

March 1, 2017

Township of North Huron Council
c/o Sharon Chambers
Josephine Street
Wingham, Ontario
N0G 2W0

Dear Reeve Vincent and Councilors'

Please accept this letter as our request for the amendment of our BIA Levy for 2017 and to bring it in line with our ongoing and future activities.

- Request to increase the minimum property levy to \$95.00 from \$75.00
- Request to increase the maximum property levy to \$500.00 from \$250.00
- Request that we receive from the Municipality annually on or about November 1st, the current Property Assessment listing to assist in calculating the incoming years budget
- Establish a levy rate on current assessment on:
 - ✓ CT (Commercial Tax) Rate of 0.000924312
 - ✓ CX (Commercial Vacant) Rate of 0.000924312 less 30% or 0.000647018
 - ✓ XT (New Commercial) Rate of 0.000924312
 - ✓ CF (Canada Post) Rate of 0.000924312
 - ✓ IT (Industrial Tax) Rate of 0.000924312

Note: The levy rate was set in 2014 based on a Tax base of \$7,816,300 on assessed properties

In 2015 the BIA Levy was based on a commercial/industrial assessment base of \$8,432,276 and these property assessments have increased annually. Therefore, the rates were reduced to calculate the \$6,600 revenue budgeted for the levy and not transfer the anticipated funds.

It is conceivable that the 2017 assessments for the BIA levy could exceed \$9,500,000 and should provide a potential revenue stream of \$8,780 without using the minimum levy limits.

We have over the past 4 years, identified properties that have not been properly zoned to assist the municipality and the property owners in getting the correct tax allocations, but have been unsuccessful in getting a solution to bring this to a close.

We had requested an increase on our levy in previous years and it was declined by the administration. Since then our operating abilities have been reduced accordingly in order to stay in budget, as a portion of the marketing budget that North Huron Economic Development was providing ceased in 2016.

We have, with Connie Goodall's assistance, obtained a comparative BIA membership levy costing from within the county, which range from \$150.00 to \$200.00 compared to our minimum \$95.00 request to council that effects 96% of the property owners.

We understand that this request if acceptable to council must be ratified by a majority of the BIA members at a public meeting.

We have an opportunity of historic possibility before us, and the Improvements and Marketing necessary to welcome visitors and businesses (new & old) is and will be unprecedented. We must be prepared and bold enough to present ourselves to this new beginning.

I remain,

J Richard Elliott, Chair