



September 21, 2026

**BY EMAIL**

Hon. Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building, Room 281  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1  
Email: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

**Re: A Call to Return to Property Tax Reassessment Cycle**

At its Regular Council Meeting held on September 8, 2026, Council supported the enclosed correspondence from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario dated July 31, 2026.

Council accordingly passed the following resolution:

**R26-09-412**

Moved By Councillor McGuire-Blais  
Seconded By Deputy Mayor Shepley

**That** the correspondence from the Association of Municipalities of Ontario regarding the call to return to the property tax reassessment cycle be received and supported; and

**That** a letter from the Town of Essex in support be sent to Premier of Ontario and the Association of Municipalities in Ontario.

**Carried**

We trust you will find this satisfactory. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "jml", positioned below the Essex logo.

Joseph Malandruccolo

Director, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk

[jmalandruccolo@essex.ca](mailto:jmalandruccolo@essex.ca)

cc. Minister of Finance, Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy [peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org](mailto:peter.bethlenfalvy@pc.ola.org)

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Hon. Rob Flak [rob.flack@pc.ola.org](mailto:rob.flack@pc.ola.org)

Associate Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Hon. Graydon Smith

[Graydon.smith@pc.ola.org](mailto:Graydon.smith@pc.ola.org)

Association of Municipalities of Ontario [amo@amo.on.ca](mailto:amo@amo.on.ca)

Sent via email: [premier@ontario.ca](mailto:premier@ontario.ca)

July 31, 2026

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building, Room 281  
Queen's Park  
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Ford,

AMO and municipalities have been calling on the Province to establish a clear and timely path back to regular property assessment cycles for years. In the current economic climate with heightened geopolitical and trade tensions, the need for policy certainty has never been greater.

Ontario is the only province in Canada that has not resumed property reassessments post the COVID-19 pandemic. Municipalities and businesses continue to rely on decade old property valuations based on January 1, 2016 assessment data. A well-functioning and up-to-date assessment system supports strong communities and makes Ontario an attractive place to invest. Ontario's property tax system works well and provides municipalities with a stable and predictable source of revenue. Just as important, it provides stability and predictability for property taxpayers.

The current delay in reassessments is compromising the province's economic competitiveness. Investments are being delayed or deferred partly due to the absence of any guidance on the timing of the next reassessment and the resulting uncertainty regarding future property tax liability. Ultimately, leadership from the government on reassessment is critical to supporting the resilient and continued growth of the provincial economy we all rely on.

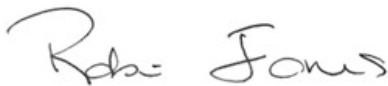
As we expressed in our feedback to your government's recent review of the property assessment and taxation system, regular reassessments are a fundamental component of a well-functioning property tax system. This is why we recommended moving to a two-year reassessment cycle, as reassessments do not increase overall municipal tax revenues but instead ensure the tax burden is distributed more equitably among properties as market values change.

With the current delay in property tax reassessment, there will be a need for mitigation measures to smooth the transition to the new assessment cycle. A successful return to regular reassessments will require a coordinated public education and stakeholder engagement effort to ensure the public, media, and municipal councils understand the benefits and the importance of moving forward with a reassessment, and the value to municipalities and taxpayers of a modern, up-to-date, and reliable assessment system.

We appreciate the essential role municipalities will need to play in ensuring this important decision is well understood and supported across the province. AMO is committed to partnering with the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation and the Province to ensure effective communication and implementation of the transition back to regular assessment updates.

For the reasons outlined above, we urgently need clarity on when the Province will return to regular property assessments. We would be pleased to offer time at this year's AMO conference for a reassessment announcement. Karen Nesbitt, Policy and Government Relations Director at [knesbitt@amo.on.ca](mailto:knesbitt@amo.on.ca) or 416-508-2992, is available to discuss further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Robin Jones". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robin" and last name "Jones" clearly distinguishable.

Robin Jones  
AMO President  
Mayor of the Village of Westport

cc: The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance  
The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
The Honourable Graydon Smith, Associate Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing