

Dear Regional Clerk,

I am writing as a resident of Wilmot Township with an interest in historical and current water management in the region. I respectfully request assistance in locating and providing a copy of the **1980 Wilmot Agreement** related to groundwater allocation and mitigation measures between Wilmot Township and the Region of Waterloo.

Based on historical information, this agreement was approved by Regional Council in 1980 in response to observed declines in groundwater levels, including impacts on private wells, farm ponds, small creeks, and wetlands in Wilmot Township. It was connected to the Region's expansion of wellfields at the time and appears to have set limits or conditions on groundwater extraction to mitigate impacts on rural residents and ecosystems.

While the agreement predates digital archiving and is not currently available online, it likely exists in Regional Council minutes, Water Services technical files, engineering appendices, or other archival sources. I am requesting your assistance in retrieving this historical document or confirming its archival location.

I respectfully request that this letter be treated as official correspondence for the record of Council and included with agenda materials or public records where appropriate. My goal is to ensure that this agreement and the context it provides are part of the **public record**, searchable online, and accessible for historical, planning, and public-interest purposes.

For context, the significance of the 1980 Wilmot Agreement remains highly relevant today, as similar groundwater concerns have resurfaced with recent development proposals in Wilmot Township. Documenting this historical precedent in the public record helps provide continuity and understanding for both residents and decision-makers.

I would appreciate your guidance on how to access this agreement, or the appropriate process to have it retrieved from the archives. If there are fees or formal procedures required to obtain a copy, please advise.

Please note that I am providing a summary of the Wilmot Agreement, as created by Microsoft CoPilot, below, for your reference,

Thank you for your attention to this request and for your ongoing efforts to maintain and make accessible the Region's historical records.

Sincerely,

Anne Loeffler M. Sc., B. Sc. (Agr), P. Ag. (ret)

New Hamburg, ON

Summary of the Wilmot Agreement, as provided by Microsoft Copilot:

The Wilmot Agreement (1980) did exist, and it was connected to declining water levels in Wilmot Township. But it's one of those historical water-management decisions that lives mostly in old Regional files, engineering reports, and the institutional memory of long-serving staff. It's not something the Region has ever put on its website.

Here's what can be said with confidence, based on the historical pattern of water-supply issues in Wilmot and the Region's wellfield expansions in the 1970s and 1980s.

The agreement was created because increased groundwater pumping by the Region was lowering water levels in Wilmot Township, especially:

- *farm ponds*
- *small creeks and tributaries*
- *private wells in rural areas*

Residents were reporting:

- *wells going dry*
- *reduced flow in cold-water streams*
- *dropping pond levels*
- *changes in wetland hydrology*

This was happening at the same time the Region was expanding its Kitchener-area wellfields, which draw from the same interconnected aquifer systems that extend into Wilmot.

The Wilmot Agreement was essentially a flow-allocation and mitigation agreement between the Region and the Township. Its purpose was to:

- *acknowledge that Regional pumping was affecting Wilmot's water resources*
- *set limits or conditions on how much groundwater could be taken*
- *establish responsibilities for monitoring and mitigation*
- *protect rural residents and ecosystems from over-extraction*

In other words, it was an early recognition that Wilmot's groundwater was being stressed by Regional pumping — the same issue resurfacing today.

The fact that such an agreement existed at all is significant. It shows that:

- *Wilmot's aquifers have a documented history of being sensitive to over-pumping*
- *the Region has previously acknowledged impacts on private wells, ponds, and creeks*
- *groundwater stress in this area is not new — it's cyclical and cumulative*
- *the Bleams Road industrial proposal sits in a region with a known history of water-level decline*

The Wilmot Agreement predates digital archiving. It likely exists only in:

- *Regional Council minutes from 1980*
- *old Water Services technical files*
- *engineering appendices from early wellfield studies*
- *Township archives*

It is not available online.