

INFORMATION ITEMS

Week Ending July 15, 2016

REPORTS

1. 2016 Tax Capping

INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONSULTATIONS

1. Aggregate Fees Received by Municipalities
2. Cycling Network Identification
3. Ontario Municipal Board Reform
4. Inclusionary Zoning
5. Green Button Policy
6. Intercity Bus Modernization

CORRESPONDENCE

1. County of Perth – Ontario Climate Change Action Plan
2. City of Markham – Support of Bill 158, *Saving The Girl Next Door Act, 2016*
3. Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health – [2015 Community Health Report](#)
4. City of Quinte West – Taxation Impact on Campgrounds

BOARDS & COMMITTEES

1. None

ITEMS AVAILABLE IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE

1. River Systems Advisory Committee – Resignation from April Wepler

INFORMATION REPORT



TO City Council

SERVICE AREA Corporate Services, Finance

DATE July 15, 2016

SUBJECT 2016 Tax Capping

REPORT NUMBER CS-2016-22

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SUMMARY OF REPORT

To provide details to Council related to the results of the 2016 tax capping parameters passed at the April 25, 2016 Council meeting; and to provide context to the by-law to be executed at the July 18, 2016 Council meeting.

KEY FINDINGS

Annually council must adopt the capping parameters to be used for the multi-residential, commercial and industrial property classes as mandated by the province.

Current Value Assessment (CVA) multiplied by the tax rate is CVA Tax. CVA Tax is the easiest, most equitable and transparent way to explain property tax to commercial and industrial property owners. Initially, at a minimum, a mandatory capping of 5% must be applied; additional options have been created allowing Municipalities to move to CVA Tax at a quicker pace. The implementation of all of the capping options to their maximum provides the City with the necessary tools to move these capped classes to CVA taxation faster, which is the objective of reform. Properties in the same class with the same CVA will pay the same tax allowing for greater stability and predictability in the property taxes. Appendix A shows the results of capping between 2014 and 2016.

For 2016 the province announced additional options. As in previous years, the overall principle for tax capping policy choices is to both promote and adopt positions that shorten the time frame to achieve full CVA taxation, and to simplify the complexities of the tax system. Fair tax policies form an integral part of the City's Strategic goals.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There will be no financial implication to the City of Guelph related to tax capping. The program is revenue neutral within the broad property tax class.

INFORMATION REPORT



BACKGROUND

On April 25, 2016 Council approved Report CS-2016-08 "2016 Property Tax Policy". The report outlined the tax capping parameters to be used for 2016 as listed below, and directed staff to prepare the necessary capping by-law. The by-law will be executed at the July 18, 2016 Council meeting.

<u>2016 CAPPING PARAMETERS</u>	MULTI-RES	COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL
ANNUALIZED TAX LIMIT	10.00%	10.00%
PRIOR YEAR CVA TAX LIMIT	10.00%	10.00%
CVA TAX THRESHOLD – INCREASERS	500	500
CVA TAX THRESHOLD – DECREASERS	500	500
EXCLUDE PROPERTIES PREVIOUSLY AT CVA TAX	Yes	Yes
EXCLUDE PROPERTIES THAT GO FROM CAPPED TO CLAWED BACK	Yes	Yes
EXCLUDE PROPERTIES THAT GO FROM CLAWED BACK TO CAPPED	Yes	Yes
EXIT CAPPING IMMEDIATELY	Yes	N/A
CAPPING PHASE-OUT OVER FOUR YEARS	Yes	Yes

This report summarizes the administrative findings based on these parameters already approved by Council.

REPORT

Mandatory Capping Parameters

Province wide there is a mandatory capping program which was introduced in 1998 to mitigate assessment related property tax changes on multi-residential, commercial and industrial properties. The program softens any change to property taxes from assessment related increases on individual properties in these three broad tax classes, by "capping" tax increases. This is in turn, funded by "clawing back" tax decreases from properties whose assessment has dropped.

