

Elgin County
450 Sunset Drive
St. Thomas, Ontario
N5R 5V1

Dear Warden Jones and County Council:

As an owner of farm property in Elgin County, I am very concerned with the latest reassessed values for my farmland, and the impact those increased values will have on the property taxes I pay.

MPAC's recent reassessment has increased farmland values by an average of 68 percent in Elgin County. Owners of other property classes have not experienced similar increases in the values of their property. I am concerned that future tax burdens will be shifted from other property classes to farmland. Farm property owners already contribute more than their fair share of the property tax burden relative to municipal services used on the farm. The prospect of future tax shifting removes fairness from the property tax system.

County Council, in its capacity as an upper tier municipality, has the authority to minimize tax shifting onto farmland, such that historical proportional tax burdens can be preserved among property tax classes.

I ask you to return fairness to the property tax system.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Farmer in Elgin