

From: [REDACTED]
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Cc: "Chagger, Bardish - M.P."; premier@ontario.ca
Subject: Wilmot Land Assembly of valuable farm land...
Date: May 20, 2025 10:32:11 AM

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Transparency is not just a buzzword—it is a cornerstone of good governance. Yet, on the issue of land assembly, transparency is at an all-time low. Residents have been left in the dark about decisions that will shape our community's future, and this lack of openness erodes trust in government at all levels.

I am reaching out to elected officials at Wilmot Township, the Region of Waterloo, and the Ontario and Federal governments, to express my concerns, demand this absurd land assembly be abandoned and relocated to a location with far fewer negative impacts. We need to show support for farmers under such threats – not only here but across the province, and demand that the provincial government follow proper planning processes for our communities with the required transparency, public engagement, and accountability. As a former employee of the Region of Waterloo, I have been shocked at the unwillingness of Karen Redmond, whom I have long admired and respected, to include the citizens of our Region in this decision. When Doug Ford said that there is no reason not to share the potential planned use for this farmland, we are left wondering just who is telling the truth. In any case, we now know that there is no actual buyer for this land, even though 70% has been bought by the Region up to this point. The damage from erosion has already happened, and the effects on local ecosystems and biodiversity cannot be denied. As we all know, preserving farmland contributes to the mitigation of climate change, the maintenance of green spaces, and the reduction of carbon footprints.

As a result of the lack of transparency and the lack of consultation with the public before this decision was implemented, I will not be voting for anyone who was in favour of this decision. I cannot believe there was not another suitable location that did not involve destroying prime farmland. We all need food! And now that the threat from imposed tariffs has cooled industry's desire to build, this fiasco seems even more unnecessary and wasteful.

Sincerely,
Deborah Wallis
Waterloo, ON

Please include my letter in agendas as Official Correspondence.