INFORMATION REPORT



Since 1998, the legislation has changed numerous times providing municipalities with additional, optional capping parameters to assist them to move towards Current Value Assessment at a more rapid pace. CVA tax is transparent, equitable and easier to explain to business owners. For 2016 new legislation allows municipalities to opt out of the capping programs sooner, and permanently. If all properties in a tax class are at CVA tax in the previous year the municipality can opt out of capping for that class immediately. If all properties are at least 50% of the CVA value then the municipality can phase out of capping for that class in four years.

As in previous years, the implementation of all of the approved capping options to their maximum continues to provide the City with the necessary tools to move these capped properties closer to CVA taxation, which is the objective of reform. It would provide for greater stability and predictability, and is fairer and more equitable to taxpayers. The objective is that properties in the same class with the same CVA will pay the same tax. This allows municipalities the flexibility to eventually end the tax capping program and rely on the assessment phase-in as the sole means of providing tax protection.

Council must pass a by-law indicating the parameters they wish to implement for each taxation year.

Using the tax ratios as set by by-law 20041-2016, and the tax capping parameters as set out in the 2016 Property Tax Policy, the impacts on the affected classes for 2016 are outlined in Appendix A, with the capping options summarized below:

Multi-residential: All properties were at CVA tax in 2015, new legislation allows the City to exit out of capping for all properties in the Multi-residential class for 2016 forward.

Commercial: There are currently 1,254 commercial properties. 1,184 of these properties are now being taxed at their full CVA tax. There are 8 properties receiving protection for 2016 down one from 9 in 2015. Providing the protection for 2016 are 28 properties down significantly from 55 in 2015. Thus 28 additional properties are billed at CVA tax for 2016 creating a more equitable and transparent tax billing to these properties. The commercial class is eligible for a four year capping phase-out therefore fully exiting the program in 2020.

Industrial: There are currently 330 industrial properties within the City of Guelph. All 330 properties will be taxed at CVA tax in 2016. This allows the City to exit the capping program for the Industrial tax class in 2017.

As noted there are new options for 2016. As in previous years, the overall principle for tax capping policy options is to promote and adopt positions that shorten the time frame to achieve full CVA taxation and that simplify the complexities of the tax system. Fair tax policies form an integral part of the City's Strategic goals.

INFORMATION REPORT



CORPORATE STRATEGIC PLAN

Innovation in Local Government

2.3 - Ensure accountability, transparency & engagement

DEPARTMENTAL CONSULTATION

N/A

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There will be no financial implication to the City of Guelph related to tax capping. The program is revenue neutral within the broad property tax class.

COMMUNICATIONS

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

ATT-1 Appendix A: - Comparison of Capping 2014 – 2016

Report Author

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Appendix A to Report CS-2016-22- July 15, 2016
Comparison of Capping 2014 -2016

	2014 Capping			2015 Capping			2016 Capping		
<u>Capping and Threshold Parameters Used</u>	<u>Multi-Res</u>	<u>Commercial</u>	<u>Industrial</u>	<u>Multi-Res</u>	<u>Commercial</u>	<u>Industrial</u>	<u>Multi-Res</u>	<u>Commercial</u>	<u>Industrial</u>
Annualized Tax Limit	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%		10%	10%
Prior Year CVA Tax Limit	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%		10%	10%
CVA Tax Threshold - Increases	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250		\$500	\$500
CVA Tax Threshold - Decreasers	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250	\$250		\$500	\$500
Exclude Properties Previously at CVA Taxes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
Exclude Properties that cross CVA Taxes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
Exit Capping Immediately (2016)							Yes	N/A	N/A
Capping Phase-out over four years (2016)								Yes	Yes
Total Properties	249	1241	323	247	1248	328	251	1254	330
<u>Results from above Parameters</u>									
Number of Properties Capped	0	12	1	0	9	1	0	8	0
% of Properties Capped	0.00%	0.97%	0.31%	0.00%	0.72%	0.30%	0.00%	0.64%	0.00%
\$ Value of Protection	\$0	\$103,249	\$2,326	\$0	\$81,770	\$748	\$0	\$40,953	\$0
Net Class Impact	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Number of Properties Clawed Back	0	58	3	0	55	2	0	28	0
% of Properties Clawed Back	0.00%	4.67%	0.93%	0.00%	4.41%	0.61%	0.00%	2.23%	0.00%
Clawback Percentage	0.0000%	39.6151%	2.5055%	0.0000%	36.7265%	1.7732%	0.0000%	24.1417%	0.0000%
Number of Properties at CVA	249	1171	319	247	1184	325	251	1218	330
% of Properties at CVA	100.00%	94.36%	98.76%	100.00%	94.87%	99.09%	100.00%	97.13%	100.00%

