



Campground and Co-op Property Tax Assessment FAQ

General

1) Why did the Rural Municipality make this change?

The Rural Municipality of Lac du Bonnet is governed by several acts and policies, including the Municipal Act Section 304 (1) b, and the Property Assessment Act Section 1 (1). It was brought to our attention there were buildings not being taxed. This was in violation of the acts by which we are governed.

The process to make the required correction included a By-Law defining the buildings in question, so there was no future confusion about which buildings are taxable.

2) Why wasn't this change made public when the By-Law Passed last Fall?

By-Law 08-22 Mobile Modular (Manufactured) Homes and Permanent Structures passed in October, 2022. It was given first, second, and third readings during Council Meetings, which are open to the public and broadcast over social media.

Each meeting's agenda is published prior to the meeting and minutes are published afterwards. Videos of Council Meetings are available for viewing on our Facebook page (and now on our website).

Members of the public can attend all Council Meetings or view any of these video recordings or documents at any time.

It's also important to note this was a lengthy process. Site visits to campgrounds and co-op properties were required and a lot of communication has occurred between campground owners, the RM, and the Provincial Assessment Branch.

3) Can I vote for RM Council now that I pay taxes?

Only the campground owner who has their name on the land title is eligible to vote.

Property Taxes

1) Where do my tax dollars go?

The RM held a Public Hearing for the Budget in April, 2023. A full presentation, including breakdown of where tax dollars go, can be found here:

<http://www.rmoflacdubonnet.com/p/financial-plan>

2) What is included with property tax? What benefits do I get?

There are many programs and services available to our tax payers, including:

- Facility access (cost-sharing between the RM and Town of Lac du Bonnet provide access to the Arena, Community Centre, Library, and more;)
- Road maintenance, dust control, and snow clearing
- By-Law Enforcement;
- Emergency services, including the Lac du Bonnet Fire Department and EMO;
- Access to maintained boat launches, green spaces, and parks;
- Access to recreation programs run by the RM of Lac du Bonnet Recreation Department,
- Use of Transfer Stations

Please see the below link that details what the RM offers and provides:

<http://www.rmoflacdubonnet.com/p/financial-plan>

3) Can I expect to receive more services now that I am paying taxes?

Yes. Now that your site has been deemed assessable, you qualify for the full number of garbage bags (104) with your Transfer Station cards. Previously, when charged a trailer fee, you could only use 52 bags in a year. The campsite owner will simply need to ensure we know your card number so we can make the change.

Roads and services within your campground remain the responsibility of the campground owner.

The RM has been working on municipal roads on a rotational basis. Concerns can be addressed by using the Service Tracker on our website under the “Services” tab:

<http://www.rmoflacdubonnet.com/p/service-request>

4) How are my property taxes calculated?

Property assessment x portioned assessment % / 1,000 x mill rate

Example: residential property assessment of \$300,000.00 with municipal mill rate being 10.37 and school tax mill rate being 11.518:

$300,000 \times 45\% = 135,000$ portioned assessment / 1,000 = 135

$135 \times 10.37 = \$1,399.95$ payable to the municipality

$135 \times 11.518 = 1,554.93$ school taxes which are collected by the municipality and forwarded to the school district

5) I don't agree with the assessed value. How do I appeal?

You can contact the Provincial Assessment Branch to speak about your specific site.

- Phone Number: 1-866-262-9786
- Email: assessmentselkirk@gov.mb.ca

Each **campground owner** is also eligible to file an assessment appeal through the Board of Revision. The deadline for applications is Aug. 28, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.

More information can be found here:

https://www.gov.mb.ca/mr/assessment/pubs/appealing_property_assessments.pdf

School Taxes

1) Why does the Municipality collect school taxes?

The provincial government's *The Public Schools Act* says municipalities, such as the RM of Lac du Bonnet, must bill for, and collect school taxes.

2) What happens to your school taxes?

School taxes are part of the annual statement and demand of taxes that are mailed out in June of each year to property owners. The school taxes that are billed and collected by the RM are remitted to the Province and school divisions to pay for education. The Municipality is billed for the full amount on the annual statements and does not keep the money collected.

The tax is charged on **all** taxable property in the school division. The RM sends the school division the money raised in its boundaries to help pay its operating expenses.

3) Do you have to pay school taxes even if you have no children in school?

Yes. Provincial law says all property owners must pay school taxes whether or not they have children in school, unless the property qualifies for a school tax exemption as referenced in Section 23(1) of the *Municipal Assessment Act*. Examples are some seniors housing, personal care homes, colleges or seminary of learning, community halls and museums. For a complete list consult the *Municipal Assessment Act*.

School Tax Rebates

1) Are the Supplemental Bills eligible for the School Tax Rebate?

The School Tax Rebate is managed by the Provincial Government, and therefore the Municipality has no ability to make decisions or influence how it is managed or disbursed. For questions regarding the School Tax Rebate, please call 1-866-626-4862 or visit <http://www.manitoba.ca/edupropertytax>