

SCHEDULE "A"
2021 COUNTY-WIDE PROPERTY TAX POLICIES

POLICY	STAFF RECOMMENDATION
Transition Ratios, Tax Ratios, Class Discounts and Tax Rates	<p>THAT the 2021 County-wide tax ratios, class discounts and tax rates be approved as set out in Table 1; and</p> <p>THAT staff be directed to prepare the necessary, tax ratio, class discounts and tax rating by-laws</p>
County Levy Instalments	<p>THAT the County levy instalment payments in accordance with section 311 (13) be reinstated without adjustments effective January 1, 2021; and</p> <p>THAT staff be directed to prepare the necessary County levy instalment by-law</p>
Mandatory Capping	<p>THAT the application of Part IX, section 329.1 of the <i>Municipal Act</i> no longer applies to properties in the multi-residential property class, the commercial property class and the industrial property class in Wellington County effective January 1, 2020; and</p> <p>THAT the mandatory property tax capping programme has officially ended for all properties in Wellington County with the possible exception of outstanding legacy appeals</p>
Tax relief for low income seniors and persons with disabilities	<p>THAT the tax relief programme for low income seniors and low income persons with disabilities be continued for 2021; and</p> <p>THAT a minimum rebate of \$400 be granted to qualified applicants having a tax increase lower than the \$400 threshold for the 2021 taxation year; and</p> <p>THAT qualified applicants experiencing a minor decrease in taxes from the previous year will receive the minimum rebate of \$400 less the amount of the tax decrease; and</p> <p>THAT applications may be made after the final tax bill for the year has been issued; and</p> <p>THAT staff be directed to prepare the necessary tax relief for low income seniors and persons with disabilities by-law</p>
Tax rebate for charities and other similar organizations	<p>THAT the tax rebate programme for charities and other similar organizations be continued for the 2021 taxation year</p>

TAX RATIOS, CLASS DISCOUNTS and TAX RATES

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the 2021 County-wide tax ratios, class discounts and tax rates be approved as set out in Table 1; and

THAT staff be directed to prepare the necessary tax ratio, class discounts and tax rating by-laws

Legislative reference: *Municipal Act 2001 Section 308*

OVERVIEW

- Tax rates are measured as a percentage of the assessed value of a property
- Tax ratios show how a property class' tax rate compares with the residential rate - if a property class has a ratio of 2, then it is taxed at twice the rate of the residential class
- Transition ratios were calculated initially in 1998 by the Province and reflected the level of taxation by class **at that time**
- Tax ratios must be approved annually by County Council, unless delegated to the member municipalities. Table 1 shows the recommended 2021 tax ratios and rates for Wellington County. Table 5 shows 2020 tax ratios established by neighbouring municipalities
- Changing ratios shifts the burden of property taxes between property classes
- The Province established "ranges of fairness" which help protect property classes that are taxed at higher rates - If the ratio for a property class is outside the "range of fairness," a municipality can either maintain the current ratio or move towards the range of fairness, but may not move further from the fairness range (see Table 2)
- Municipalities may pass along up to 50% of a levy increase to classes which have ratios in excess of the provincial threshold
- To avoid tax shifts that may occur as a result of reassessment, municipalities typically have the option of setting new transition ratios based on a prescribed formula. Once reset, the new ratios may then be established for all of the tax classes or may be selectively adopted. The benefit of adopting new transition ratios is that it allows the flexibility of imposing a higher ratio on any of the capped classes for the current and subsequent taxation years. However, if any of the transition ratios are lower than the existing ratio, the lower one becomes the ceiling and cannot be increased in the current or possibly future taxation years. Since the Province has postponed the 2019 base year reassessment, the option to select revenue neutral transition ratios is not available in 2021 as there is no phased-in assessment increase
- Table 3 details the upper-tier tax change by class using current tax ratios by comparing the 2020 year-end and 2021 assessment rolls
- Table 4 compares the total tax change including County, Local and Education tax rates. The Province-wide reduction to the Education rate for Commercial, Industrial and Pipeline properties have reduced taxes significantly in those property classes
- Ontario Regulation 65/17 prescribes a maximum ratio threshold of 2.0 for the Multi-Residential property class. Municipalities with a ratio currently set higher than 2.0 are subject to a full levy restriction and cannot increase their current multi-residential class ratio. However, those municipalities with a ratio below 2.0 may increase the current ratio but no higher than 2.0. The Multi-Residential tax ratio has been set at 1.9 for Wellington County
- The Province has legislated a New Multi-Residential tax class beginning in 2017 which must be adopted by all municipalities. The new multi-residential class is limited to a tax ratio between 1.0 and 1.1. The New Multi-Residential tax ratio was set at 1.1 for Wellington County
- The Province has also legislated a Landfill property tax class beginning in 2017 which must be adopted by all municipalities that contain Landfill properties. The starting ratio for Landfill was originally set by the

Ministry of Finance for each municipality with Landfill properties at that time. Every year, municipalities wishing to increase the Landfill ratio could do so by selecting the maximum ratio provided by the Ministry of Finance. Maximum ratio for Landfills is calculated by taking the revenue neutral tax ratio for Landfill and increasing it by 5%. Wellington County has selected the increased ratio option each year since 2017.