Provincial/Federal Consultation Alert							
Title	Ministry	Consultation Deadline	Summary	Proposed Form of Input	Rationale	Lead	Link to Ministry Website
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Municipal Survey Related to Aggregate Fees Received by Municipalities	Provincial Ministry of Natural Resourecs and Forestry	July 19, 2016	<p>The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) is responsible for managing Ontario’s aggregate resources.</p> <p>In Fall 2015 MNRF posted the document “A Blueprint For Change – a proposal to modernize and strengthen the Aggregate Resources Act policy framework” for public comment on the Environmental Registry.</p> <p>The document included proposed changes for stronger oversight, increased environmental accountability, and improved information and participation with relation to aggregate operations in Ontario.</p> <p>MNRF has hired a technical expert to gather cost-based information that could support consideration of an increase to the portion of annual aggregate fees currently received by municipalities. This MNRF expert is conducting a municipal survey as the first step in this information gathering process.</p>	Staff to respond to MNRF online survey.	<p>Although the City of Guelph does not contain active quarries, the surrounding townships contain many, nearby quarries that can impact municipal infrasturcture (City roads), quality of life for City residents (blasting), and the quality and quantity of the City's groundwater supply.</p> <p>Both Council and staff continue to be active in lobbying the Province for updates to legislation governing the licensing of quarries to manage and mitigate these impacts.</p>	Environmental Services	<p>Link to MNRF "A Blueprint for Change" proposal:</p> <p>https://www.ebr.gov.on.ca/ERS-WEB-External/displaynoticecontent.do?noticeId=MTI2MzAz&statusId=MTkwNjE4</p> <p>Link to MNRF Survey:</p> <p>http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/2891191/MNRF</p>

Provincial/Federal Consultation Alert							
Title	Ministry	Consultation Deadline	Summary	Proposed Form of Input	Rationale	Lead	Link to Ministry Website
MTO Province-wide Cycling Network Identification - Request for Input	Ministry of Transportation	July 29, 2016	One of the key commitments under #CycleON: Action Plan 1.0 is to identify a network of cycling routes that links select communities and major destinations throughout Ontario. The Ministry is inviting participation in an online questionnaire and interactive mapping tool to identify: 1. Existing and planned cycling facilities throughout the province; 2. Proposed route options for a provincial scale cycling network and potential secondary linkages; 3. Considerations for signage and way-finding; 4. Major recreational, cycling and tourism attractions; and, 5. Barriers for the implementation of cycling facilities.	Staff will complete the survey on behalf of the City	The survey builds on an inventory of major cycling routes completed by the Ministry in 2011 and will help the consultant team develop a proposed concept for a province-wide network.	Engineering and Capital Infrastructure Services	http://mtocyclingnetworkstudy.com/user/reset/282/1467244527/ZLECh18XUEt6YZPAaAze6wtgnpwE3-8kp0M61B36GUM

