KIP-162 - Enable topic deletion by default

Status

Current state: *Approved and merged*

Discussion thread: *here [Change the link from the KIP proposal email archive to your own email thread]*

JIRA: ⚠ Unable to render Jira issues macro, execution error.

Please keep the discussion on the mailing list rather than commenting on the wiki (wiki discussions get unwieldy fast).

Motivation

Topic deletion is still disabled by default in Apache Kafka. This means that with default configuration users need to figure out the configuration and modify it before they can delete topics. Since Kafka is typically first encountered in a development environment where users both want to experiment (which includes deleting failed experiments) and don't want to learn about new configurations, the current experience is suboptimal.

Topic deletion feature has been stable for about 2 years now. I think it's time to change the default.

Proposed Changes

- Change default of delete.topic.enable to true
- Remove the following lines from config/server.properties:

  # Switch to enable topic deletion or not, default value is false
  #delete.topic.enable=true

Compatibility, Deprecation, and Migration Plan

- This changes the default behavior, so we want to include an update in the release notes