Ministry of Finance Office of the Minister Frost Building S, 7th Floor 7 Queen's Park Crescent Toronto ON M7A 1Y7 Tel.: 416-325-0400



Ministère des Finances Bureau du ministre Édifice Frost Sud 7e étage 7 Queen's Park Crescent Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1Y7 Tél.: 416-325-0400

Minister of Finance | Ministre des Finances PETER BETHLENFALVY

880-2023-460

His Worship Josh Morgan Mayor City of London 300 Dufferin Avenue PO BOX 5035 London, Ontario N6A 4L9 joshmorgan@london.ca

Dear Mayor Morgan:

Thank you for writing to share the City of London's views on property assessment and taxation. I appreciate receiving this submission that follows up on our conversation at the 2022 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) annual conference.

As you may know, the government is considering different options regarding the timing of future reassessments. However, the government's immediate priority is the maintenance of stability for taxpayers and municipalities at this time of economic uncertainty.

In advance of the next reassessment, the government will take your comments under advisement and consider the range of existing flexible tax policy measures. As you have noted, the government recently made long-standing property tax policies permanent, including tax ratio flexibility. This provides certainty for municipalities that property tax tools will continue to be available to respond to local circumstances. In addition, we remain open to receiving input from municipalities on their priorities and suggestions related to reassessment.

The government has been consulting with municipalities and municipal associations, including AMO, on the property taxation of multi-residential apartments. Consultations are ongoing, and we will take your comments into consideration.

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The government recognizes the importance of providing municipalities with sufficient time to plan for any potential policy changes, and we will ensure that policies related to property assessment and taxation are informed by the views of municipalities. We will also continue to work with the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) to ensure that municipalities have timely access to the information they require.

Thank you again for your submission. The City of London's input will be considered as part of our deliberations during the next property tax reassessment.

Sincerely,

Peter Bethlenfalvy

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Minister of Finance

c: Rob Flack, MPP for Elgin-Middlesex-London Colin Best, President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario Councillor Anna Hopkins, AMO Board Member, City of London