



Mike Jakubo, Chair  
Finance and Administration Committee  
City of Greater Sudbury Council  
Sudbury, Ontario

16 January 2017

Dear Mr. Jakubo

I am writing to request a grant for tax relief for the Northern Water Sports Centre. Find attached a copy of the property tax bill for \$38,000. You may know that taxes at the Elizabeth Street building were nil; the previous NWSC board never contemplated this amount.

We are being treated as tenants by MPAC while we are presently operating under an MOU (attached) with no lease. Nevertheless, the MOU clearly states we will be responsible for any taxes payable. I am not sure the signers of the document understood that meant a tax bill in such a large amount, \$38,000.

We operate on a modest budget; this year it is less than \$30,000 if we don't count our NOHFC intern salary (\$31,500). Our ability to raise funds depends on our member clubs, the Canoe Club, Rowing Club and Dragon Boat festival, all who also have modest budgets.

The Canoe Club is well known in Sudbury for its strong volunteer base and many successful programs that introduce children and youth to experiences on the water.

The Rowing Club has volunteer coaches and a successful para rowing program that this year saw one of its participants (Curtis Halladay) win a Paralympics bronze medal. Additionally, Carling Zeeman, also coached by our volunteer Amanda Schweinbenz, rowed in Rio. Equipment, training and regatta expenses are high in this sport.

The Dragon Boat Festival has raised over \$1.5million for local charities. As a registered non-profit they operate on a minimal budget.

The point is, all three clubs as well as the NWSC itself, are run by volunteers on modest budgets and do good work for our community. It will be an unfair burden to shoulder this load in addition to the hard work, fundraising, and long hours already being contributed by volunteers. For this reason, we are requesting a grant from the city to offset this tax bill.

We are also requesting the City's assistance in addressing the appropriateness of a tax bill from MPAC. We are not tenants; as we do not have exclusive access to the building, particularly the hall but also the terrace, exterior washrooms internal washrooms, change rooms and public spaces. As you know, the City is responsible for hall scheduling. Further details regarding our partnership with the City are found in the attached MOU.

I am pleased to respond to further questions. I look forward to a response from your committee.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ron Mulholland".

Ron Mulholland, Chair  
c. Deb McIntosh, Fern Cormier  
c. Tyler Campbell, Bruce Drake