
BEAVER VALLEY RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2006

Market Value Assessment

This has been the primary focus of activities for your Board of Directors. In May, co-chairs, Ernie Glozier and Don McGee made a presentation to Grey Highlands Council. The core of the presentation was the unfairness of the assessment, which does not adequately reflect on services provided by the municipality. It is particularly hard on seniors with fixed incomes that have not kept pace with inflation, and may force some seniors from their homes. Press coverage was received from the papers in Flesherton, Markdale and Owen Sound.

Grey Highlands Council passed a motion requesting the Minister of Finance to stop the next intended reassessment update which would change assessment values from January 1, 2005 to January 1, 2006 and that the January 1, 2005 values remain in place for taxation years 2006 up to and including 2009. UNFORTUNATELY, The County of Grey did not forward this motion to the Provincial government. As informed citizens we should be concerned about this disregard of the political-communicative process.

The Board of Directors of Canadian National Taxpayers Coalition and their CEO Paul Hazell are still carrying out the bulk of the activities in communities throughout Ontario.

As we know, in March the Ontario Ombudsman released a searing report on the unfairness of the Ontario assessment process. MPAC was labeled as an elitist operation with questionable practices that result in thousands of incorrect evaluations each year. CNTC has sent an Open Letter to Premier McGuinty and NO response has been received. In June, the Minister of Finance announced that property tax reassessments by MPAC would be cancelled for the next two years to allow for the implementation of the Ombudsman's recommendations. IT IS INCUMBENT UPON ALL TAXPAYERS TO NOTE THAT A PROVINCIAL ELECTION WILL BE FORTHCOMING, AND WE MUST CONTINUE TO PRESSURE OUR POLITICIANS FOR ACTION.

The BVRA continues to maintain its membership in CNTC and encourages all taxpayers to join CNTC. P.O. Box 997, Campbellford, Ont. KOL Membership is \$20.00 per year.

Update on ATV By-Law

The municipality has posted signs on roads that are forbidden to ATV's. Unfortunately, there have been instances of vandalism, resulting in the destruction of the signs. The municipality is re-thinking on how the signs can be less prone to vandals. Please report any vandalized signs to Glenn Eagles, Public Works, Grey Highlands, 986 - 2811 ext. 225

Apology: In the spring 2006 newsletter, due to an error in editing, a commercial message was not deleted. The intent of the story was to inform members of an environmentally friendly residential development.

As a ratepayers association, we are not in the business of promoting any special interest. Our role is to keep members informed. We regret the mistake and will be more vigilant in future newsletters.

The entire Board regrets this error. (Please note: this message has been posted on the website)

UPDATE: Coalition On the Niagara Escarpment

CONE still awaits a decision on its appeal to the Ontario Cabinet on the proposed 205 acre expansion of Dufferin Aggregates' Milton quarry. This decision has been anticipated for well over one year. The quarry expansion will carve up the Niagara Escarpment's natural corridor and have a serious impact on the water resources and the wetlands.

Board Of Directors Contact List:

Don McGee	Co-chair	519-986-2640
Ernie Glozier	Co-chair	519-986- 2886
Anne Ellison	Sec'ty/Membership	416-926-9718
Wolter ten Cate	Treasurer	519-924-2636
Geoffrey Drew-Brook	Member-at-large	519-986-3150

WEBSITE: www.beavervalleyratepayers.ca

Visit us often

Membership

Annual dues are \$20.00. Payable to Beaver Valley Ratepayers Association, 74 Amelia Street, Toronto, M4X 1E1.

This way you will continue to receive our newsletter and information about issues, which affect all of us in the Valley

