



BMR

NEWS BRIEFS

32 ISABELLA STREET, TORONTO 5

President - D. W. Lang, Q.C.

Director - Michael D. Goldrick

May 2nd, 1962.

Comparison of Residential and Commercial Mill Rates 1961-62, Metropolitan Municipalities

		1962	1961	1962	1961	* Incr.	- & Decr.	Effect per \$5000 assessed value	
		Res.	Res.	Comm.	Comm.	Res.	Comm.	Res.	Comm.
Toronto	P. ¹	61.91	60.00	68.25	64.20	*1.91	*4.05	9.55	20.25
	S. ²	61.91		68.25					
East York	P.	56.29	55.93	62.06	60.21	*.31	*1.85	1.55	9.25
	S.	55.03		60.71					
Etobicoke	P.	50.63	50.00	56.84	54.50	*.63	*2.34	3.15	11.70
	S.	52.26		58.65					
Forest Hill	P.	51.8	51.00	57.42	55.14	*.8	*2.28	4.0	11.40
	S.	53.26		59.07					
Leaside	P.	42.69	40.30	47.38	44.77	*2.39	*2.61	11.95	13.05
	S.	45.61		51.55					
Long Branch	P.	52.20	51.50	57.49	55.67	*.70	*1.32	3.50	9.10
	S.	55.03		60.62					
Mimico	P.	50.00	48.50	55.43	52.22	*1.50	*3.21	7.50	16.05
	S.	50.00		55.43					
New Toronto	P.	48.74	46.43	53.17	49.38	*2.26	*3.79	11.30	18.95
	S.	51.94		56.74					
North York	P.	54.75	54.68	61.93	60.50	*.07	*1.43	.35	7.15
	S.	54.09		61.21					
Scarborough	P.	61.85	59.99	69.37	66.25	*1.86	*3.12	9.30	15.60
	S.	62.41		70.00					
Swansea	P.	49.22	47.52	54.52	51.62	*1.70	*2.90	8.50	14.50
	S.	52.62		58.29					
Weston	P.	53.50	54.50	58.85	58.88	-1.00	-.03	5.00	.15
	S.	56.72		62.42					
York	P.	57.36	56.70	62.32	61.66	*.66	*.66	3.30	3.30
	S.	56.27		62.01					
Metro		10.80	10.14	14.50	13.75	*.66	*.75	3.30	3.75

1. P = Public School Supporter
2. S = Separate School Supporter

Health, Welfare and Recreation Needs and Resources

A study-conference sponsored by the Social Planning Council of Metropolitan Toronto is currently considering the health, welfare and recreation needs and resources of the metropolitan area, projected over the next five years.

The thread of two major questions relating to the future development of these services has run through the entire conference:

1.) Taking into consideration the dynamic nature of population growth, composition and settlement, and the probable expansion of health, welfare and recreation needs by 1967, what pattern of service will most adequately meet future requirements?

The geographic distribution of public and voluntary service agencies reflects the early settlement of this area. Centred mainly in the City of Toronto, agencies are now experiencing difficulty in extending their services beyond the central core as settlement extends outward to the periphery of the metropolitan area. The need for new services and for the expansion of traditional ones has further taxed the capacity of existing agencies.

These and other factors have led to several proposals calling for innovations in the organization and administration of health, welfare and recreation services. Of particular significance is the suggested distribution of 'health and welfare centres' throughout the metro area. At one extreme, each centre, under a single, unified administration would assemble a complete range of services presently provided by either public or voluntary agencies. The formation of new, multi-purpose organizations combining various functions of existing agencies would be required. At the other extreme, the centres would simply serve as a common location for existing agencies, operating normally, but with a greater degree of inter-service referral and co-operation than is now possible.

2.) The second major issue concerns the division of responsibilities between agencies, and the financing of their programmes. It is widely held that the most satisfactory provision of services is through numerous agencies each possessing a high degree of autonomy. Is this the most efficient pattern possible in relation to financing and the distribution of services? The requirements of a growing, dynamic society suggest that an independent, co-ordinating authority, empowered to assess needs, define priorities and assign responsibilities may be necessary. With respect to finance, it has been suggested that when service requirements have been identified and assigned to appropriate agencies, sufficient revenues to cover the variable costs of providing approved services, but not fixed costs, should be guaranteed to agencies by a new type of financing mechanism. The proposal seeks to eliminate restrictions on the expansion of needed, existing services due to inelastic sources of voluntary funds. It contemplates the provision of fixed agency costs from traditional, voluntary sources, but variable, unit costs from public funds raised by government authorities as a charge against the entire community.

Both questions suggest radical departures from present practice and could be of tremendous importance in the future pattern of health, welfare and recreation services in the metropolitan area.