- The Province continued providing municipalities with broader flexibility commencing in 2017 intended to allow municipalities to tailor the vacant unit rebate and reduction programs to reflect community needs and circumstances, while considering the interests of local businesses. Changes to the rebate and reduction programmes are implemented through regulation. Municipalities that have decided to change the programmes must notify the Minister of their intent and provide details of the proposed changes along with a council resolution
- In Wellington County, Erin, Minto and Wellington North have made changes to vacant unit rebate policies effective January 1, 2017. All four of the other local municipalities have eliminated the vacant unit rebate programme including Puslinch (effective January 1, 2018); and Centre Wellington, Guelph/Eramosa, and Mapleton (effective January 1, 2019). Wellington County, with the support of our member municipalities, has completely eliminated the excess and vacant lands subclass discounts as of January 1, 2019
- Under the current programme if the property is in any of the commercial classes, the vacant unit rebate is equal to 30% of full taxes; and 35% for those in the industrial property classes
- Enhanced flexibility options will allow municipalities to set rebate and reductions to any percentage range lower than currently legislated including no reduction at all bringing them to full tax liability
- Although both the vacant unit rebate and the excess and vacant land reductions are decisions made by an upper or single tier, it is the local member municipalities that fully administer the vacant unit rebate programme
- Since providing these enhanced flexibility options, the province has now followed suit by lowering or eliminating the education tax rate discounts for these policy options to mirror the changes made by each municipality. And further, effective January 1, 2020, the education tax discount has been fully eliminated for each of the commercial and industrial vacant or excess land property classes unless the municipality has notified the Minister of a modified discount rate reduction
- The Ministry has provided a check list for municipalities to consider before making changes to the programmes, including engaging with the local business sector. At this time, Erin, Minto and Wellington North may still opt for additional eligibility changes or completely eliminate the vacant unit rebate programme entirely
- Announced in 2017, the Province has prescribed new subclasses for Small-Scale on Farm Business Properties effective January 1, 2018. Provided that the business supports the farming activity, Councils may adopt the new commercial or industrial farm business subclass. This would allow for the business tax portion to be discounted to 75% of the applicable tax rate. A tax reduction is limited to no more than \$50,000 of assessment in the business class. Wellington County has not adopted the reduced farm business subclasses, however they are mandatory for the education reduction effective January 1, 2018
- Announced in November 2020, the Province will allow municipalities to set a New Optional Small Business Property Subclass effective January 1, 2021 or future taxation years
- The intent is to provide municipalities with the flexibility to target property tax relief to small businesses in a way that best reflects their local circumstances. The Province will also consider matching these municipal property tax reductions in order to provide further support for small businesses
- Amendments are being proposed to the *Assessment Act* that would allow municipalities to define small business eligibility in a way that best meets local needs and priorities
- A detailed staff report was received by the County's Administration, Finance and Human Resources Committee on February 16, 2021 and discussed amongst Wellington County's Local Treasurers on February 18, 2021. It was determined that we should await further details on the optional small business subclass to be set in regulation once the legislation has passed, prior to implementing a new optional small business subclass
- Implementing a new optional small business subclass is not recommended for 2021

- Ontario Regulation 62/17 provides municipalities with the option to adjust the year-end assessment to offset changes resulting from certain in-year reassessment related changes such as appeal losses. Adopting the filter effects the calculation of the Notional Rate and Revenue Neutral Tax Ratios. This typically increases the Notional Rates resulting in a lower levy change used on tax bill notices. Applying the adjustment is an annual decision adopted by Council resolution
- Removing in-year adjustments from the Notional Rate calculation is not recommended for 2021
- Provisions for the taxing of farmland awaiting development are as follows:
 - on registration of the plan of subdivision, property assessment changes from being based on farm use to zoned use, and a tax rate of between 25% and 75% of the residential rate will apply [the rate can be adjusted up or down by up to 10 percentage points per year]
 - when a building permit is issued, the tax rate may change from 25% to 100% of the rate that would apply to the property's zoned use

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

- Higher tax ratios could be perceived as discriminatory by multi-residential, commercial and industrial property owners who may feel that they are overtaxed relative to residential properties
- The disparity between the commercial and industrial tax ratios is difficult to justify
- Non-residential and multi residential properties have historically been taxed at higher rates in most municipalities across the province
- Multi-residential properties are assessed on a different basis than residential properties and most often will attract a lesser amount of assessment per unit
- Adopting discounted subclasses for small-scale on farm business properties may be perceived as unfair by other commercial and industrial business owners who are taxed at the full rate. In addition, farm properties are already receiving discounted farmland tax rates for municipal and education purposes as well as a lower replacement cost valuation on the residential farmhouse component
- Adopting the New Optional Small Business Subclass would shift taxes onto other property tax classes including other businesses. Defining what is a "small business" is difficult, and could be perceived as unfair to other commercial and industrial business owners, leading to additional property assessment appeals

COUNTY LEVY INSTALMENTS

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the County levy instalment payments in accordance with section 311 (13) be reinstated without a schedule of adjustments effective January 1, 2021; and

