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Media Release

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Georgina receives prestigious budget award

Georgina, ON – The Town of Georgina has received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its 2024 Budget. The Distinguished Budget Presentation Awards Program recognizes municipalities that prepare their budget documents at the highest quality reflecting both the guidelines established by the National Advisory Council on State and Local Budgeting and the GFOA's best practices.

"I am honoured and proud to announce that for the first time, the Town of Georgina has been presented with this prestigious award," said Mayor Margaret Quirk. "This award is not easily earned and this kind of recognition comes from the hard work and dedication of many. It comes under the leadership of CAO Ryan Cronsberry, the financial stewardship of Treasurer Rob Wheater, and the support of the Financial Strategy and Planning Division, the Communications Division and all of our management team who were involved. I also want to acknowledge resident feedback, which is an important part of the budget process and helps Council decide what to prioritize. This award serves as a reminder to the dedication, hard work and collaborative spirit of every individual who contributes to the success of our community."

The award is granted to municipalities that demonstrate exceptional proficiency in several key areas, including:

- Clarity and comprehensiveness in the presentation of financial data.
- Sound financial policies and practices that promote fiscal sustainability.
- Effective communication of budgetary goals and strategies to stakeholders.
- Demonstrated commitment to long-term financial planning and strategic decision-making.

The <u>GFOA</u> represents public finance officials throughout North America. The association's more than 20,000 members are federal, state/provincial and local finance officials deeply involved in planning, financing, and implementing thousands of governmental operations in each of their jurisdictions. GFOA's mission is to advance excellence in public finance. The Distinguished Budget Presentation Award encourages governments to prepare and issue budget documents of the highest quality. This ensures residents are fully informed of the administration's policies, corporate initiatives and financial plans.

Achieving this award reflects the Town's commitment to investing in the community's future while providing the most value to residents and businesses. The 2024 budget addressed increasing costs while improving current service levels and allowing for sustainable future planning. To learn more about the Town's budget, visit <u>georgina.ca/budget</u>.

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