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From: noreply@regionofwaterloo.ca <noreply@regionofwaterloo.ca> On Behalf Of Catherine Muss

Sent: Monday, June 10, 2024 8:41 PM

To: Regional Clerk <RegionalClerk@regionofwaterloo.ca>

Subject: re: farmland in Wilmot Township

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To All Whom It May Concern,

I'm writing to you to express my alarm over the "shovel ready" farmland in Wilmot Township. I signed the petition requesting that this land acquirement not occur, but in the weeks since then I have not taken further action to voice my opinion in order to give you time to express details and explanation.

You remain silent. So I must speak up.

Every time I speak to a friend or acquaintance about this issue, they are connected to one of the farms involved. These are our neighbours, even if there are 2 cities between our houses. My friend's family farm really does neighbour one of those offered expropriation. It's reasonable to assume their farm will be next on your list of "shovel ready land". They are broken-hearted. I'm broken-hearted with them. This is not "shovel ready land". This is farmland. It actively provides for our community.

I am all for improving and expanding resources in WR, I've lived here for over 30 years, through recessions and growth, and certainly space to encourage job growth here is a good thing.

What's not a good thing is the way you've chosen to go about this growth. If there is no deal underway, give the farmers more time to make decisions. If there is a deal underway, give them more money so that they can not just survive this unexpected change, but thrive after generations of incredible community service. By the time they were notified of your actions, the farmers had already invested in the 2024 harvest. What will you do with the profit you make in reselling their land? Or are you planning to sell it with no markup?

Why isn't land that is already environmentally damaged being used? What will this development do to the water supply? Why have journalists been given no comment or redirected in circles?

Has the Greenbelt controversy left no impression?

I hope that the next time you search out locally sourced produce for your table, you remember our neighbours, particularly those in Wilmot Township.

Origin: <https://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/regional-government/communicate-with-council.aspx>

This email was sent to you by Catherine Muss <[REDACTED]> through <https://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/>.