



The Corporation of the Township of Burpee and Mills

8 Bailey Line Road
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Monday, February 22, 2016

Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
200 University Ave., Suite 801
Toronto, Ontario M5H 3C6

To Whom It May Concern,

The Municipality of Burpee-Mills is seeking support in the form of a resolution forwarded to Premier Kathleen Wynne's office. Tax incentive programs are put in place to benefit all Ontarians. Unfortunately, the reality is that the cost to fund these programs is only absorbed by the municipalities where these designations are applied. We feel, what benefits all of Ontario, should be paid for by all of Ontario.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ken Noland".

Ken Noland, Reeve
Township of Burpee and Mills



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

Dear Premier Wynne,

The Municipal Council of Burpee and Mills is very concerned that the Provincial Government continues to advocate that private conservation organizations purchase lands on Manitoulin Island. Under the Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program (CLTIP), these lands become designated "Tax Exempt" by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF).

To date, Burpee and Mills Township properties, assessed at approximately \$900,000.00, have been designated eligible for CLTIP tax exemption. There has been absolutely no consultation or regard for the municipality's ability to absorb the lost revenue. Our Municipality is now required to deal with this serious shortfall, while being forced to continue funding other programs originally created as Provincial responsibilities and then downloaded to the Municipalities. Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program, Agricultural Land Tax Incentive Program, and the Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program cost the Municipality of Burpee and Mills over \$73,000.00 each year. This represents a 13% loss in annual tax revenue.

Nature Conservancy of Canada is presently negotiating purchase of an additional 160 hectares in Burpee Township. Our Municipality has reached a level of critical tax base erosion resulting from such tax reduced and tax exempt properties. Council is now prepared to challenge the eligibility of any such conservation lands for CLTIP designation.

Our Council requests that the Province assist this Municipality by:

- Requirement to pay fair taxes on all properties with conservation status designated under the CLTIP.
- Provision of Provincial "grants in lieu" for any land designations resulting from Provincial incentive programs.
- A moratorium on all further CLTIP designations on Burpee and Mills properties by the MNRF.

Our Council requests a meeting with you and appropriate Ministers to find a resolution to these financial shortfalls to our Municipality created by these incentive programs. A timely response, suggesting viable solutions, would be appreciated.

Yours Truly,

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Ken Noland, Reeve
Township of Burpee and Mills

Cc. Gary McNamara, President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Al Spacek, President, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)

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