

# ST. EDMUNDS PROPERTY OWNERS INC.

P.O. BOX 152, TOBERMORY, ONTARIO N0H 2R0

1972 - 2022

<https://sepo.ca/>

## 2023 Newsletter #1 – Help & Finances



St. Edmunds Property Owners was conceived in 1972 by a group of concerned taxpayers; in 1975, “SEPO” was incorporated. Since inception, this organization has spoken on behalf of all citizens of the former Township of St. Edmunds. “SEPO” in recent years has expanded its reach to include taxpayers in the Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula. Over the years, many people have

stepped forward and became involved by volunteering their time, expertise and experience. We need additional board members in order to gain additional perspectives on the many issues confronting you, the taxpayers in this municipality. Please consider stepping forward to deal with concerns for all of us:

- Official Plan revision
- The Municipality’s annual budget process
- Council meetings to include a Q&A period at each meeting
- Council meetings to be recorded and available online
- More value in return for the high property taxes with few services
- The STA Bylaw has barely attained 50% compliance
- Friendly welcoming municipal website; not money grabbing appearance
- Does the MNBP need to purchase new construction equipment that is not fully utilized and with no apparent maintenance plan?
- Is the MNBP paying too much for goods and services eg. Fire Department breathing apparatus purchased with only one bid.
- Municipal Accommodation Tax should be applicable to all accommodation venues. Where should MAT revenue be spent?
- Parks Canada, Bruce Trail Conservancy, Nature Conservancy and others are major land owners who draw on services while paying minimal taxes
- What is Parks Canada’s annual revenue?
- Lion’s Head Arena renovation will be expensive; who will benefit from this?
- Sewer and water main expansion in Tobermory will primarily benefit the commercial sector at the expense of all MNBP taxpayers
- Long Term Care Spending in the MNBP is appallingly under funded

Please consider becoming involved. Thank you.

## 2022 FINANCIAL UPDATE

The St. Edmunds Property Owners, Inc. paid up membership is 327 households, for the most part representing in excess of 600 individuals. This should and could increase but overall, it's consistent with the overall political apathy in our society. We know and understand that the Sparling preferred pricing to SEPO members is a major draw for many members; we need to exist beyond a source of propane savings.

Most memberships are three years, currently \$50.00, Annual memberships are available at \$20.00 per year. Where does your money go? Our annual Federation of Ontario Cottages Associations (FOCA) annual membership is slightly over \$4.00 (\$125.00 + \$4.00 /member) which your executive supports because of FOCA's advocacy on behalf of Ontario Waterfront Property Owners and financial benefits as outlined on the members only page on [www.sepo.ca](http://www.sepo.ca) 2022-2023 FOCA membership is \$1,421.00, in addition, the 2021-2022 membership renewal \$1,109.00 was paid in January 2022

### **The Website and Email Newsletters are expensed as follows:**

- Website hosting for two years it is \$402.00
- WP Forms premium (interactive membership form) is: \$105.00
- Domain Name renewal: \$28.00
- Close to the Sky Website Consulting \$400.00

Overall website costs are \$800.00. Most of the maintenance, memos and newsletters now occur "in house" with savings of at least \$600.00 per year.

### **Directors' and Officers' Liability Insurance**

Your executive purchases this insurance each year. It is bought through Cade Insurance Brokers, who provide insurance options for FOCA members. The 2022 premium was \$946.08

### **2022 Miscellaneous**

- All Candidates Meeting catering, \$169.00
- Donation to Youth Pickle Ball, \$250.00
- ZOOM Subscription, \$226.00

### **Detailed Income and Balance Statement**

<https://sepo.ca/download/2616/?tmstv=1676664855>

Questions or comments? Please contact us at: [info@sepo.ca](mailto:info@sepo.ca)

## **St. Edmunds Property Owners, Inc.**

*Representing property owners in the former Township of St. Edmunds and  
the entire Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula*