



Professional Municipal Administrators
TELECONFERENCE Board Meeting
October 27, 2015
3:00 pm

MINUTES

In Attendance:

Brian Peckford – Vice President
Rodney Cumby – Treasurer
Nigel Black – Avalon Director
Vida Greening – Eastern Director
Michelle Brown – Central Director
Curtis Richards – Western Director
Hayward Broomfield – Northern Director
Krista Planke – Executive Director

Meeting was called to discuss Blended tax consultations that the Provincial Government is hosting province wide and to determine PMA's position on this.

Background:

- During the Provincial-Municipal Fiscal Framework Review, municipalities, via a submission through MNL, requested that the Provincial Government consider changing the legislation to provide the expansion of authority to allow municipalities to implement a blended commercial and realty tax.
- Government's purpose in consulting is to ensure that relevant stakeholder perspectives are considered by the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador regarding the implementation of an **optional** blended commercial realty tax.
- Government is consulting on the request from municipalities **to grant the authority to change the legislation**. The particulars of how or if a municipality would implement the blended commercial realty tax would be up to the specific municipality should the authority be granted.
- The City of St. John's is the only municipality that has been granted the authority by government to implement a blended tax which was implemented in January 2013.

Discussion by the PMA Board indicated that blending taxes is not necessarily a good or bad thing. It is a case by case situation with every town. Towns need to look at various scenarios and complete an analysis to determine if it will be of benefit or not.

It was agreed that PMA would develop some points to consider and forward to the membership in order for them to have the proper information when discussing this with Council. It was

agreed that a completed analysis from a smaller town would be beneficial to see firsthand how/if this will affect smaller municipalities.

While on the teleconference, a discussion ensued regarding a donation towards President Derrick Bragg's political campaign. It was determined that this is a special case whereby a municipal administrator with his experience has ever run for provincial politics. It was agreed that to have someone with his vast municipal knowledge in government would be beneficial to PMA. It was agreed to make a monetary donation.

10/27/2015 – 23 Resolved to make donation of \$2000.00 to Derrick Bragg's campaign.
Moved by Rodney Cumby and seconded by Nigel Black.
All in favor. Motion Carried.

Before concluding the teleconference, Nigel Black, as PMA representative on the Community Sustainability Partnership Regional Governance Advisory Committee, recapped his first meeting of this committee. The committee is designed to provide advice on a potential regional governance model. It will be meeting monthly until January at which time consultations will begin.

It was agreed that PMA needs further information on this in order to present a position to government. An immediate concern is the potential for job losses amongst municipal employees.

The meeting concluded at approximately 3:45 pm.