



Town of The Blue Mountains

32 Mill Street, Box 310
THORNBURY, ON N0H 2P0
<https://www.thebluemountains.ca>

OFFICE OF: Mayor Alar Soever
Email: asoever@thebluemountains.ca
Phone: 519-599-3131 Ext 400

Sent via E-mail

November 16, 2020

County of Grey
Grey County Council
595 9th Ave East
Owen Sound, ON N4K 3E3
Email: clerks@grey.ca

Dear Grey County Councillors:

RE: County-Wide Waste Management Program

At it's meeting on November 2nd, 2020 the Town of The Blue Mountains passed the following resolution, a certified copy of which is attached.

Moved by: Rob Sampson Seconded by: Paula Hope

That Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains receives the September 28, 2020 motion from the Municipality of Meaford regarding a County-Wide Waste Management Program and requests Mayor Soever to correspond with Grey County to advise that the Town of The Blue Mountains is not interested in a County-Wide Waste Management Program,

Councillor Bordignon	Yay
Councillor Hope	Yay
Councillor Matrosovs	Yay
Deputy Mayor Potter	Absent
Councillor Sampson	Yay
Councillor Uram	Absent
Mayor Soever	Yay

The motion is **CARRIED**.

The Town of The Blue Mountains has invested heavily in its Solid Waste Disposal Assets, and as a result has a modern landfill site with capacity to beyond 2050. Having a permitted facility with this kind of capacity is of incalculable value. The Town also provides a high level of service to it's residents, with weekly pick-up of household garbage, recyclables, paper and cardboard, and organics. This level of capital investment and service comes with a cost, and as a result The Blue Mountains has among the highest costs per household in Grey County (See Table 1 below).

**Table 1
Solid Waste Disposal Costs**

		Chatsworth	Georgian Bluffs	Grey Highlands	Hanover	Meaford	Owen Sound	Southgate	TBM	West Grey	Total Grey County	Simcoe County	Dufferin County
Expenses from Tab 40 of FIR													
0840	Solid waste collection	127,395	218,004	430,350	92,969	222,226	454,313	144,100	\$ 305,996	121,152		4,709,893	1,213,613
0850	Solid waste disposal	337,915	164,796	423,817	453,456	204,458	109,390	646,897	\$1,011,973	367,606		21,652,490	456,793
0860	Waste diversion	173,511	249,472	354,730	125,324	514,769	616,532	94,399	\$ 770,594	192,405		17,553,536	2,845,982
898	Other	113,226	296,765	0	0	56,482	0	0		0			
Total Costs		752,047	929,037	\$ 1,208,897	\$ 671,749	\$ 941,453	\$ 1,236,717	885,396	\$2,088,563	\$ 681,163	\$ 9,395,022	\$43,915,919	\$ 4,516,388
Revenue from Tab 12 of FIR													
840	Solid waste collection	25,710		\$ 26,366	\$ 164,920	\$ 217,994	\$ 412,722		\$ 12,643			759,045	
850	Solid waste disposal	88,803	266,841	\$ 268,837	\$ 267,942			106,209	\$ 522,518	\$ 420,573		5,036,642	72,449
860	Waste diversion		1,969	\$ 877	\$ 320	\$ 285	\$ 296,359	31,318	\$ 27,310			3,937,863	
898	Other	491,555	110,546										
Total Fees		\$ 606,068	\$ 379,356	\$ 296,080	\$ 433,182	\$ 218,279	\$ 709,081	\$ 137,527	\$ 562,471	\$ 420,573	\$ 3,762,617	\$ 9,733,550	\$ 72,449
Net Cost		\$ 145,979	\$ 549,681	\$ 912,817	\$ 238,567	\$ 723,174	\$ 527,636	\$ 747,869	\$1,526,092	\$ 260,590	\$ 5,632,405	\$34,182,369	\$ 4,443,939
	Households (2020)	3,139	5,267	5,557	3,680	5,840	10,302	3,234	8,210	5,958	51,187	144,481	24,376
	Cost per Household	\$ 47	\$ 104	\$ 164	\$ 65	\$ 124	\$ 51	\$ 231	\$ 186	\$ 44	\$ 110	\$ 237	\$ 182
	Percentage of County Allocation (2020)	5.2%	10.7%	11.8%	4.9%	11.1%	13.5%	5.9%	27.0%	10.0%	100.0%	Average Dufferin and Simcoe	
	Cost if goes to County (based on Dufferin and Simcoe Costs per household)	\$ 554,346	\$ 1,145,184	\$ 1,260,004	\$ 525,929	\$1,193,827	\$ 1,445,953	\$ 629,699	\$2,898,795	\$ 1,067,259	\$10,720,996		\$ 209
	Difference	\$ 408,367	\$ 595,503	\$ 347,187	\$ 287,362	\$ 470,653	\$ 918,317	\$(118,170)	\$1,372,703	\$ 806,669	\$ 5,088,591		
	Cost of County System per Household	\$ 177	\$ 217	\$ 227	\$ 143	\$ 204	\$ 140	\$ 195	\$ 353	\$ 179	\$ 209		
	Additional Cost per Household	\$ 130	\$ 113	\$ 62	\$ 78	\$ 81	\$ 89	\$ (37)	\$ 167	\$ 135	\$ 99		

Sources: Cost and revenues >2018 FIR as complete data not available as some municipalities have not filed their 2019 FIRs, Households>2020 Unconditional Grants, County of Grey Tax Allocations

While one might think this would be motivation for participation in a county-wide system, also evident from this table is the fact that waste disposal costs in our neighbouring counties that have a county-wide system are much higher per household (\$209 per household), than the average cost per household currently incurred by lower tiers in Grey County (\$110 per household).

Assuming the cost per household for a county wide system will be the same as in our neighbouring counties, a county wide system would increase the cost to ratepayers in all but one of the municipalities in Grey County, with the largest increase in the Town of The Blue Mountains due to its high proportion of the county tax allocation.

Implementation of a county-wide system also poses a number of issues, which include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Standardizing service levels across a variety of diverse communities with different needs;
- 2) Compensation to lower tiers for their waste disposal assets;

It is for these reasons that the Town of The Blue Mountains has no interest at all in a county-wide solid waste disposal system.

Respectfully submitted,



Mayor Alar Soever
Town of The Blue Mountains

Enclosed: (1) Certified Resolution

CC: Mayor and Council, Town of The Blue Mountains (via e-mail)
Shawn Everitt, CAO, Town of The Blue Mountains (via email)
Jeff Fletcher, Manager of Solid Waste & Special Projects (via e-mail)
Grey County Lower Tier Municipalities (via e-mail)
Department File – C2048



Town of The Blue Mountains

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November 2, 2020

Moved by: Rob Sampson Seconded by: Paula Hope

That Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains receives the September 28, 2020 motion from the Municipality of Meaford regarding a County-Wide Waste Management Program and requests Mayor Soever to correspond with Grey County to advise that the Town of The Blue Mountains is not interested in a County-Wide Waste Management Program,

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The motion is **CARRIED**.

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY


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Krista Royal, Deputy Clerk