



### **Breaking news/breaking news!**

Hot off the press:

MPAC Has ordered the city of Timmins to refund \$3.1 million dollars for the year 2016. That represents a 4.5% tax increase. The city in it's wisdom used last years reserves to pay for this. This year however we begin with \$3.1 million dollars less money while the mining assessments are further decreased for the year 2017. So to celebrate this good fortune the mayor along with his 7 cohorts, ordered up a \$4,1 million dollar 8 ...day fireworks and music festival. Joe and RICK have been preaching restraint for months now but have been treated as negative thinkers. Against the better judgement of our city treasurer and our city Fire Chief, this council and mayor have now agreed to accommodate Northern College and donate taxpayers money to the tune of \$2 million dollars. We would call this an investment if it was just that. However the college who has already secured \$11,million dollars to build the facility, will hold the city responsible for the next 99 years to cover the maintenance of this facility. Not to be outdone just this past Monday council approved the third most expensive option for the aquatic centre which started out as a \$15 million dollar project and has now ballooned to over \$48 million and counting. Of course Wednesday the TDP reported that there are problems once again with the East end lift stations. If any of you are wondering who will bear the extra costs for this debacle, well think no longer the city has a plan for that as well. Just raise our water and sewer taxes again. When will people just wake up and speak out against this total mismanagement, of our tax dollars. When will those complaining about the high cost of renting in this city realize that landlords have no choice but to raise rents? When will those who will complain that their home values have taken a drastic drop, while their taxes rise annually, realize that this city cannot just continually borrow \$ million upon \$ million because as councillor Farrell whined, ``there is nothing to do in this town`` give us a break and start acting like adults and not petulant children who have to have what they want NOW! The time has come for the city to go back to the committee system. This system tried and true will lead us to the competent stewardship of our community that we sorely deserve. Our neighbouring communities have demonstrated to us the proper manner in how to deal with shrinking revenues and exploding costs. They simply postpone their expensive projects and weather the storm. Our council and mayor on the other hand tell us to go fly a kite.

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