THAT staff be directed to prepare the necessary County levy instalment by-law

Legislative reference: *Municipal Act 2001 Section 311 (13)*

OVERVIEW

- At the May 28, 2020 County Council Session, staff were directed to prepare a revised 2020 Levy Instalment by-law with a schedule of adjustments
- Due to the uncertainty of local municipal property tax collections and overall general revenues as a result of COVID-19, local treasurers expressed concern over cash flow
- Reduced collections could impact their ability to remit full levy instalments due to the County
- County Council agreed to provide COVID-19 – Levy Relief Measures for 2020 and the necessary by-law was prepared
- During that time, only one municipality opted to remit payment under the schedule of adjustments
- Staff met (virtually) with all county treasurers on February 18, 2021 to gauge how local property tax collections may be impacted during the current 2021 taxation year as the COVID-19 pandemic continues
- Discussions revealed that all local treasurers did not anticipate tax deferrals or voice concern regarding property tax collections in 2021 therefore levy relief measures are not required
- It was agreed that the original County levy instalment payments in accordance with section 311 (13) be fully reinstated and by-law number 5666-20 be repealed

MANDATORY CAPPING

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the application of Part IX, section 329.1 of the *Municipal Act* no longer applies to properties in the multi-residential property class, the commercial property class and the industrial property class in Wellington County effective January 1, 2020; and

THAT the mandatory property tax capping programme has officially ended for all properties in Wellington County with the possible exception of outstanding legacy appeals

Legislative reference: *Municipal Act 2001 Part IX*

OVERVIEW

- Since property tax reform began in 1998, legislation provided that Councils must limit the assessment related tax increases on multi residential, commercial and industrial property classes
- Councils must then decide how to finance the cap, which can be done by capping decreases as well, by using general revenues or reserves, or a combination of the two
- Shortfalls could not be shared with school boards
- The Province has since provided increased flexibility for municipalities with the following options:
 - maintaining the 5% mandatory cap
 - increasing the cap between 5% and 10%, or selecting 10% of CVA tax (whichever is higher)
 - if an increasing property is within \$500 of CVA taxation, then it may be billed at full tax
 - if a decreasing property is within \$500 of CVA taxation, then it will receive the full reduction without clawback
- Ontario Regulation 160/09 under the *Municipal Act* granted municipalities the option to remove those properties from the capping regime that had reached full CVA taxation in 2019 and to remain at full CVA tax level for 2020
- Ontario Regulation 102/16 provided additional flexibility with the following options:
 - limiting cap protection only to reassessment related changes prior to the current taxation year
 - exclude vacant land properties from capping phase-out calculations
 - phase-out capping over a 4-year cycle if **all** of the properties in a capped class are equal to or greater than 50% of the uncapped taxes for the property for the taxation year
- Multi-residential properties have not been subject to capping since 2010. Industrial properties entered the fourth and final year to phase-out of capping in 2019. Although commercial properties entered into the second year of the capping phase-out cycle in 2019, for 2020 all commercial properties have reached their full CVA taxes and are now eligible to exit and end the capping programme immediately
- With the support of Council and our member municipalities, by selecting all available capping options throughout the years, Wellington has completely ended the mandatory tax capping regime effective the 2020 taxation year
- However, capping may still be in effect for properties that remain open to long outstanding legacy appeals

TAX RELIEF FOR LOW INCOME SENIORS AND LOW INCOME PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the tax relief programme for low income seniors and low income persons with disabilities be continued for 2021; and

THAT a minimum rebate of \$400 be granted to qualified applicants having a tax increase lower than the \$400 threshold for the 2021 taxation year; and

THAT qualified applicants experiencing a minor decrease in taxes from the previous year will receive the minimum rebate of \$400 less the amount of the tax decrease; and

THAT applications may be made after the final tax bill for the year has been issued; and

THAT staff be directed to prepare the necessary tax relief for low income seniors and persons with disabilities by-law

Legislative reference: *Municipal Act 2001 Section 319*

OVERVIEW

- Upper tier and single tier municipalities **MUST** provide a programme of tax relief for low-income seniors or persons with disabilities for the purpose of “relieving financial hardship” due to a reassessment
- Relief can be in the form of a deferral or cancellation of tax increases
- Tax relief is currently provided in the form of a cancellation of any increase in taxes payable year-over-year
- Tax cancellation, for the purpose of this policy, means the difference between this year’s taxes, minus last year’s tax as adjusted in accordance with the legislation
- The legislation also applies to tax increases for local municipal and education purposes
- The amount cancelled is withheld by the local municipality from amounts levied for upper tier and school board purposes
- The intent of this policy is to provide a mechanism to assist those least able to pay a significant increase in taxes due to reassessment
- Since the mandatory 4-year assessment phase-in cycle each year is treated as a reassessment, and generally, rebate amounts have been steadily declining
- On March 17, 2020, the Provincial government declared a State of Emergency due to the spread of COVID-19 which placed financial hardship on the most vulnerable of County residents
- Upon consultation with member municipalities it was recommended that the minimum rebate amount of \$200 be increased to \$400 to assist our most vulnerable residents during this time
- Upon consultation with member municipalities February 18, 2021, it was agreed that the minimum rebate amount of \$400 remain in place for the 2021 taxation year
- The minimum rebate of \$400 will be granted to eligible applicants experiencing a minor tax increase lower than the \$400 threshold
- Qualified applicants experiencing a minor decrease in taxes from the previous year will receive the minimum rebate of \$400 less the amount of the tax decrease

