



April 30, 2013

Honourable Kathleen Wynne
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Room 281
Queen's Park
Toronto ON
M7A 1A1

Dear Premier,

Re: Town of Espanola MPAC Assessment

The purpose of this letter is to bring to your attention that, at its regular monthly meeting of April 25, 2013, the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board adopted Resolution # 13-45. This resolution calls upon the Premier of Ontario to hold the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation accountable for its decisions and that the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing rectify this matter to ensure that the Town of Espanola or any other Municipality is not adversely affected by Municipal Property Assessment Corporation decisions and appeals.

A duly authorized copy of the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB Resolution # 13-45 is attached along with a letter from the Town of Espanola.

Respectfully yours,

Les Gamble, Chair

cc. Minister of Finance, Charles Sousa
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Linda Jeffrey
MP, Carol Hughes, Jay Aspin & Claude Gravelle
MPP, Mike Mantha, John Vanthof & France Gélinas
AMO
NOSDA
FONOM
NOMA



RESOLUTION 13-45

DATE: April 25, 2013

MOVED BY: Derek Stephens

SECONDED BY: Shawnda Martin-Cross

WHEREAS the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB Finance Committee met on April 24, 2013 to review the [Town of Espanola Apportionment Letter](#) as directed by the DSB Board at the March 2013 meeting; and

WHEREAS the Finance Committee does sympathize with the issues raised by the Town of Espanola and recognizes this could happen to any municipality within the DSB jurisdiction, the Finance Committee does not believe there is anything the DSB can do to assist the Town of Espanola without adversely affecting the other municipalities that form part of the DSB Board; and

WHEREAS this issue has occurred because the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) improperly assessed the property in question or failed to defend its assessment at appeal; and

WHEREAS Municipalities are required to pay for the services provided by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) and MPAC is not being held accountable for their decisions and municipalities are being adversely affected not only in current budget year but retroactively based on appeal decisions.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB calls upon the Honorable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario to hold the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) accountable for its decisions; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing rectify this matter to ensure that the Town of Espanola or any other Municipality is not adversely affected by Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) decisions and appeals; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT this resolution be shared with the AMO, NOSDA, FONOM, NOMA, local MP's and MPP's.

Carried



CHAIR

| MEMBER | YEAS | NAYS | MEMBER | YEAS | NAYS |
|----------------|------|------|-----------------------|------|------|
| ADDISON, LOU | | | LEONARD, DAVID | | |
| BYHAM, ANDRE | | | McMILLAN, JACK | | |
| FLYNN, SONJA | | | MARTIN-CROSS, SHAWNDA | | |
| GAMBLE, LESLIE | | | MOFFATT, PAUL | | |
| GOLDEN, DENNIS | | | LOVELACE, EDGAR | | |
| KILLAH, BRUCE | | | STEPHENS, DEREK | | |
| LEHOUX, MIKE | | | TURCOT, DENIS | | |



The Corporation of the Town of Espanola
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Telephone: (705) 869-1540 • Facsimile: (705) 869-0083
Website: www.espanola.ca

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March 5, 2013

Mr. Fern Dominelli
Chief Administrative Officer
Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board
210 Mead Blvd
Espanola, ON
P5E 1R9

Dear Fern,

We are writing in response to the recent Assessment Review Board decision on the outstanding Domtar tax appeal with respect to taxation years 2009 to 2012. This affects the large industrial (LT) component of the assessment and has had a dramatic impact on our municipality. At this time a decision has not been reached on the commercial (CT) portion of the Domtar assessment.

The LT assessment has been reduced as follows:

| | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
|---------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Previous Assessment | \$26,465,000 | \$26,465,000 | \$19,000,000 | \$26,522,040 |
| Revised Assessment | \$9,937,000 | \$9,937,000 | \$9,937,000 | \$9,937,000 |

Our apportionment payments to the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board have been based on the weighted assessments as returned by MPAC for these affected years. These substantial retroactive assessment reductions have resulted in an overpayment of our share to your Board for these years. The Town of Espanola is requesting that this overpayment be refunded. We are not aware of any obligation on your part to retroactively adjust the apportionment calculations for prior years but would request a review of this issue within your parameters. There seems to be an overall failure in the process which allows for extensive retroactivity in one critical component (assessment) without a response reconciliation to the calculated outcomes.

We trust you are sympathetic to the deficiencies in the process and would appreciate any assistance you can offer us.

Yours very truly,

Cynthia Townsend, CA, CMA
Clerk-Treasurer/Administrator

The Town of Espanola is committed to serving the needs of our community by supporting the positive, well-balanced, social, economic, environmental and physical growth of the town. We will continue to pursue excellence by providing accountable and affordable services while promoting the highest quality of life.