

From: [Heather Parekh](#)
To: [Natasha Salonen](#); [Stewart Cressman](#); [Kris Wilkinson](#); [Harvir Sidhu](#); [Lillianne Dunstall](#); [Steven Martin](#); [Clerks; regionalclerk@regionofwaterloo.ca](#); [Clerks-Office@ola.org](#); [Kaitlin Bos](#)
Subject: Expropriation of 770 acres of farmland in Wilmot
Date: February 10, 2025 5:51:56 PM

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Hello,

My name is Heather Parekh. I have lived and worked in the Waterloo region for 27 years. I raised my family children here.

This letter is to communicate that the community is overwhelmingly opposed to the proposed expropriation of 770 acres of farmland in Wilmot. Wilmot is not a willing host. The failure of Wilmot Council to oppose the proposed expropriation is eroding public confidence in your leadership. The decision you make on this issue will be the difference between a short-lived career and a lasting legacy. Now is the time to say ‘No’ to the proposed expropriation of the 770 acres of farmland in Wilmot.

As the mayor and counsellors, it is your job to listen to the residents in your community. Expropriation of productive prime farmland without any end user sets a dangerous precedent that destabilizes the Ontario agricultural sector. Expropriation is an extreme measure that should be reserved for public projects with a clear purpose and benefits the public. Expropriation should not be an option when the site selection process and evidence to support the public benefit for the end use of the land has not been transparent. It is very upsetting to me how this has been handled.

The voters of Wilmot Township will remember the actions you take today when they head to the polls in the future. We want to support leaders who put their community first. If you don’t speak out against the proposed expropriation, it will be seen as a failure to represent the will of the community, and will undermine trust in your leadership. Aligning yourself with the community’s values on this issue demonstrates moral strength and leadership on your part. Reconsidering the project isn’t a sign of weakness—it’s a hallmark of leadership. It shows you are willing to listen, learn, and act in the best interests of our community.

Vote in support of a motion declaring that Wilmot is NOT a willing host for a proposed industrial project on farmland.

Thank you,
Heather Parekh