

Mild weather lessens snow removal costs

By Mark Pavilons

The mild winter has a positive effect on Township coffers.

The lack of major snowfall has resulted in a noticeable savings in the public works road maintenance budget.

According to Andrzej Drzewiecki, director of engineering, public works and building, he estimated the savings at roughly \$70,000. That's based on the assessment of the volume of materials used to date, reduction of overtime and savings on fuel. He added there are also other "intangible savings," such as reduced vehicle and equipment wear and tear.

The amount allocated in the 2016 Operating Budget for winter road maintenance is \$609,904. It consists of such items as wages, benefits, overtime, materials and contractual services.

Drzewiecki stressed that King's road winter maintenance budgets are parts of the overall operating budgets prepared for each calendar year. Subsequently, every year they have to budget for parts of two winters. The 2016 budget relates to the second part of the 2015/16 and the first part of the 2016/17 winter seasons.