Provincial/Federal Consultation Alert							
Title	Ministry	Consultation Deadline	Summary	Proposed Form of Input	Rationale	Lead	Link to Ministry Website
OMB Reform	Municipal Affairs	NA	<p>The Ministry of Municipal Affairs is reviewing the scope and effectiveness of the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB), an important part of the province's land use planning system.</p> <p>The government is developing a consultation paper that will be released in fall 2016 for further comment.</p> <p>In the meantime, the province is seeking views on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jurisdiction and powers: this could include what matters can be appealed and who may appeal them, the use of local appeal bodies and how much deference should be given to municipal decisions. • Meaningful citizen participation and local perspective: this could include who has access to hearings, how to ensure the ability of the public to participate, how to ensure that the process is affordable, unrepresented parties and the role of the citizen liaison office. • Clear/predictable decision making: this could include how to ensure fairness, adjudicator education and training and standardized decision format(s) • Hearing procedures and practices: this could include the formality of hearings, how expert evidence is heard and what evidence should be allowed at hearings. 	Staff level	At this time, the ministry is seeking feedback on the development of the consultation paper. Full consultation opportunities will be provided once the consultation paper is drafted and released to the public.	Planning	http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/Page14965.aspx

Provincial/Federal Consultation Alert							
Title	Ministry	Consultation Deadline	Summary	Proposed Form of Input	Rationale	Lead	Link to Ministry Website
			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alternative dispute resolution: this could include the use of mediation or other alternatives to traditional hearings or adversarial procedures as part of the appeal system.• Timely processes and decision making: this could include the timelines for scheduling hearings and the issuing of decisions.				

Provincial/Federal Consultation Alert							
Title	Ministry	Consultation Deadline	Summary	Proposed Form of Input	Rationale	Lead	Link to Ministry Website
Inclusionary Zoning	Municipal Affairs and Housing	August 16, 2016	<p>As part of the update to the Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy, and to help address Ontario's growing "affordability gap", the province is taking steps to make affordable housing a part of the land use planning process.</p> <p>On May 18, 2016 Ontario introduced legislation that would, if passed, allow municipalities to require private sector developers to include affordable housing units in their development proposals through inclusionary zoning. For example, if a municipality chose to use this tool, new housing proposals would need to include a certain number of affordable units in order to be approved.</p> <p>If passed, the proposed legislation for inclusionary zoning would help to achieve a number of outcomes:</p> <p>Serve more people: Inclusionary zoning would create affordable housing that serves the needs of low- to moderate-income families and individuals.</p> <p>Increase the supply of affordable units.</p> <p>Meet local needs: Inclusionary zoning would help municipalities meet affordable housing objectives and targets set out in their housing and homelessness plans and official plans.</p>	Staff response	A staff level response will be provided as the consultation is technical in nature, requiring specific technical comments (as opposed to policy feedback). Additionally, the use of inclusionary zoning to address affordable housing issues is being discussed in context of the Affordable Housing Strategy that is coming to Council in July.	Planning + Intergovernmental	http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/Page13790.aspx

Provincial/Federal Consultation Alert							
Title	Ministry	Consultation Deadline	Summary	Proposed Form of Input	Rationale	Lead	Link to Ministry Website
Green Button Policy Workshop	Ministry of Energy	Toronto - July 26	<p>The province's Climate Change Action Plan released on June 8, 2016 committed to expand the Green Button program province-wide and include electricity, natural gas and water to help more households and businesses manage and conserve their energy and water use</p> <p>The Green Button program is about appropriate access to smart meter data—and the ability to share that data with innovative applications, products, services, and solutions. It can therefore help Ontario households and businesses conserve energy and better manage their electricity bills</p> <p>Green Button can support Ontario's Conservation First policy and Climate Change objectives by making information and tools available to help consumers manage their energy and water consumption as well as reduce greenhouse gas emissions</p> <p>During the province-wide workshops, the Ministry will present its draft Green Button policy proposal and provide participants with an opportunity to provide feedback</p>	Staff participation	The anticipated outcomes of the Green Button program are consistent with the goals of the City's Community Energy Initiative (CEI). Staff participation in an upcoming consultation session, and garnering a further understanding of the status and ongoing development of the Green Button program will be important through the CEI Update process (currently underway)	IDE	https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/green-button-policy-workshops-toronto-tickets-26287487583