OVERVIEW

- The previous by-law stated that taxes must be paid in full for the eligible tax year, and account in good standing to the satisfaction of the local Treasurer
- Due to the State of Emergency declared in 2020, qualified applicants need only make their first property tax instalment before becoming eligible to apply for the 2020 rebate. However, as discussed with member municipalities, it was decided that an early rebate is not required for the 2021 taxation year especially since tax rates have not yet been established. Staff will prepare the necessary by-law to reflect this change and to repeal by-law number 5662-20
- Applications may be made any time after the final tax bill is issued up to and including the deadline of November 1, 2021
- Applications may only be made once during the tax year

Promotion efforts:

- Additional efforts have been undertaken to increase taxpayer awareness of the programme
- Local municipalities mention the rebate programme and filing deadline on their tax bill inserts
- The County's tax bill insert (to go out with 2021 final tax bills) includes details about the programme
- Twice a year the County publishes notification of the Low Income Seniors or Persons with Disabilities Property Tax Relief Programme on the County Page of the Wellington Advertiser
- Programme details are available on municipal and County websites
- The number of applications has almost tripled since the start of the programme, however, with phased-in CVA assessment, significant annual tax increase amounts have been declining
- The average rebate in 2020 county-wide increased from \$212 to \$396
- In 2020, 202 applications were approved including 13 for disability relief. In 2019, a total of 122 applications were approved including 12 for disability tax relief.

The following table details the 2020 sharing of senior/disabled property tax rebates:

COUNTY OF WELLINGTON

SUMMARY OF TAX RELIEF TO LOW INCOME SENIORS AND LOW INCOME PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES FOR THE 2020 TAXATION YEAR

2020	Number			Local	County	School	Total	Average Refund
	Approved	Seniors	Disabled					
Puslinch	14	13	1	\$ 1,038	\$ 3,695	\$ 920	\$ 5,653	\$ 403.79
Guelph-Eramosa	17	16	1	\$ 1,715	\$ 3,929	\$ 978	\$ 6,622	\$ 389.55
Erin	23	21	2	\$ 2,632	\$ 5,232	\$ 1,303	\$ 9,166	\$ 398.52
Centre Wellington	56	51	5	\$ 6,623	\$ 12,536	\$ 3,122	\$ 22,281	\$ 397.87
Mapleton	15	15	0	\$ 2,287	\$ 2,950	\$ 735	\$ 5,971	\$ 398.08
Minto	35	33	2	\$ 5,914	\$ 6,472	\$ 1,612	\$ 13,997	\$ 399.91
Wellington North	42	40	2	\$ 6,270	\$ 8,091	\$ 2,015	\$ 16,375	\$ 389.88
COUNTY	202	189	13	\$ 26,478	\$ 42,903	\$ 10,684	\$ 80,066	\$ 396.80

Increase applications: 65.57%
Avg rebate increase * 86.79%

TAX RELIEF PROVISIONS FOR LOW INCOME SENIORS AND LOW INCOME PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

GENERAL PARAMETERS

1. Taxes for 2021 will be in comparison to the 2020 annualized taxes
2. Tax relief is in the form of a cancellation of taxes
3. For the 2021 tax year, a minimum rebate amount of \$400 will be given to qualified applicants having a tax increase lower than the \$400 threshold
4. The maximum rebate amount will be capped at \$500
5. For the 2021 tax year, qualified applicants experiencing a minor decrease in taxes from the previous year will receive the minimum rebate of \$400 less the amount of the tax decrease
6. Applications may be made any time after the final tax bills have been mailed but no later than November 1, 2021

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA (for receipt of property tax relief):

A) LOW-INCOME SENIORS

- Must have attained the age of 65 years and be in receipt of benefits under the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) programme
- The eligibility criteria mirrors similar economic criteria set by the Province under the Seniors Tax Credit Programme established in 2009

B) LOW-INCOME PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

- Must be in receipt of benefits under the Ontario Disability Support Programme (ODSP)
- Application may be reviewed in consultation with local Treasurers and/or the County's Social Services Department

OTHER PROVISIONS

- To qualify for tax assistance, applicants must have been owners of real property within the County for a period of one (or more) year(s) preceding the application
- Tax assistance is only allowed on one principal residence of the qualified individual or the qualifying spouse. Appropriate proof of residency establishing continuous (i.e. not part-time) residency must be provided. Verification of documentation provided in conjunction with an application may be carried out independently at the discretion of the County Treasurer
- Tax relief applies to current taxes only (not tax arrears)
- Tax relief amounts are only cancelled after payment in full is received for any current and/or past year amounts payable
- Deadline to apply for tax relief is any time after the final tax bill has been issued up to and including November 1, 2021
- Application must be made annually to the County Treasurer to establish eligibility or continued eligibility, on a form similarly prescribed by by-law
- Applicant responsible to refund any overpayment of tax rebate granted if property assessment is reduced by the Assessment Review Board or Municipal Property Assessment Corporation
- For properties that are jointly held or co-owned by persons other than spouses, both or all co-owners must qualify under applicable eligibility criteria in order to receive tax relief
- Tax relief begins in the month in which the low income senior attains the age of 65 or in which the low income person becomes disabled

OTHER BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON TAX RELIEF FOR LOW INCOME SENIORS AND LOW INCOME PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

GUARANTEED INCOME SUPPLEMENT

The Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) is a federal programme administered by Service Canada on behalf of Employment and Social Development Canada in conjunction with the Old Age Security (OAS) programme. The Guaranteed Income Supplement is an income-tested, monthly non-taxable benefit for Old Age Security pensioners with limited income apart from the Old Age Security pension.

