

Killarney rep expects municipality to appeal parks assessment to MPAC

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The Recorder

KILLARNEY—It appears the municipality of Killarney will be appealing a decrease in property value assessments for its parks, a decrease of about \$18 million. As reported previously, the municipality of Burpee-Mills is also appealing a decrease in assessments for the Misery Bay Provincial Park.

Candy Beauvais, Killarney municipal clerk, told the Recorder last week, "we are questioning

the new parks valuation system put in place (by the province). We are requesting more information from the Sudbury MPAC office as to how they arrived at these figures." She pointed out Killarney has a total of three provincial parks, the two main ones being French River and Killarney.

"We haven't yet received the information we have requested (from MPAC)," said Ms. Beauvais. "Mr. Fortin (MPAC) said he will be getting all this information together and be send-

ing it to us, and that he would be making a presentation to council at our next meeting."

Ms. Beauvais said it is that, "they have lumped all the parks together and we want a breakdown on each campground section, inland and on water. We need more information on the numbers."

"The property value assessment on the parks has decreased almost \$17.9 million dollars and for a small municipality like ours, we figured out our

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...*appeal parks assessment*

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rate and we will lose \$100,000 in taxation," said Ms. Beauvais. "And we have been receiving payment in lieu (of taxes lost) on the parks (from the province), but yes, we expect this will be decreasing as well."

Ms. Beauvais pointed out that Killarney council has not yet decided to appeal the MPAC ruling, "but probably will."

"We have been in discussion with Ken Noland (reeve of Burpee-Mills) and he suggested that perhaps we could work together as municipalities on this issue," said Ms. Beauvais. She noted that, during a webcast meeting with MPAC officials earli-

er this month, the Minister of Municipal Affairs was a participant, "and the ministry's office wasn't even aware of the changes that have been made. We were told that communities have appealed the assessment on about 18-19 parks so far."

Fern Dominelli, CAO of the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board (MSDSB), said "we have seen an increase of 2.21 percent in our budget for 2013. Killarney has lost about \$18 million in assessment on its parks, and this means everyone else is going to have to pick up a share of the taxes being lost."