villeneuve Street and then onto Railroad Street.** We thank residents for their cooperation and patience in helping maintain safe and efficient traffic circulation.







UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Monday Council Meeting | 2nd Monday of the month| Town Hall - 425, rue Dufferin | 7 p.m.

MAYOR'S REPORT TO CITIZENS

Highlights of the Financial Report and Auditor's Report – May 2026

During the regular municipal council meeting held on May 11, Council received the external auditors' report for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2025. The Town's financial statements were audited by the accounting firm Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton (RCGT), which confirmed that the statements fairly present the financial position of the municipality in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

The report adequately reflects the results of the Town's operations, the evolution of its net debt, and its cash flows for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2025.

Financial Results as of December 31, 2025

The year 2025 enabled the Town to continue several major projects and important investments for the community, including:

- the development of Parc des Générations;
- upgrades to playground equipment in municipal parks to meet current standards;
- the construction of a new panoramic platform near the Tomifobia River;
- the beginning of construction of the new fire station.

Residential development also experienced an exceptional year, the strongest in the past fifteen years, with nine new residential constructions and three new multi-unit residential projects currently under construction.

In addition, the Town continued to invest in essential infrastructure, particularly in drinking water supply and wastewater treatment.

The Town therefore ended the 2025 fiscal year with a surplus of $64,451. This moderate surplus is mainly explained by the municipality's financial participation in major projects, including the Tomifobia River panoramic platform and the new fire station.

Town revenues totalled $5,582,879 in 2025, compared to $5,399,290 in 2024. Expenses amounted to $5,179,795 in 2025, compared to $5,363,164 in 2024.

Financial Position

The Town's financial position remains sound and stable. The municipality benefits from an accumulated surplus of $2,409,539 and a working capital fund of $400,000, allowing it to finance certain investments without significantly increasing the tax burden on citizens.

As of December 31, 2025:

- an amount of $1,253,621 was available in the unallocated surplus;
- an amount of $259,882 remained available in the working capital fund.

Furthermore, despite the investments made in recent years, the Town's long-term debt decreased by 9.5%.

Property Assessment Value

The Town's property assessment base increased by $2,036,700 in 2026, representing a 1% increase compared to 2025, for a total value of $380,868,300.

Tax Rate	2025	2026
General property tax	$0.5440 / $100 of assessment	$0.5500 / $100 of assessment
Commercial property tax	$0.8400 / $100 of assessment	$0.8500 / $100 of assessment
Industrial property tax	$0.9500 / $100 of assessment	$0.9600 / $100 of assessment
Agricultural property tax	$0.5440 / $100 of assessment	$0.5500 / $100 of assessment

The increase in the general property tax rate for 2026 is therefore 1%.

Service Taxes

The Town provides several essential services to residents, mainly grouped into the following categories:

- water and sewer services;
- residual waste management;
- public safety;
- investments and infrastructure.

Certain special taxes are also used to repay loans related to capital or infrastructure projects. Depending on the projects concerned, these taxes may apply to all taxpayers or only to specific sectors of the municipality.

As such, each taxpayer contributes toward the services received and the infrastructure used.

On average, service taxes increased by 5% in 2026. However, wastewater services experienced a more significant increase of 30%, mainly due to infrastructure and operating costs.

Costs associated with public safety, including services provided by the Sûreté du Québec and the Régie incendie Memphrémagog-Est, increased by an average of 5%.

In addition, the Town's contribution to the Régie intermunicipale de gestion des déchets de la région de Coaticook increased by 28 %.

Conclusion

The financial results as of December 31, 2025 demonstrate that the Town continues to maintain a healthy financial position and has the flexibility required to pursue major projects benefiting the entire community.

Several projects were completed as part of the continuity of previous years' initiatives in order to strengthen municipal infrastructure, continue ongoing work, and prepare for future development.

In closing, I would like to acknowledge the contribution of all members of the previous municipal council, particularly former councillors Ms. Sandra Harrison and Mr. Harvey Stevens, who did not return following the November 2025 elections. I would also like to thank the new councillors, Ms. Sophie Nagle and Ms. Josiane Samson, for their commitment and dedication to serving the community.

I also wish to sincerely thank all employees of the Town of Stanstead for their rigorous work, professionalism, and dedication throughout 2025.

The complete financial report may be consulted on the municipality's website.

