

Many of you may know by now that The Provincial government will be changing the model for charging municipalities for OPP services. If the current proposal goes ahead it will result in large tax increases on your property taxes in Haliburton County. Tax increases will be in the range of 20-36%. While the old model has flaws, the new one also has flaws:

- a. The County has calculated that this new model will result in Haliburton residents paying for the equivalent of 54 OPP Officers when in fact we have 29;
- b. The charge to each municipality is to be based on the total number of households whether cottages or full time residences. This is the reason why Muskoka and Haliburton County will see the highest increases as most residences are cottages.

The only way to stop this flawed billing model is for the Premier and other politician to get 1000's of emails and letters in the next week or two...

Here are some tips for writing your email/letter:

1. Title your letter – OPP Billing Model or OPP Billing Reform right at the top of your letter
2. Your letter can be short – a few lines or a paragraph is all that is needed
3. the letter does not need to go into any detail about the Billing model
4. the important info is telling the Premier etc. that you will be negatively affected and you are requesting a re-think of the new OPP cost model
5. and once again headline the letter with the Name of the issue – OPP Billing Model

For greatest impact the letters go to

- Premier Wynne - kwynne.mpp@liberal.ola.org
- The Minister responsible for the OPP- Madeleine Meilleur - mmeilleur.mpp@liberal.ola.org
- The MPP in your permanent home riding . – this very important
- The email address for a local MPP can be found at this web address

- http://www.ontla.on.ca/web/members/members_current.do;jsessionid=c72d607930d6c6a355bb082649f2a5a4b0570cbb7224.e3eRb3iNcheNe34ObxiNahyRaNf0n6jAmljGr5XDqQLvpAe?locale=en&ord=Riding&dir=ASC&list_type=all_mpps
- Haliburton MPP Laurie Scott - laurie.scott@pc.ola.org
- The Ontario Liberal Party Candidate for Haliburton in the next election – Rick Johnson - rick.johnson@ontario.ca

Everyone one of us needs to act now . Otherwise the cost increase to the County of Haliburton will be over \$5 million and we will all be facing major tax increases next year.

Paul MacInnes – Chair