

Community Centres etc. – Eligibility For Exemption From School Taxes Under Section 23(1)(i)

- Real property is exempt from taxation for school purposes under section 23 (1)(i) of *The Municipal Assessment Act* where it is
 - i. owned by, or
 - ii. held under leasehold title by,
a municipality, community association, service club, public recreation commission or other public body or group that serves the local community, and is not occupied, used or operated for profit but as a community hall, community recreation area, community centre or community rink, to the extent that the improvements are not used as licensed premises within the meaning of The Liquor Control Act, and to a maximum exemption of 0.81 hectare;
- To be granted the exemption you must provide the local district office of Municipal and Northern Relations, Property Assessment Services with clear evidence that:
 1. The property is owned by, or held under leasehold title by a municipality, community association, service club, public recreation commission or other public body or group as the case may be. You must provide a copy of the Certificate of Title.
 2. The owner provides service to the local community. You must provide a copy of the Articles of Incorporation, constitution and/or bylaws which reveals that:
 - the organization is a corporation without share capital
 - the objective of the organization is to serve the local community in a manner that benefits the community and is not intended to accrue profit to the owner. (A profit may be generated by such a corporation but it does not flow to individual members)
 - on dissolution, assets are to be distributed to a not-for-profit organization
 - membership in the organization is open to any person.
 3. The property is used as a community hall, community recreation area, community centre or community rink, to the extent that the improvements are not used as licensed premises within the meaning of *The Liquor Control Act*. Inspection by the assessor must reveal that the property is being put to one of these uses. Documentation must also be provided showing that the building is used substantially by the community at large and that rentals are not for profit by the owner. In other words, non-members must be making regular use of the building and the owner must not charge for use or only charge enough to cover the costs of use.