To qualify for the GIS, an individual must:

- i. be receiving the Old Age Security pension;
- ii. be resident in Canada; and
- iii. have an income at or below the qualifying level, as established by regulation (for married couples, the combined income of both spouses must be below the qualifying level).

Provisions of the GIS are established under the *Old Age Security Act (Canada)*, and regulations made quarterly under this Act. Application, eligibility determination and payment of benefits under this programme are administered by Service Canada for Employment and Social Development Canada, thereby eliminating the need for individual municipalities to establish criteria and eligibility for applicants. Applicants need only demonstrate proof of GIS benefits to qualify for municipal property tax relief.

ONTARIO DISABILITY SUPPORT PROGRAMME

The Ontario Disability Support Programme (ODSP) is a provincial programme administered by the Ontario Ministry of Community & Social Services (MCSS). The ODSP was introduced in legislation in June 1997 (Bill 142), and was created to remove people with disabilities from the Welfare system to more effectively meet their needs.

Eligibility under the ODSP is determined by staff of the MCSS, according to criteria which considers, among other things, the nature of the disability, the extent to which daily activities are affected by the disability, income level from all sources (including family income, receipt of benefits under other income support programmes such as GAINS, Canada Pension Plan, Workers Compensation, etc).

Application, eligibility determination and payment of benefits under the ODSP are administered by the MCSS, using information supplied by applicants. This eliminates the need for individual municipalities to establish criteria and eligibility for applicants. Applicants need only demonstrate proof of ODSP eligibility to qualify for municipal tax relief. In extreme cases consultation may be made with County Social Service staff to determine eligibility.

TAX REBATES FOR CHARITIES AND OTHER SIMILAR ORGANIZATIONS

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the tax relief programme for charities and other similar organizations be continued for the 2021 taxation year

Legislative reference: *Municipal Act 2001 Section 361*

OVERVIEW

- The original intent of the programme was to address certain tax impacts relating to the elimination of the Business Occupancy Tax (BOT) – registered charities that previously did not pay the BOT on leased commercial/industrial properties were put in a position of paying a higher (blended) tax rate on such properties
- All upper and single tier municipalities MUST have a rebate programme in place
- An eligible charity is a registered charity in accordance with the *Income Tax Act* and that has a registration number issued by the Canada Revenue Agency
- A property is eligible if it is one of the commercial or industrial property classes

Programme requirements include:

- The amount of the rebate must be at least 40% of taxes paid
- One half of the rebate must be paid within 60 days of receipt of the application and the balance paid within 120 days of receipt of the application
- Applications for a rebate must be made annually between January 1 of the taxation year and the last day of February of the following taxation year

Programme options include:

- Other similar organizations may also be provided with rebates
- Rebates may be provided to properties in classes other than the commercial and industrial classes
- The rebate percentage can vary for different charities or other similar organizations and can be up to 100% of taxes paid
- Cost of the rebate is shared between the upper tier, local municipality and school boards
- The organization receiving the rebate shall also be provided with a written statement showing the proportion of costs shared by the school boards
- If the property is under appeal by the owner, or a Request for Reconsideration, the charity will be ineligible for a rebate until such time as the matter is settled
- Where no rebate was issued due to assessment appeal, municipalities must pay interest at the lowest prime rate reported to the Bank of Canada. Reference: s257.11 (4) *Education Act* and s. 361 (9) *Municipal Act*
- Tax account must be in good standing to the satisfaction of the local Treasurer

CURRENT TAX RELIEF PROVISIONS FOR REGISTERED CHARITIES AND OTHER SIMILAR ORGANIZATIONS

The County's by-law includes all mandated provisions as well as the following optional provisions:

- Rebates set at 40% of taxes paid
- At the discretion of the County Treasurer, expanded eligibility policy may include non-profit organizations, agricultural organizations, as well as boards of trade, chambers of commerce and registered amateur athletic organizations (as defined in the Income Tax Act)

Promotional efforts:

- In order to increase public awareness of the Charitable Rebate Programme, twice a year the County places a notice in the Wellington Advertiser
- Details of the programme are also posted on municipal and County websites
- Local and County tax bill inserts inform property owners of the Charitable Rebate Programme
- The number of applications has more than doubled since 2007. For the 2020 tax year, 19 applications have been received to date. 19 have been approved, while 3 remain on hold pending formal applications being made. The County received 20 charitable rebate applications in 2019
- The following table details the 2020 sharing of charitable rebates and the types of organizations benefiting from the programme in each municipality

