



THE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY OF MUSKOKA

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Office of the District Chair

September 20, 2010

Lake of Bays Association
c/o Betty McDonald
64 Satok Terrace
Toronto ON M1E 3N5

Dear Betty McDonald, President:

Re: District Municipality of Muskoka
Core Services Discussion

In response to your interest in understanding and examining the services delivered by the District, I have asked senior staff to prepare the attached inventory of programs. While the list of services is not exhaustive, it does include the key services the District provides and also shows whether they are mandatory or optional.

The framework of what Municipalities do is set out in various Provincial statutes. Municipalities are indeed creatures of the Province and in many cases programs are still intertwined through cost sharing. In other areas, such as the District water programs, we go well beyond what is mandated in order to protect this most precious resource.

Discussion on this matter prior to and during the 2011 budget process would be most meaningful. The budget is prepared in two sections: the Rate Supported Budget (water, sewer, waste management) and the general levy or Tax Supported Budget. The Rate Supported Budget is done first and usually completed in February. The Tax Supported Budget is normally completed in April. The inaugural meeting of the new District Council will occur in mid December, therefore, may I suggest that we convene in early January (if I am returned to office) to commence our discussions. This provides a two to three month period for follow up discussion, including presentations by your organizations to Council on the budget contents.

I would be happy to meet and chat with you on this subject or any of the specifics listed in the attachment at any time. Do not hesitate to contact me or my Assistant, Ellen Bruder, to set up a meeting time.

I look forward to working with you on this matter and welcome the opportunity to mutually discuss the programs provided by Muskoka. I hope to be in touch in early January to select a date for the first meeting.

Yours truly,

Gord Adams
District Chair

Cc: Brian McElwain, Muskoka Lakes Association
Susan Daglish, Muskoka Ratepayers' Association
Michael Reddy, Georgian Bay Association

Managing Our Legacy Together