**Non-Homestead Millage Election**

***March 8, 2016***

* ***WILL NOT*** *INCREASE TAXES****.***
* Is an ***existing*** 18 mills levy on commercial, business and rental properties in the school district.
* Has ***no impact on homeowner’s property taxes.***
* Provides ***13 percent of the operating funds*** for L’Anse Creuse Public Schools each year.
* Is ***required*** to receive the full foundation allowance established by the state.
* Is funding that goes directly to the district to help pay operational costs to educate students

***Questions & Answers***

**What is non-homestead property?**

Non-homestead refers to commercial, business, owners of rental properties, vacant land and second-home properties. By law, almost all school districts are entitled to seek voter approval to levy 18 mills on such property. In fact, in order for the school district to receive its full pupil foundation allowance from the state, the district must levy 18 mills.

**Will the taxes on my home increase?**

**NO!** Since the adoption of Proposal A in 1994, school funding was structured to include an 18 mills non-homestead tax that requires periodic renewal. Industry, rental, vacant land and second-home property owners will pay taxes to support educational programming within the community in which they are located.

**Will the taxes on non-homestead property such as local businesses increase?**

**NO!** The authorized non-homestead millage for L’Anse Creuse Public Schools is scheduled to expire in 2016. Without a renewal, our per pupil funding level will drop to the lowest in the county, resulting in a $14 million annual loss to the district’s operational budget.

**If the proposal is defeated, will my homeowner taxes go down?**

**NO!** If the proposal is defeated, the millage rate for homeowners ***will not*** be reduced. Taxes on industry, rentals and second-home properties would be reduced by 18 mills.

**What is this money used for?**

The money the district receives from the non-homestead millage supports the annual operational budget, or the day-to-day operations of the school district. Classroom supplies, textbooks, equipment, utilities, transportation, staff, etc. are all paid from the operational budget.

**Why does the ballot language ask for more than 18 mills?**

By law we cannot levy more than 18 mills, even if it is voter approved. Like many other districts, L'Anse Creuse is requesting voter approval for the authority for more than 18 mills to guard against losing money due to a roll back in the millage rate caused by the Headlee amendment. By approving over 18 mills, voters can help guarantee a more stable budget for the district by ensuring the district is able to collect taxes on non-homestead property at the full 18 mills.

**What is the last date to register to vote?**

**February 8, 2016,** is the last day to register to vote. All eligible voters must be 18 on Election Day. You may pick up a Voter Registration application at your school office or township clerk’s office.