Summary of Charitable Tax Rebates in 2020

	County	Local	School	Total	
Puslinch	\$ 1,289	\$ 355	\$ 1,300	\$ 2,944	Sunset Villa Association (new in 2018)
Guelph/Eramosa	\$ 1,439	\$ 639	\$ 1,451	\$ 3,529	Ontario 4-H Council
Guelph/Eramosa	\$ 4,620	\$ 2,052	\$ 4,661	\$ 11,334	EW Family Health Team - Rockwood
Erin	\$ 6,045	\$ 2,965	\$ 6,099	\$ 15,110	EW Family Health Team - Thompson Cres
Erin	\$ 1,195	\$ 586	\$ 1,205	\$ 2,986	EW Community Services (EWAG)
Erin	\$ 776	\$ 381	\$ 783	\$ 1,939	Hillsburgh Medical Centre
Erin *				\$ -	Humane Society
Ctr Wellington *				\$ -	Elora Centre for the Arts
Ctr Wellington *	\$ 9,086	\$ 4,800	\$ 9,167	\$ 23,053	Habitat for Humanity, Tower St.
Ctr Wellington *				\$ -	BFM (Bibles for Missions)
Ctr Wellington	\$ 158	\$ 84	\$ 160	\$ 401	C W Food Bank
Ctr Wellington	\$ 1,275	\$ 674	\$ 1,287	\$ 3,235	C W Food Bank
Ctr Wellington	\$ 1,297	\$ 685	\$ 1,309	\$ 3,291	C W Food Bank
Ctr Wellington	\$ 2,089	\$ 1,104	\$ 2,107	\$ 5,299	Chamber of Commerce
Ctr Wellington	\$ 759	\$ 401	\$ 765	\$ 1,925	Well/Wtloo Comm Futures Unit 1
Ctr Wellington	\$ 759	\$ 401	\$ 765	\$ 1,925	Well/Wtloo Comm Futures Unit 2
Ctr Wellington *	\$ 1,282	\$ 678	\$ 1,294	\$ 3,254	Ontario Potato Board
Well North	\$ 171	\$ 135	\$ 173	\$ 479	New Growth Family Centre - Sligo Rd
Well North	\$ 846	\$ 664	\$ 854	\$ 2,365	Chamber of Commerce
Well North *	\$ 1,182	\$ 928	\$ 1,193	\$ 3,304	CMHA Waterloo-Wellington
Well North	\$ 260	\$ 204	\$ 262	\$ 726	Cancer Patient Services
Well North	\$ 942	\$ 739	\$ 950	\$ 2,631	New Growth Family Centre/School
	\$ 34,181	\$ 18,119	\$ 34,486	\$ 89,729	

Average (Mean) Rebate	\$ 4,723
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Median Rebate	\$ 2,944
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* As of March 16, 2021 applications from 3 charities have not been filed

TABLE ONE
2021 COUNTY OF WELLINGTON TAX RATIOS, DISCOUNTS AND RATES

Property Class/Subclass	Provincial Range of Fairness	Provincial Threshold ratio	2021 County Tax ratio	2021 Discounts	2021 County Tax Rates
Class					
residential/farm (RT)	1.0 to 1.0		1.000000		0.00621997
multi-residential (MT)	1.0 to 1.1	2.0000	1.900000		0.01181794
new multi-residential (NT)	1.0 to 1.1	1.1000	1.100000		0.00684196
farmland (FT)	0.01 to 0.25		0.250000		0.00155499
commercial (CT)	0.6 to 1.1	1.9800	1.491000		0.00927397
industrial (IT)	0.6 to 1.1	2.6300	2.400000		0.01492792
large industrial (LT)	0.6 to 1.1	2.6300	2.400000		0.01492792
landfill (HF) PILT	0.6 to 1.1		1.600000		0.00995195
pipeline (PT)	0.6 to 0.7		2.250000		0.01399493
shopping centre (ST)	0.6 to 1.1	1.9800	1.491000		0.00927397
managed forests (TT)	0.25 to 0.25		0.250000		0.00155499
parking lot (GT)	0.6 to 1.1	1.9800	1.491000		0.00927397
new construction industrial (JT)	0.6 to 1.1	2.6300	2.400000		0.01492792
new construction large industrial (KT)	0.6 to 1.1	2.6300	2.400000		0.01492792
new construction commercial (XT)	0.6 to 1.1	1.9800	1.491000		0.00927397
new construction office building (YT)	0.6 to 1.1	1.9800	1.491000		0.00927397
new construction shopping centre (ZT)	0.6 to 1.1	1.9800	1.491000		0.00927397
commercial small scale on farm (C7)	0.6 to 1.1	1.9800	1.491000		0.00927397
new const comm small scale on farm (X7)	0.6 to 1.1	1.9800	1.491000		0.00927397
industrial small scale on farm (I7)	0.6 to 1.1	2.6300	2.400000		0.01492792
new const ind small scale on farm (J7)	0.6 to 1.1	2.6300	2.400000		0.01492792
Subclass					
res/farm farmland class I (R1)	1.0 to 1.0		1.000000	25%	0.00466498
residential taxable shared (RH)	1.0 to 1.0		1.000000	0%	0.00621997
commercial excess land (CU)	0.6 to 1.1	1.9800	1.491000	0%	0.00927397
commercial vacant land (CX)	0.6 to 1.1	1.9800	1.491000	0%	0.00927397
commercial farmland class I (C1)	0.6 to 1.1	1.9800	1.000000	25%	0.00466498
commercial taxable shared (CH)	0.6 to 1.1	1.9800	1.491000	0%	0.00927397
comm vacant land taxable shared (CJ)	0.6 to 1.1	1.9800	1.491000	0%	0.00927397
industrial taxable shared (IH)	0.6 to 1.1	2.6300	2.400000	0%	0.01492792
industrial vacant land shared (IJ)	0.6 to 1.1	2.6300	2.400000	0%	0.01492792
industrial excess land shared (IK)	0.6 to 1.1	2.6300	2.400000	0%	0.01492792
industrial excess land (IU)	0.6 to 1.1	2.6300	2.400000	0%	0.01492792
large ind excess land (LU)	0.6 to 1.1	2.6300	2.400000	0%	0.01492792
new constr industrial excess land (JU)	0.6 to 1.1	2.6300	2.400000	0%	0.01492792
new constr industrial vacant land (JX)	0.6 to 1.1	2.6300	2.400000	0%	0.01492792
new constr large indust excess land (KU)	0.6 to 1.1	2.6300	2.400000	0%	0.01492792
industrial vacant land (IX)	0.6 to 1.1	2.6300	2.400000	0%	0.01492792
industrial farmland class I (I1)	0.6 to 1.1	2.6300	1.000000	25%	0.00466498
industrial farmland class II (I4)	0.6 to 1.1	2.6300	2.400000	0%	0.01492792
shopping centre excess land (SU)	0.6 to 1.1	1.9800	1.491000	0%	0.00927397
new constr comm excess land (XU)	0.6 to 1.1	1.9800	1.491000	0%	0.00927397
new constr office bldg excess land (YU)	0.6 to 1.1	1.9800	1.491000	0%	0.00927397
new constr shopping ctr excess land (ZU)	0.6 to 1.1	1.9800	1.491000	0%	0.00927397

