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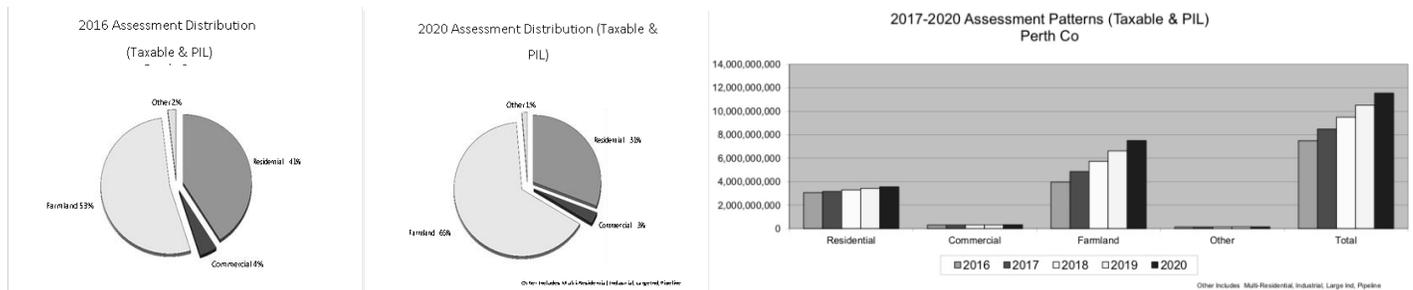
For more than 2 years the Perth County Federation of Agriculture (PCFA) has been working with the lower tier and county municipalities, in Perth regarding farm property taxes. The discussions included the funding problems facing the municipalities, such as continual Provincial Government cuts to the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF) and the regular transfers of service managements from the province. This also included anticipation of the 2016 Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) assessments.

**The reality for most farm properties is large increases in assessed value, in comparison to other property assessments.**

In the article: “Some homeowners in Perth County will see their taxes drop”, in the Stratford Beacon Herald, by Steve Rice, on Thursday, January 19, 2017, the following information was included.

***“Owners of the average Perth County home will see the county portion of their property taxes drop by close to \$10 in 2017. But it's a different story for owners of farmland, with taxes for the average property valued at \$1 million rising by just over \$100.”***

The figure above only includes the county portion. Lower tier municipal taxes at a similar ratio as well as education taxes would be on top of the country portion cited. This would happen with similar increases over the next four years.



Charts courtesy of Perth County Administration

To be fully aware of the upcoming changes that will appear on tax bills for the second half of 2017, go to your municipal office, and request your tax statement for 2016-2020.

PCFA will continue to pursue efforts with the local municipalities, yet your actions are needed as well. We need your input regarding your property and the tax implications. Additionally, your local councillors need to hear from you as well.

Robert Martin, PCFA President