



December 11, 2024

Warden Grant Jones and Elgin County Council  
450 Sunset Drive St. Thomas,  
ON N5R 5V1

Dear Grant Jones and Elgin County Council,

**RE: Elgin County Farm Assessments and Tax Burden**

On behalf of Elgin Federation of Agriculture (EFA) I wish to follow up on our letter dated January 24, 2024, to the County of Elgin regarding Farm Assessments and Tax Burden.

The Elgin Federation of Agriculture (EFA), a key subsidiary of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA), represents \$609 million of the agricultural economy in Elgin County. We are committed to driving the sustainability and growth of the agri-food sector and rural communities, confidently supporting the success of farm businesses within Elgin County.

Elgin Farmers have had some challenging years, with input costs and operating costs rising at an unprecedented rate. Unfortunately, many commodities have seen decreased crop prices at the same time. To help the current economic burden of farmers, **the EFA is asking Elgin County Council to maintain the Farm Class Tax rate at 0.23 per cent.**

The Elgin Federation of Agriculture understands the difficulties the municipalities face as Provincial payment transfers have been reduced and like farms, operating budgets are challenging to maintain. We understand that maintaining the Farm Class Rate is difficult, but Elgin County Council has helped farmers in the past and we are hoping this can be done during these challenging years. The support shown by the council is greatly appreciated by farm families in Elgin County.

As the Premier has again directed MPAC not to release the reassessment notices for the 2024 Property Tax year, **the EFA would ask that you continue to maintain the Farm Class Tax rate at 0.23 per cent.**

We welcome the opportunity to speak with any members of the county council on this issue.

Sincerely,

Greg Fentie

President, Elgin Federation of Agriculture

Cc: B. Parkin – Chief Administrative Officer / Clerk  
K. Thompson – Deputy County Clerk