

---

## Brockville ups Kingston hospital donation

**Posted 4 days ago**

Brockville city council has upped the ante in the city's support of the redevelopment of the Kingston University Hospitals.

At a special budget meeting Thursday, council approved adding \$125,000 over five years to the tax rate as the city's contribution to the campaign.

The lone vote against the hospital funding was Councillor Henry Noble - ironically perhaps its strongest advocate on council. Noble had called for the commitment to match the Kingston University Hospital Foundation's request of \$556,273 - \$61,808 each year for nine years.

That figure was based on the number of Brockville residents - more than 9,000 last year - who use Kingston General, Hotel Dieu and the Cancer Centre of Southeastern Ontario.

His motion to make the larger commitment was defeated before council agreed taxpayers would give \$125,000.

"It's unconscionable," Noble said after the meeting. "I can't ask other people to pay our costs of health care."

Asked if he didn't recognize the city was making a significantly larger contribution than the \$30,000 pledge in last year's budget, Noble responded, "It will be better than last year, but the fact is somebody else has got to pay our share."

As a result, he said he will vote against this year's budget, as he did last year.

Councillor Larry Journal said during the debate the level of support was reasonable, given that many people question whether municipalities should be in the business of funding health care at all.

- Brockville Recorder and Times