TABLE TWO - COUNTY OF WELLINGTON

TAX RATIOS, THRESHOLDS, AND RANGES OF FAIRNESS

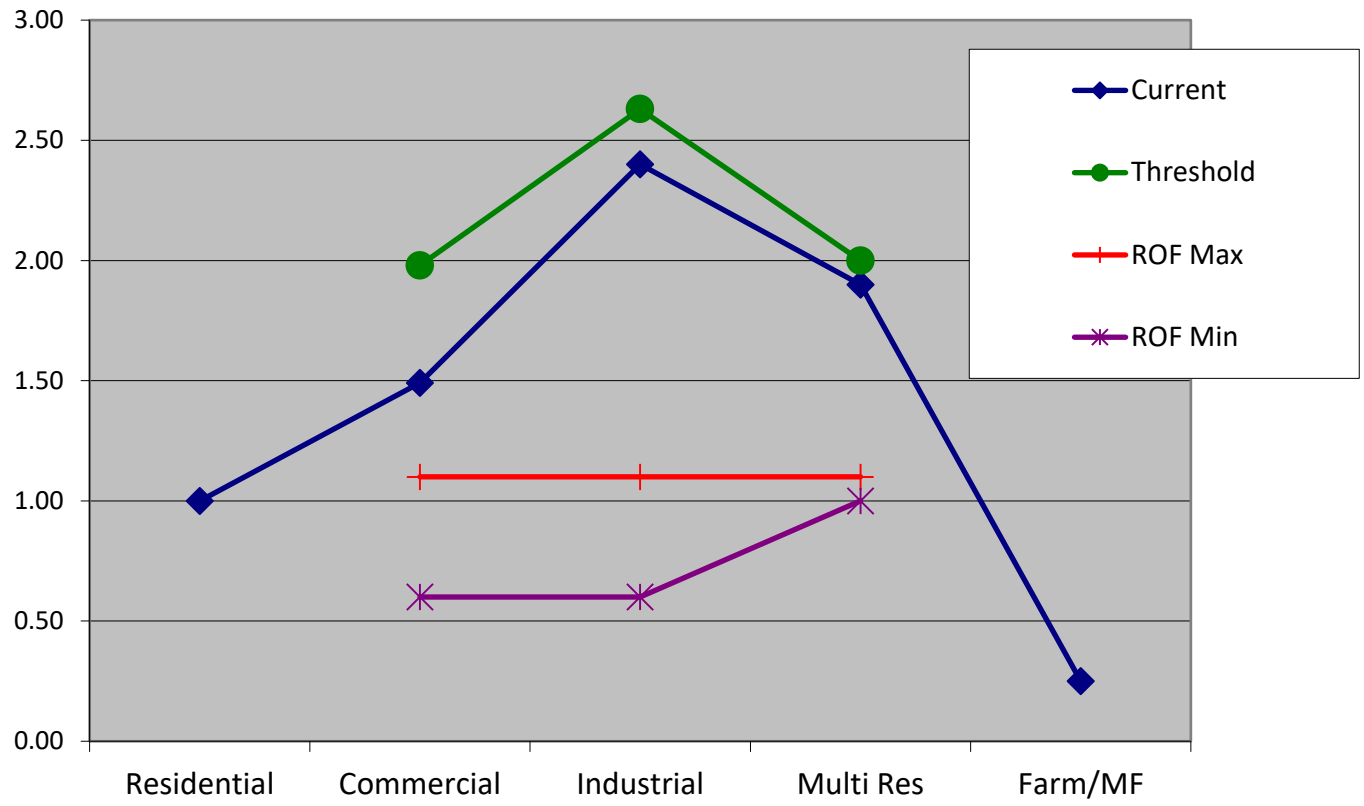


TABLE THREE - COUNTY OF WELLINGTON

**2021 ESTIMATED UPPER TIER TAX CHANGE
NO CHANGE IN TAX RATIOS**

Property class	Upper-Tier Tax Change			
	Revised 2020 Upper tier taxes	Current Tax Ratios	2021 Upper tier taxes	2021 Upper tier Tax Change
Residential	\$82,986,990	1.000000	\$84,234,228	\$1,247,238
Multi Residential	\$1,002,688	1.900000	\$1,017,758	\$15,070
Commercial	\$8,980,407	1.491000	\$9,115,378	\$134,971
Industrial	\$5,776,781	2.400000	\$5,863,600	\$86,819
Farmland	\$7,765,400	0.250000	\$7,882,083	\$116,683
Landfill (PIL) *	\$7,717	1.600000	\$8,090	\$373
Pipeline	\$605,255	2.250000	\$614,352	\$9,097
Managed Forest	\$98,904	0.250000	\$100,390	\$1,486
**Total **	\$107,216,425		\$108,827,789	\$1,611,364

* Landfill class is a PIL therefore taxes have been removed from Totals *

** revised 2020 Upper tier taxes will be higher due to in-year growth & roll changes **

TABLE FOUR - COUNTY OF WELLINGTON

**2021 TOTAL TAX CHANGE BY CLASS
INCLUDING UPPER TIER, LOWER TIER AND EDUCATION**

Property class	Tax Change by Class			
	Revised 2020 Total taxes	Current Tax Ratios	2021 Total taxes	2021 Total Tax Change *
Residential	\$147,918,378	1.000000	\$149,566,592	\$1,648,214
Multi Residential	\$1,746,798	1.900000	\$1,767,248	\$20,450
Commercial	\$22,902,315	1.491000	\$22,649,637	(\$252,678)
Industrial	\$13,623,584	2.400000	\$12,474,267	(\$1,149,317)
Farmland	\$14,771,755	0.250000	\$14,889,211	\$117,456
Landfill (PIL) *	\$19,967	1.600000	\$20,798	\$831
Pipeline	\$1,511,872	2.250000	\$1,359,875	(\$151,997)
Managed Forest	\$173,149	0.250000	\$174,843	\$1,694
**Total **	\$202,647,851		\$202,881,673	\$233,822

* Reduction in Commercial, Industrial and Pipeline taxes reflect the lower Education rates set for 2021

TABLE FIVE - COUNTY OF WELLINGTON