Provincial/Federal Consultation Alert							
Title	Ministry	Consultation Deadline	Summary	Proposed Form of Input	Rationale	Lead	Link to Ministry Website
Intercity Bus Modernization: Creating Opportunities and Connecting Ontario Communities	Ministry of Transportation	August 22, 2016	<p>The Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) is proposing a plan to reform the intercity bus regulatory regime. Via the EBR and in-person consultation sessions, MTO will be seeking feedback from communities, the intercity bus industry and members of the public</p> <p>Consultation on intercity passenger travel links with a broader government commitment to consult on a provincial approach to the sharing economy</p> <p>Guelph's many commuters, in and out of the city, will potentially benefit from improvements to this industry. The changes may facilitate non-auto transportation, which helps reach mode-share targets and emission reduction objectives in Guelph</p>	Staff submission to the EBR registry and potential GM email response to the Ministry	Interdepartmental staff level response will ensure a cross-department approach and positioning of response	Engineering and Capital Infrastructure Services	http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/transit/intercity-bus.shtml



Resolution
Perth County Council - Regular Meeting
July 7, 2016

Moved by:

Councillor

Behrns

Seconded by:

Councillor

Wilhelm

WHEREAS, the Ontario Provincial Government recently released a five-year Climate Change Action Plan for 2016-2020 which includes a strategy for reducing greenhouse gases and moving to a low-carbon economy;

AND WHEREAS, the Ministry of Energy has identified the need for a balanced mix of clean energy sources, including natural gas, to meet the demand for electricity;

AND WHEREAS the Premier has acknowledged by her remarks at the 2015 OGRA/ROMA conference that "limited access to natural gas is acting as a barrier to growth in too many rural municipalities";

AND WHEREAS, the identified actions in the province's Climate Change Action Plan include a "cap" to limit emissions from natural gas distribution;

AND WHEREAS, Southwestern Ontario is one of Ontario and Canada's most productive agricultural regions;

AND WHEREAS, the production of affordable food from rural Ontario benefits all Ontarians;

AND WHEREAS, access to reliable, affordable energy, including natural gas, is vital for the Ontario agri-food sector and rural communities;

AND WHEREAS, the availability of natural gas is recognized in Ontario as a key component to economic development growth and retention;

AND WHEREAS, municipal governments adopt policies to support the protection, preservation, enhancement and improvement of the natural environment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the County of Perth requests:

1. THAT the Ontario government commit to consultations with rural Ontario municipalities, residents, and businesses regarding the design and implementation of the government's Climate Change Action Plan; and



Resolution
Perth County Council - Regular Meeting
July 7, 2016

2. THAT the Premier remain committed to a provincial government that puts a rural lens on its decision-making, and ensure the expansion of natural gas to rural municipalities within the Climate Change Action Plan; and
3. THAT the Ontario government outline in detail how it will financially assist rural Ontario municipalities, residents, and businesses in order to transition to meet provincial targets for reducing greenhouse gases;
4. AND THAT this resolution be provided to the Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Glen Murray, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, the Honourable Jeff Leal, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, the Honourable Glenn Thibeault, Minister of Energy, Mr. Randy Pettapiece, MPP Perth-Wellington, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association, the Western Ontario Warden's Caucus and all Ontario municipalities.