YOUTH ZONE

Summer Day Camp

Summer is just around the corner!

If you're still looking for a day camp for your child, now's the time to start thinking about it.

Stanstead Day Camp offers:

- A different outing each week;
- A variety of activities;
- A dynamic and safe environment.

A summer to move, explore, and have fun!

Sunnyside school
441, Dufferin street, Stanstead
From June 25 to August 21, 2026







YOUTH ZONE





COMMUNITY LIFE







COMMUNITY LIFE









BULLETIN BOARD







CLARIFICATION

Regarding the run-down buildings, including the building at 496 Dufferin Street (Former Ursuline College)

The Town of Stanstead wishes to inform the public of the ongoing situation regarding the condition of the building located at 496 Dufferin Street, formerly occupied by the Ursuline College.

The Town is aware of the concerns expressed by residents and recognizes the importance of this building, which holds a significant place in Stanstead's history and landscape.

The Town has observed the deterioration of a portion of the building. In order to properly assess the situation, an engineering firm has been mandated to conduct a structural analysis of the building. The Town is currently awaiting the conclusions of this report.

The Town has also reported the situation to Quebec's Ministry of Culture and Communications, which is being kept informed of developments in this matter.

As certain procedures are currently underway and the building is privately owned, the Town must act in accordance with the applicable legal framework. The next steps will be determined based on the information available, including the findings of the anticipated engineering report.

The Town is also paying close attention to all abandoned and run-down buildings within its territory. Measures are being implemented to ensure public safety and improve the quality of the municipality's building stock.

The Town of Stanstead thanks residents for their understanding, assures the public that it continues to monitor this matter closely, and will keep the community informed of future developments as soon as further details can be provided.

MADAME TOURNESOL'S CHRONICLE

Tick season is back.
Unfortunately, walking in the woods is no longer the only way to get bitten by one of these creatures. They're everywhere in the country because they travel via mammals like mice and deer, and also on our pets. So they can be found just about anywhere. This Mrs. Sunflower got bitten a few weeks ago. After a good scare, I decided to share the research and advice I received from health information websites, my local pharmacist, and the websites of Health Canada and Quebec Health.

The tick is an opportunist; it climbs onto foliage and brush and waits for a host (animal or human) to pass by so it can attach itself. When it finds its host, it climbs up to find its food source, which is blood. It attaches itself to the skin with its tiny hooks and begins to feed. It sucks blood for a period of about 24 hours. It is afterward that the tick, in turn, releases a substance that sometimes contains bacteria. However, there's no need to panic. Not all ticks carry the bacteria that cause Lyme disease. This is why it's important to identify the tick.

Before identifying it, you must remove it.
A tick remover is ideal.

Our local pharmacy always keeps them in stock. It works just as well on our pets as it does on us. You slide the remover onto the skin, and once it's firmly hooked around the tick, gently twist the remover counterclockwise, and the tick should come off easily. It's very important to keep the tick in an airtight bag or a small jar to take to the pharmacy for testing or to the hospital if symptoms of Lyme disease develop. After removing the tick, you must thoroughly wash the bite area with soap. Also, take a picture of the bite so you can check if the affected area is worsening.

Bishop's University has launched a study in collaboration with Public Health Canada to identify ticks that have bitten humans or pets.

Their website, **www.etick.ca**, available in both French and English, offers valuable advice on recognizing and removing ticks, prevention tips, and a platform for reporting tick bites. The site also provides instructions on how to properly photograph the tick before sending it to them.

Within two days of submitting a photo, eTick provides timely, personalized information tailored to the region, helping users understand potential health risks and offering advice on preventing tick bites.

Now, I want to talk about prevention.
There is a lot of advice on what clothing to wear outdoors on health websites. It would be too long to list them all here. Insecticide is also good for prevention, but these ticks are still capable of attaching themselves to hard-to-see places on the body. It is therefore important to regularly inspect the "nooks and crannies" of your body, such as under your arms, in skin folds, around your navel, on your ears, on your scalp, and even in areas covered by underwear, to check for the possible presence of ticks. All clothing worn should be thoroughly washed upon returning from an outdoor activity. A good cycle in the dryer is also recommended to kill any ticks that may have survived the inspection.

Finally, it's important to remember that encouraging predators helps reduce the tick population in

ant and enjoy the outdoors this summer!

