

Memorandum

To: Mayor and Members of Chatham-Kent Council
From: Heather Haynes, Council Assistant
Date: December 9, 2019
Re: Council Information Package

I have attached a list of items that have come into the office that may be of interest to members of Council. Please note that in accordance with Section 6.4(d) of the Procedural By-law, **Any member of Council may raise for discussion a communication, petition or resolution that is in the Information Package during the Approval of Communication Items portion of the Council Meeting.**

1. Staff Reports and Information

- (a) Action items from the December 2, 2019 Council Meeting.

2. Correspondence From

- (a) Communication from Demand the Right Coalition of Ontario Municipalities dated November 2019 re Legislation that Provides Municipalities with the Right to Approve New Landfills.
- (b) Memorandum from MPAC (Municipal Property Assessment Corporation) dated November 21, 2019 to Heads of Council re: Budget and Municipal Levy for 2020.

	<u>Date</u>	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Director</u>	<u>Requestor</u>	<u>Target Date</u>	<u>Completion</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1,151	December 2, 2019	Traffic Lights - That staff review all traffic lights in the municipality to ensure effective traffic flow. Secondly, all pedestrian signals be properly synced with traffic lights. That staff complete this project and report back to Council by April 2020.				Cl. Bondy	02-Dec-19	Complete	Motion withdrawn
1,152	December 2, 2019	Bed and Breakfast - That we look at the City of London Bed and Breakfast By-law of \$165.00 initial fee plus \$171.00 fire inspection fee and a renewal fee of \$55.00 adding to this a fire inspection being needed every five years at \$171.00 or a cost to cover Chatham-Kent expenses to bring a report January 13, 2020.	CS	Municipal Governance	Judy Smith	Cl. Authier	02-Dec-19		

UPDATE

NOVEMBER 2019

On Monday November 4, the Demand the Right Coalition of Ontario Municipalities achieved an important milestone. Forty-five members of the coalition spoke directly with Environment Minister Jeff Yurek and Ministry staff and discussed the urgent need to pass legislation that provides municipalities with the right to approve new landfills. The overwhelming number of participants on the call and in the meeting was impressive (and noted by the Minister), as we had representation from all parts of the province. The coalition has also grown to over 130 municipalities, as of November 2019.

Some of the key messages delivered:

- Municipalities demand the Province of Ontario entrench municipal approval rights over landfill projects. This will help to “rebalance” the Environmental Assessment process and ensure that impacted municipalities are on a level playing-field with private waste companies.
- Under the current legislation, ANY municipality could be a host, whether they agree to it or not. Private waste companies are telling the government that there is only 10 years of landfill capacity left in the Province, and they are looking to shorten this timeframe. They are also claiming that up to 10 “mega dumps” must be approved quickly to meet the province’s needs.
- The Premier of Ontario, both as a candidate and elected leader of our provincial government, has stated several times that municipalities should be given the right to approve these projects.
- Granting municipal approval rights *works*. In Ontario, municipalities already have *exclusive* authority for approving sensitive forms of development (including casino gaming, cannabis retail, nuclear waste storage, etc.), and the process is *working*. Communities that support these sensitive developments have come forward and receive financial benefits; and others that do not support these developments have their decisions respected.

The Minister’s team has indicated that if legislation is to be introduced, it would be spring of 2020. **Therefore, it is important that we keep this issue visible in front of your MPPs and the Government.**

Attached to this email and below is a letter which we urge you to send to Premier Ford, with a copy to your local MPP. Please also copy us at ApprovalRights2019@gmail.com. **PLEASE SEND THE LETTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

For information, support or questions contact:

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[DATE]

The Hon. Doug Ford MPP
Premier of Ontario
Main Legislative Building
Room 281
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON
M7A 1A1

Re: Granting Municipal Right to Approve Landfills in Ontario

Via electronic mail: premier@ontario.ca

Dear Premier:

As you know, Ontario has a garbage problem. The Province's diversion rate has stalled over the last several years, with 70% of our waste (including residential and institutional, commercial and industrial (ICI) sectors) going to landfill. With a tightening U.S. border, and approximately a decade left of existing landfill capacity in the Province, it is estimated that as many as ten "mega dumps" will need to be approved in Ontario in the near future.

While new landfills will be a part of Ontario's future, we are writing to urge you to implement legislative changes that formally recognize and entrench the right of municipalities to choose whether or not to host landfill developments proposed by private sector companies.

Ontario municipal governments currently do not have the right to say yes or no to landfill development projects proposed by private sector waste companies. Whether an impacted community supports the development of a landfill, or not, makes little difference as the existing process is led by the province and favours private sector companies.

The fact is, Ontario municipalities have authority to make decisions for themselves in several areas. Indeed, we have *exclusive authority* and approval rights for other "sensitive" developments, including casinos, cannabis retail stores, and even nuclear waste storage sites. In these examples, despite municipalities having a veto over hosting these types of developments in their communities, MANY have chosen to say "yes" – even for nuclear waste storage. Clearly, granting municipalities the authority to make these decisions is working.

However, when it comes to landfill approvals, we are left on the sidelines. We are consulted, but whether we are willing to have these projects in our communities, or not, makes no difference.

We want to change this, and we are encouraged by your 2018 letter to Mayor Comiskey, who is Chair of the Demand the Right Coalition of Municipalities. We want to level the playing field so that municipal decisions are respected in a modernized approval process – one that recognizes the legitimate role that municipalities must have in these decisions. Only then can impacted municipal governments determine if the value such a landfill project may bring can outweigh the concerns of residents and stakeholders.