I, JILLENE BELLCHAMBER-GLAZIER, CLERK
OF THE CORPORATION OF THE COUNTY
OF PERTH, HEREBY CERTIFY
THIS TO BE A TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL

SIGNATURE

DATE

J. Bellchamber-Glazier *July 7, 2016*



July 12, 2016

The Honourable Kathleen Wynne
Premier of Ontario
Queen's Park, Rm. 281
Main Legislative Building
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1
Email: kwynne.mpp@liberal.ola.org

**RE: SUPPORT BILL 158,
SAVING THE GIRL NEXT DOOR ACT, 2016 (HUMAN TRAFFICKING) (13.0)**

Dear Ms. Wynne:

This will confirm that at a meeting held on May 17 & 18, 2016, Council of the City of Markham adopted the following resolution:

“Whereas human trafficking is a heinous crime that has been referred to as modern day slavery; and,

Whereas traffickers recruit, transport, harbor and control the girl next door for sexual exploitation or forced labour; and,

Whereas it is one of the fastest growing crimes that starts and stays in Canada, targeting victims - 90 percent of which are Canadian-born and predominantly female, averaging the age of 14; and,

Whereas Ontario is a major hub of human trafficking in Canada, and victims are lured, manipulated and coerced, often over the internet from every part of Ontario; and,

Whereas human trafficking is in our neighbourhoods and our communities; and,

Whereas the City of Markham requests that an additional clause be added under Section 6. (1) (b) of Bill 158 to include a Police Officer to the list of those able to apply for a protection order for children under 18 years of age;

Therefore be it resolved:

- 1) That the Council of the City of Markham support Bill 158, *Saving the Girl Next Door Act, 2016*, support MPP Laurie Scott's motion for a multi-jurisdictional and coordinated task force of law enforcement agencies, Crown prosecutors, judges, victims' services and frontline agencies; and,
- 2) That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Premier of Ontario, all Members of Parliament, all Members of Provincial Parliament and municipalities."

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Kitteringham', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Kimberley Kitteringham
City Clerk

Copy to: All MP & MPP's
 Federation of Canada Municipalities (FCM)
 Association of Municipalities in Ontario (AMO)
 All Ontario Municipalities

CITY OF QUINTE WEST

*Office of the Mayor
Jim Harrison*



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July 14, 2016

The Honourable Bardish Chagger MP
Minister
Department of Small Business and Tourism
CD Howe Building
235 Queen Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0H5

Dear Minister Chagger:

RE: Taxation – Impact on Campgrounds

Please be advised that Council for the City of Quinte West, at its meeting on July 11, 2016 passed the following resolution;

Whereas the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) has decided that some campgrounds are too small to qualify for the small business tax deduction;

And Whereas campgrounds in Ontario have begun receiving calls and letters from CRA warning them of reassessments in part because they are deemed not to qualify for the small business tax deduction since they employ fewer than five people;

And Whereas the camping community provides a source of employment of 15,000 jobs across Ontario and supports economic activity by contributing \$1 billion to Ontario's economy and generating \$294 million in tax revenues;

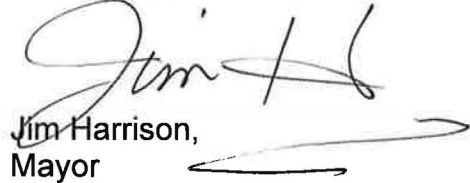
And Whereas Camping In Ontario, which represents 440 privately-owned campgrounds in Ontario, is working with the Canadian Federation of Independent Business to push the Department of Small Business and Tourism, Finance Canada and the Canada Revenue Agency to implement changes that ensure campgrounds are recognized as small businesses and pay the same taxes as other small businesses;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the City of Quinte West recognizes the benefit and values all campgrounds throughout Ontario and in Canada and supports Camping In Ontario's initiative that changes be implemented to ensure campgrounds are recognized as small businesses and pay the same taxes as other small businesses;

And further that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Small Business and Tourism, the local Member of Parliament and all Ontario municipalities for their support. **Carried**

The City appreciates your consideration in this matter.

Yours truly,



Jim Harrison,
Mayor

cc: Neil R. Ellis, MP Bay of Quinte
All Ontario Municipalities