



# Cobourg Taxpayers Association

*Making Local Government Accountable*

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## **CTA President Lydia Smith awarded NEWSMAKER OF THE YEAR for 2015**

The Cobourg Taxpayers Association's President Lydia Smith has been awarded the first annual 2015 Newsmaker of the Year Award. Northumberland 89.7 Truly Local Radio Board Chair, John Hill, made the announcement last week. The criterion was quite simply, what individual group or organization had the greatest impact on Cobourg during the 2015 calendar year. News reporters,



## **Council delays NMAI Waiver issue until new year**

The postponement of the NMAI Inc. waiver is very big news.

The highly controversial proposal to waive \$312,000 in municipal levies for the construction of an office complex by the Northumberland Medical Arts Inc. was to come before Cobourg council December 21. At the last minute Council decided to defer making a decision until 2016.

John Henderson, Deputy Mayor, indicated that the deferral arose



## **Questions to Councillors**

In order to advance our goal of accountability and transparency from our municipal government, the CTA will be sending questions to each Councillor over a 6-week trial. We will post each Councillor's reply (or lack of reply) on our web site. We believe this provides an opportunity to see where our elected officials stand on various issues. During this trial, we will be asking the same question of our supporters on a mini poll on our site. you can access the poll [here](#).

both at the station and externally, were consulted. Other notable suggestions included MP Kim Rudd, Doug Bates and Dave Newland.

According to Hill, "The result was unanimous; the formation of the CTA and its founder Lydia Smith fulfilled our criterion; the position papers put forward and their impact on council made our choice obvious." - [More](#)

because the Medical Arts representative were unable to provide council with satisfactory answers in time for the Dec. 21st meeting. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor met with the group last Thursday and presented a list of questions posed by taxpayers. Indeed, Mayor Gil Brocanier advised council that he continues to receive questions by email up to the day Council met. Before any action is taken, answers to outstanding questions will be provided to the public, the Mayor assured council.

The CTA has posted the **Facts on NMAI Waiver of Development Charges** on its web site - [More](#)

The first question asked of each of the Councillors is:

Informed constituents are essential for a working democracy. During the last election all candidates supported improved accessibility and transparency. - [More](#)

*Supporters have their say...*

## **NMAI Waiver of Development Charges & Fees**

CTA received a copy of this correspondence from Bryan Lambert to Mayor Brocanier and Councillors:

Mr Mayor and Councillors:

I looked at the new NMAI website <http://www.northumberlandmac.ca/> and have some questions regarding the fees waiver.

The NMAI business case indicates that the land rental payments will be \$50K per year in the first two years, \$75K per year in years 3-10, \$100K per year in years 11-13 and \$100k+ thereafter. There is a caveat that all payments are subject to available cash flow.

For me this indicates uncertainty and RISK.

Is there a written agreement between NMAI and the Hospital outlining the payment schedule? - [More](#)

*Seasons Greetings to all our CTA supporters and friends. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.*

**PLEASE DONATE TO THE CTA**

The CTA is completely volunteer run with no paid staff, no funding from government or special interests. Donations will be used to pay for Freedom of Information requests, our website and other expenses to help everyone enjoy our Feel Good Town with less government waste and lower taxes.

Cheques are also welcomed and can be sent to:

Cobourg Taxpayers Association  
24 Pebble Beach Dr.  
Cobourg ON K9A 2C5



Contact us at: [info@cobourgtaxpayers.ca](mailto:info@cobourgtaxpayers.ca)

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