**2020 Tax Ratio Comparison
Wellington County and Neighbouring Municipalities**

Municipality	Multi-Res	Commercial	Industrial	Farmland
Grey County (Normandy Township/Southgate)	1.4412	1.3069	1.8582	0.2180
Dufferin (East Luther/Grand Valley/Orangeville)	2.1500	1.2200	2.1984	0.2200
Town of Caledon (Peel Region)	1.7223	1.3475	1.5910	0.1708
Halton Region (Milton/Halton Hills)	2.0000	1.4565	2.0907	0.2000
City of Guelph	1.7863	1.8400	2.2048	0.2500
City of Hamilton	2.4876	1.9800	3.3153	0.1767
Waterloo Region (Cambridge/Woolwich/Wellesley)	1.9500	1.9500	1.9500	0.2500
Perth County (Perth East & North Perth Twps)	1.2500	1.2469	1.9692	0.2500
Huron County *	1.1000	1.1000	1.1000	0.2500
Neighbouring Average	1.7653	1.4942	2.0308	0.2206
Neighbouring Average (excluding Huron County) *	1.8484	1.5435	2.1472	0.2169
County of Wellington 2020 Ratio	1.9000	1.4910	2.4000	0.2500
2021 Wellington Proposed Ratios	1.9000	1.4910	2.4000	0.2500

**2020 Tax Ratio Comparison
Wellington County and Southwest Regions/Counties**

County / Region	Multi-Res	Commercial	Industrial	Farmland
Bruce County	1.0000	1.2331	1.7477	0.2500
Brant County	1.7000	1.9000	2.5500	0.2400
Dufferin County	2.0000	1.2200	2.1984	0.2200
Grey County	1.4412	1.3069	1.8582	0.2180
Halton Region	2.0000	1.4565	2.0907	0.2000
Huron County *	1.1000	1.1000	1.1000	0.2500
Oxford County	2.0000	1.9018	2.6300	0.2177
Peel Region (Brampton)	1.7050	1.2971	1.4700	0.2500
Peel Region (Mississauga)	1.2656	1.5170	1.6150	0.2500
Perth County	1.2500	1.2469	1.9692	0.2500
Waterloo Region	1.9500	1.9500	1.9500	0.2500
Regional Average	1.5829	1.4663	1.9254	0.2360
Neighbouring Average (excluding Huron County) *	1.6312	1.5029	2.0079	0.2346
County of Wellington 2020 Ratio	1.9000	1.4910	2.4000	0.2500
2021 Wellington Proposed Ratios	1.9000	1.4910	2.4000	0.2500

* **NOTE:** Huron County underwent a complete reassessment during property tax reform in 1998. This resulted in lower than typical Provincially prescribed transition ratios.