Premier, we are urging you to introduce legislation that will provide municipalities the right to say yes or no to hosting landfill projects. This should be a local decision of impacted municipalities, in addition to the completion of a comprehensive environmental assessment overseen by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks.

We appreciate your commitments in 2018, and urge you to deliver on this important policy proposal.

Sincerely yours,

[Name and Title]

CC: [Local MPP]
Demand the Right Coalition of Ontario Municipalities, via email:
ApprovalRights2019@gmail.com



MUNICIPAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT CORPORATION

November 21, 2019

To: Heads of Council
Municipal Billing Partners

From: Alan Spacek
Chair, MPAC Board of Directors

Subject: Budget and Municipal Levy for 2020

As the new Board Chair of the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC), I would like to confirm my strong commitment to serving Ontario's municipalities through an efficient and reliable property tax and assessment system.

My years in municipal politics have provided me with a firsthand account of MPAC's evolution and this feeling of progress has been confirmed since joining MPAC's Board of Directors earlier this year. Today, MPAC has strong values of accountability, transparency and a customer-centric approach to how we operate.

We understand the financial pressure faced by municipalities and a constant through MPAC's evolution has been prudent financial management. I saw this in action as staff worked through the 2020 budget process in search of savings and new ways of delivering services. In addition to drawing on reserves, MPAC reduced administration costs, imposed a freeze on executive salaries and negotiated a contractual agreement to deliver a responsible budget that respects the financial realities faced by Ontario municipalities. If we had not done this, the levy increase would have been higher.

I am pleased to announce the Board has approved MPAC's 2020 budget that includes an overall municipal levy increase of 1.9%, which is lower than past years despite rising labour costs that are required to fund contractual obligations and maintain service levels.

The specific levy amount for each municipality is determined by the formula set out in the *Municipal Property Assessment Corporation Act*. Not all municipalities will see an exact 1.9% increase; each municipality's levy is dependent on the growth of their assessment base and the size of their assessment base proportionate to the whole province. Your staff can expect to receive more details about your specific 2020 levy in mid-December. In the interim, they can contact their local Account Manager with specific levy questions.

MPAC greatly values its partnerships with municipalities and we look forward to engaging you more closely through your organizations and at conferences. I am excited to contribute to the

Item No: 2(b)

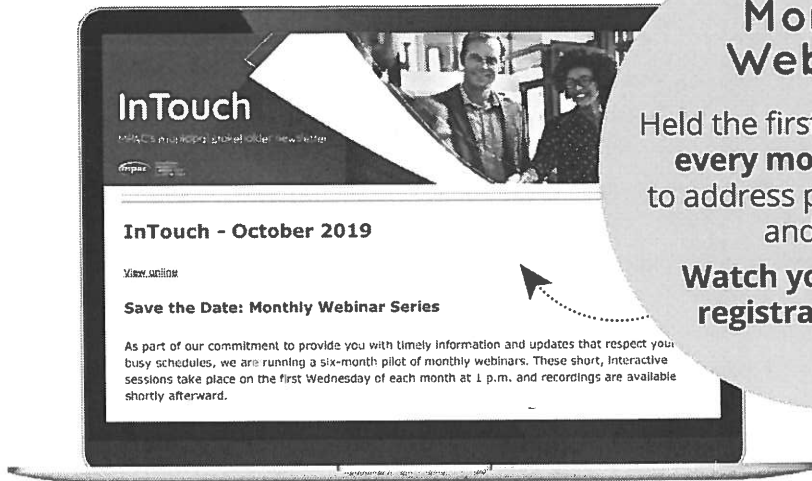
Office of the Chair c/o Municipal Property Assessment Corporation
1340 Pickering Parkway, Suite 101, Pickering, Ontario L1V 0C4
T: 705.335.0001 www.mpac.ca

Council Date: Dec 9, 2019

Connect With Us

InTouch, our monthly newsletter, delivers important email updates to municipal staff. It covers operational changes, upcoming events, key initiatives and other property assessment-related updates.

You can read past issues at mpac.ca/municipalities.



Monthly Webinars

Held the first **Wednesday of every month at 1 p.m.** to address provincial issues and trends

Watch your email for registration details

Follow Us:



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MPAC on YouTube

Supporting Property Owners

Did you know you could direct property owners in your community to mpac.ca to access AboutMyProperty™, an online tool with information on their assessment?

FEATURES:

- **Property Profile Report:** detailed information about the property so users can confirm the information on file is accurate
- **Property Snapshots:** Review assessed values of up to 100 properties in the same neighbourhood or area
- **Favourites Report:** detailed property information on up to 24 properties
- **How Assessment Works:** learn more about Ontario's property tax and assessment system and how MPAC assesses each property
- Learn more about how to file a **Request for Reconsideration** online.

We look forward to seeing you in 2020.

WE PLAN TO MEET WITH EACH MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION, AND SOME OF THE CONFERENCES WE'LL BE AT ARE:

JANUARY

- Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)

FEBRUARY

- Economic Developers Council of Ontario (EDCO)

APRIL

- Ontario Business Improvement Area Association (OBIAA)
- Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA)

MAY

- Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM)
- Ontario Municipal Administrators' Association (OMAA)
- Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)
- Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO)

JUNE

- Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO)

AUGUST

- Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

SEPTEMBER

- Ontario Municipal Tax and Revenue Association (OMTRA)
- Municipal Finance Officers' Association (MFOA)



MUNICIPAL
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Have a question?

Visit mpac.ca/municipalities to find your local representative.