

QUESTIONS FREQUENTLY ASKED REGARDING APPEALING YOUR PROPERTY ASSESSMENT

(The following questions and answers are taken from the pamphlet “*Understanding the Property Assessment Appeal Process*” from the Saskatchewan Government Relations, Provincial Municipal Relations and Advisory Services)

What is Property Assessment?

Property assessment is the process of determining a property’s assessed value as of a specific date for property tax purposes. The assessment provides an estimate of the property’s value that reflects typical market conditions.

Local governments use property assessments as a basis for the distribution of property taxes among property owners. **Property assessment is not the same as property tax.** The assessment of a property is the value assigned to it as the basis for allocating taxes among various classes of property.

Who Can I Contact to Explain My Assessment?

You should start with your Administrator of your Municipality (Phone 306-771-2284). You can also call SAMA (Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency) (Phone 306-924-8000) as it is the agency that performs Balgonie’s assessments; however, there may be a charge for this service.

Preparing the Notice of Appeal Form

When making an assessment appeal, the notice of appeal form must be fully completed. You must provide specific grounds supporting the appeal. You are required to provide as many details as possible and all facts and evidence that an error has been made in the:

- valuation of the property;
- classification of the property;
- preparation of the relevant assessment roll or assessment notice; and/or
- content of the relevant assessment roll or assessment notice.

The grounds for the appeal must be detailed. Phrases such as “assessment too high” or “assessment too low” are **NOT** sufficient.

It is your responsibility to make a case to the Board of Revision. It may be as simple as proving that dimensions or measurements are wrong or that a classification is not correct, or as complex as proving that the value of a property is not fairly assessed compared to another property that is similar in nature.

Regular Assessment Appeals or Simplified Assessment Appeals?

When making regular or simplified assessment appeals, the Notice of Appeal form must be fully completed. Regular appeal – the appellant must provide specific written grounds supporting the appeal when submitting it to the secretary before the hearing. Simplified appeal - the appellant is not required to submit detailed written grounds to the secretary before the hearing but must have detailed information ready to present to the appeal board.

Can I Base My Appeal on the Fact that I Feel my Taxes are Too High?

NO! Legislation outlines the valid grounds for an appeal. Only your property assessment can be appealed, not the property taxes or the mill rates.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE A COPY OF THE PAMPHLET, VISIT THE FOLLOWING WEBSITE:

<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/residents/taxes-and-investments/property-taxes/appeal-your-property-assessment>