



February 25, 2022

The Honourable David Piccini, Minister
Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks
College Park 5th Floor, 777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Re: Municipal Accommodation Tax and Crown Campgrounds

On January 1st, 2022, the Town of South Bruce Peninsula implemented a Municipal Accommodation Tax (MAT). The tax equates to a 4% fee Levied on short term accommodations including, hotels, motels, rooming houses, bed & breakfast, cottage rentals and campgrounds, for all bookings of 30 days or less.

The Town of South Bruce Peninsula is the first jurisdiction in Ontario to levy the MAT on campgrounds. There are approximately 14 campgrounds within the Town of South Bruce Peninsula. Of those, one is a municipally owned campground, and one is a provincially owned campground, known as the Sauble Falls Provincial Park.

The Town recently amended the MAT program to confirm that our Town owned campground will contribute to MAT in the same manner as all of our privately owned campgrounds.

The Municipal Act states that "the Crown, any agency of the Crown in right of Ontario or any authority....." Is exempt from MAT. As such, the Sable Falls Provincial Park is not participating in the MAT program.

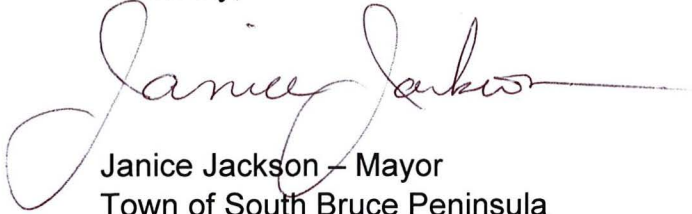
Several campground owners within the Town recently attended a Council meeting and stated their concerns and objections pertaining to the MAT exemption for the Sauble Falls Provincial Park. Town Council and private campground owners believe that this exemption creates an unfair competitive advantage for the provincially operated campground.

Council fully supports the position of our local campground owners and has passed the following resolution

"And further that the Town sends a letter to the Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks as well as to MPP Bill Walker requesting the removal of the Municipal Accommodation Tax exemption for all Crown owned campgrounds and that this letter is sent to all Ontario municipalities to seek their support"

By way of this letter, we are asking the province to remove exemptions listed within section 400.1 (1) of the Municipal Act pertaining to Crown owned facilities, specifically campgrounds.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Janice Jackson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Janice Jackson – Mayor
Town of South Bruce Peninsula
Janice.jackson@southbrucepeninsula.com
519-534-1400 ext. 200

cc. MPP Bill Walker