

For Immediate Release

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A Year for Renewal

Chamber of Commerce hosts Annual Outlook Luncheon

MOUNT PEARL, NL – Today, Mayor Randy Simms addressed the Chamber of Commerce at the City's Annual Outlook Luncheon. Mayor Simms provided a positive outlook for the City, yet recognized the province's economic reality.

"This year, our City has committed to investing over \$13 million in infrastructure," said Mayor Simms. "Our focus is to maintain and sustain our business-friendly, family-friendly City. To do so, we are reinvesting in our core municipal infrastructure, which includes work in Kenmount, Beclin and Donovans Business Park, and upgrades to the Blackmarsh Road and Topsail Road intersections."

The Mayor went on to highlight a number of additional investment plans, including:

- Continuation of improved recreation infrastructure, such as the opening on a new gymnastics facility, upgrades to the Reid Community Centre, and continued work on the redevelopment of St. David's softball field;
- Continuation of the leak detection program to more quickly identify and repair leaks in distribution systems and substantially reduce costs for purchase of water;
- Continuation of a comprehensive asset management system that will provide necessary information for long-term and sustainable fiscal planning;
- Continuation of upgrades to community parks, playgrounds and trails systems, which includes improved signage and surfaces.

Mayor Simms praised the success of the business community, as it saw growth in 2015 and created over 200 new jobs. The Summit Centre, which sees over 400 people walk through its doors every day, will continue to see progress in 2016.

"Our City has continued to attract investments from the business community. I am proud to say that we are a net importer of jobs in the region, and have facilitated economic growth and employment opportunities," continued Mayor Simms. "With our plans for commercial growth and investment into our core infrastructure, Mount Pearl will continue to lead the way as a progressive, independent City."

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