

# Waterloo Region Land Assembly Progresses, 550 Acres Now Secured for Future Investment Site

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## ***Transformational project will unlock thousands of jobs and billions in economic growth***

**Waterloo Region** – The Region of Waterloo has now secured over 70% of a site identified in Wilmot to create shovel-ready land to secure a generational investment. With a majority of the land now secured, on-site technical and environmental investigations will continue further, as the process of creating a shovel-ready site capable of supporting large-scale development advances.

“Reaching this major milestone gets us significantly closer to securing long-term investment and economic prosperity locally,” said Chair Karen Redman. “It’s imperative, now more than ever, that Waterloo Region be ready to support Canadian manufacturing and well-paying, local jobs.”

The Region is committed to ensuring fair and equitable agreements for landowners. Due diligence will begin on new areas this week and continue throughout the year. As due diligence progresses, planting will continue on lands where appropriate. No existing crop will be removed and any existing crop will be harvested once ready.

Over the last 5 years, the absence of large, shovel-ready sites has meant missed opportunities as major employers have located in other regions across Ontario. This initiative responds directly to those needs—preparing land that meets global standards and offering strategic advantages, including:

- A large, contiguous development footprint
- Immediate access to Highway 7/8 and arterial transportation routes
- Existing hydro, water, and wastewater infrastructure
- Location outside water protection areas
- Proximity to Waterloo Region’s skilled workforce and world-class post-secondary institutions, and tech sector

More information about the initiative, including FAQs are available here: [Land Assembly in Wilmot - Region of Waterloo.](#)

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## ***Waterloo Region Land Assembly Progresses, 550 Acres Now Secured For Future Investment Site***

***Transformational project will unlock thousands of jobs and billions in economic growth***

***- there is no evidence of any jobs or investments – so far all that is confirmed is that it will destroy important parts of our #1 agriculture industry and is costing taxpayers a fortune because of the poor planning and continual mistakes.***

**Waterloo Region** – The Region of Waterloo has now secured over 70% of a site identified in Wilmot to create shovel-ready land to secure a generational investment.

**- this is only “secured access to study”, the land is still owned by farmers. This site is not shovel-ready it will take years or even decades for massive pipelines and so much other very expensive infrastructure in such a distant, remote location 50km round trip from our urban cities.**

With a majority of the land now secured, on-site technical and environmental investigations will continue further, as the process of creating a shovel-ready site capable of supporting large-scale development advances.

**- they are again admitting they haven’t even done required studies, research, environmental assessments and financial costing – and refuse to provide any information they do have – what are they hiding and why the total lack of transparency?**

“Reaching this major milestone gets us significantly closer to securing long-term investment and economic prosperity locally,” said Chair Karen Redman. “It’s imperative, now more than ever, that Waterloo Region be ready to support Canadian manufacturing and well-paying, local jobs.”

- there are already thousands of acres of actual-shovel ready lands sitting vacant for years and even decades across the Region. Roads, street lights, sidewalks and expensive infrastructure sites vacant and unused in the Waterloo Millenium Industrial Park for over a decade, the Wilmot Industrial park hasn't sold a single lot in 23 years... All at considerable taxpayer expense – it is no wonder we can't afford the massive tax increases forced on ratepayers in recent years. There is no land shortage and Waterloo Region is already ready to support growth and jobs – our visionary Regional Official Plan had 30 years worth of land, industrial sites, housing, transportation already fully underway using proper proven planning.

- this site is most likely to sit vacant for decades like the poorly planned Pickering Airport that was just abandoned and finally cancelled earlier this year.

The Region is committed to ensuring fair and equitable agreements for landowners.

- the Region and province could not have done this in any more of a cruel, stressful and underhanded way. The process has been so troubling it is under investigation from every possible authority.

Due diligence will begin on new areas this week and continue throughout the year.

- the due diligence that should have been undertaken years ago as part of a proper planning process?

As due diligence progresses, planting will continue on lands where appropriate. No existing crop will be removed and any existing crop will be harvested once ready.

- forget about the crop destruction that has already wasted hundreds of thousands of taxpayer dollars – the Region hasn't even cared for the single farm they own and with no cover crop for 9 months (that no farmer would ever let happen), massive soil and erosion issues have occurred destroying irreplaceable topsoil and perhaps making parts of the farm unfarmable ever again according to experts.



Over the last 5 years, the absence of large, shovel-ready sites has meant missed opportunities as major employers have located in other regions across Ontario.

- they have yet to produce evidence of any employer requiring 700+ acres not settling in Waterloo. The examples of Schneider's, Dr. Oetker and others only ever needed 50 acre sites or smaller of which we have dozens of sites already readily available across the Region.

This initiative responds directly to those needs—preparing land that meets global standards and offering strategic advantages, including:

- A large, contiguous development footprint
  - the site is not contiguous – it is bisected by roadways, a major hydro corridor and several streams. Also, about 100 acres of the 770 acres according to their own maps are Moraine ground-water recharge lands that can't be built upon as the Region continually argues itself against housing developers in SW Kitchener recharge areas.
- Immediate access to Highway 7/8 and arterial transportation routes
  - the single highway doesn't go where manufacturers need, the route to the 401 and borders is challenging, far, already congested and even requires travel on city streets to go to most border crossings.
- Existing hydro, water, and wastewater infrastructure

- there is only a single hydro line with no redundancy, there are water concerns and there certainly isn't the needed wastewater infrastructure as the Nith River watershed and local treatment plants are nearing or already exceeding capacity. The Region has already admitted a massive pipeline will be required at great expense and will take years to construct.

- Location outside water protection areas

- the site borders directly the Waterloo Moraine and already parts of the 770 acres are wellhead protection areas and primary groundwater recharge areas. They couldn't get closer to water protection areas if they tried.

- Proximity to Waterloo Region's skilled workforce and world-class post-secondary institutions, and tech sector

- it is a 50km round trip on only a single, already congested highway to our urban centres of Kitchener, Waterloo and Cambridge.

There are plenty of sites already developed and sitting vacant far closer to the skilled work-force, and urban centres than an hour-long return car trip. This is just such an absurd, confounding site that meets only 7 of 44 of the government's own criteria.

More information about the initiative, including FAQs are available here: [Land Assembly in Wilmot - Region of Waterloo.](#)

- this website hasn't even been updated in over half a year they care so little about getting any actual information to the community, landowners, and citizens. Everything continues to happen in secret, closed meetings with many elected officials at all levels admitting they have no clue about what is going on.

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