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SEPTEMBER 28, 2022

# The Suburban

QUEBEC'S LARGEST ENGLISH WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

## Beaconsfield sues city and province over “unjust taxation”

By Dan Laxer  
The Suburban

“We are overtaxed by Montreal without receiving any additional services,” says Georges Bourelle, mayor of Beaconsfield. The municipality has launched a lawsuit against the City of Montreal and the Government of Quebec in the hopes of recouping its losses.

According to the mayor, Beaconsfield residents are being unfairly overburdened with costs by the Montreal Agglomeration. The “unjust overtaxation”, says Bourelle, is due to an “erroneous calculation algorithm” resulting in increased property values generated in the newest three-year assessment role. A similar increase occurred in the previous role of 2020-2022. Beaconsfield is claiming up to \$10 million in the lawsuit, possibly more over the coming years.

“The amount of taxes paid in excess to Montreal will represent ten million dollars in 2023, 14 million dollars in 2024, and 18 million dollars in 2025 because of this new role,” says Bourelle.

A statement released by the City of Beaconsfield says that a recently adopted calculation

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## Arrest made in car thefts and break-ins in CDN

*“We know this area is being targeted”*

By Joel Ceausu  
The Suburban

Montreal police have made an arrest in the case of thefts and break-ins in the Darlington/Wilderton area. “We already arrested someone and we’re very happy about it,” said Agent Catudal of Station 26 in Côte des Neiges, but refused to offer any other information about it.

Residents have been on edge, with politicians confirming their neighborhood was targeted, after Station 26 police called it “a few break-ins.” Whichever way you spin it, the community was on high alert as car thefts and break-ins are ramping up in the Darling-

ton/Wilderton area.

“We’ve had a spate of crime in our area with many cars stolen and houses broken into,” Samuel Roseberg told borough council this month. “I have a relative whose house was broken into in the middle of the night, they were home, they went into the bedroom very quietly... We had 12 vehicles stolen in the last three weeks, and three homes were broken into in one week... That creates a lot of anxiety, as you can imagine, in the community and neighborhood.”

Indeed, Roseberg says the theft of vehicles is pretty rampant. “We have guests and vis-

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## Quebec has control over welcome tax: CSL Mayor

By Joel Goldenberg  
The Suburban

Côte St. Luc has no control over the welcome tax, which people must pay after buying property, as it is under provincial law, Mayor Mitchell Brownstein told council regular Sharon Freedman during a lively exchange at the September public meeting.

Freedman asked council if it could look into the welcome tax, specifically an exemption for seniors.

“I’m shocked to hear that people who are just moving up or downstairs — they’re downsizing, they’re upsizing — in the same building, next door, they haven’t left CSL, they’re not coming into CSL, they’re being charged a welcome tax of \$4,000 to \$5,000,” she said. “Can this somehow be looked at to be eliminated for seniors only?”

“It’s a provincial question,” Brownstein said. “We have no authority on that. We’re happy to get the money, but it’s a provincial question.”

“I was told it’s not, very clearly,” Freedman said.

Brownstein pointed out that the Quebec Liberals are proposing to eliminate the welcome tax for first-time homebuyers if they are elected Oct. 3.

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