



# Kawartha Lakes Haliburton

Federation of Agriculture

**The Corporation of City of Kawartha Lakes**  
**Attn: Council**  
**26 Francis Street, P.O. Box 9000**  
**Lindsay, On**  
**K9V 5R8**

**Dear Councillors;**

**We have had several discussions at our recent board meetings with concern to the increased assessment values for farmland that have been circulated by MPAC. This makes us very concerned about the farmland tax rate.**

**We as corporate citizens are prepared to pay our share of the budget, but we can see that share changing over the next four years with the phase in of the new assessments, as a result it would cause undo hardship to our farming community.**

**Whereas farmland assessed values will be increasing dramatically over a four-year phase-in, and whereas farmland does not require the same level of service as residential properties, and whereas failure to reduce the farmland tax rate will create a disproportional shift of the Municipal tax burden onto agricultural taxpayers, the Kawartha Lakes Haliburton Federation of Agriculture requests Council to implement a phased-in reduction of the farmland tax rate each year over the four year phase-in period.**

**We are requesting a reduction in farmland tax rate from 25% to 20% of the Residential Rate in an incremental fashion with a reduction of one and one quarter percent (1.25%) each year for the next four years. This would align with the phase-in of the increased values outlined by MPAC and increasing land costs. This would provide for a 23.75% rate in 2017, 22.50% in 2018, 21.25% in 2019 and 20% in 2020.**

**We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this in person with a presentation to Council at your April 4, 2017 meeting.**

**We look forward to hearing back from you. If you should have any questions please feel free to contact me.**

**Sincerely,**

**Barry Baxter**  
**President, KLHFA**