



## ***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***

What a year 2016 has been for the CTA! Lots of information can be found on our website at <http://cobourgtaxpayers.ca> and in our [newsletters](#) – so I will not go into it all again here but rather talk about some special moments and send out some well deserved, “thanks”.

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**CTA Named Newsmaker of the Year by Northumberland 89.7 FM**

[Read more here](#)

What an honour! And what a recognition of the work the CTA has done to raise the consciousness of council, town staff and the general public. I now see references by staff and council to, “business cases” and to “public engagement”. I believe the culture is starting to change. It is wonderful to see it!

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### **CTA Granted Intervenor Status with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB)**

[Read more here](#)

I would like to publicly acknowledge and thank Bryan Lambert, Paul Pagnuelo and Ken Strauss for the time and effort they put into this project. I can’t begin to tell you how many hours and hours they have put in reading thousands of pages, doing research, meeting to discuss next steps and travelling into Toronto for meetings with the OEB. They were successful in negotiating a reduction in the proposed rate increase. Thank you, Gentlemen.

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### **Formation of the Northumberland Taxpayers Coalition (NTC)**

[Read more here](#)

As if he didn’t already have enough to do, Dennis Nabieszko took on the extra work involved in meeting with representatives from the other county ratepayer groups (Port Hope Ratepayers Association, Citizens’ Council Hamilton Township and the Cramahe Community Association) to prepare to meet with the county CAO and her chief financial officer. They then prepared and presented a delegation to county council on Dec. 14th. The delegation went well. County now knows taxpayers are interested, engaged and are watching for accountability and transparency.

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### **Park Theatre Sold**

[Read more here](#)

The CTA is celebrating the sale because it means the town can no longer

purchase the Park. [Many of us spoke out against the purchase at the time.](#)

We did not feel heard, understood or considered by council. I think many others felt the same way. I would go so far as to say that the CTA was directly born out of the powerlessness and frustration we felt at that time.

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### **Newsletter**

We are so grateful to our editor – who will be stepping down after this issue. Thank you for your service.

We are looking for a new newsletter editor. If you are interested, please contact us at [info@cobourgtaxpayers.ca](mailto:info@cobourgtaxpayers.ca). We'd be happy to hear from you!

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In closing, we have many folks involved in pet projects who prefer to remain anonymous. You know who you are. We see you and we thank you.

We would also like to thank all of those who have written to express their support and/or who send money to help us pay for the website, space for meetings, business cards/printing/signs and Freedom of Information Requests. If you would like to get more involved by volunteering, please write to us: [info@cobourgtaxpayers.ca](mailto:info@cobourgtaxpayers.ca).

The Directors would like to wish all of you a Happy, Healthy and abundant New Year.

Sincerely

Lydia Smith,  
President, Cobourg Taxpayers Association

### **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 Drive**

**Cobourg ON K9A 2C5**



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



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