



Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus

**Pre-Budget Submission to the
Honourable Dwight Duncan
Minister of Finance**

March 10, 2006

Executive Summary:

The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC) represents 13 upper tier and single tier municipalities. From the City of Kawartha Lakes in the west to the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry in the east and north to Renfrew County, the residents and businesses served by the EOWC are joined by common challenges.

The EOWC is seeking, through this pre-budget submission, your Government's support for our region. More specifically we are asking for actions on:

- a new payment-in-lieu program for Crown lands;
- action to reduce education tax rates on commercial and industrial lands;
- creation of an Eastern Ontario Economic Prosperity Fund
- making available Provincial gasoline tax revenues to municipalities without mass transit systems

It is our belief that the challenges faced by Eastern Ontario, many of which have been well documented by this Caucus in the past, require the direct assistance of the Province of Ontario to overcome. In each of the four noted areas only Provincial action can bring about real change.

This is the first ever pre-budget submission made to a Minister of Finance by the EOWC. The urgency for support in your upcoming budget is real and while we are very grateful for the recent announcement related to land ambulance funding much more is required to help reduce the burden on our property taxpayers.

We are encouraged by the Premier's commitment to assess the fundamental problems created by loading social service and health costs onto the property tax system and acknowledge that time will be required to fix the system. However, the proposals we make in this submission are, and should be, achievable today.

Eastern Ontario - Background

The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus is a leading advocate for Eastern Ontario in an effort to bring about improvements to the systemic and special circumstances that the region faces.

As part of its commitment to advocacy the Caucus established, as a primary principle of its work, that each issue would be well researched, vetted and reviewed before any Caucus position was established. Its main analytical tool has been the *Future Directions* report.

The first volume of *Future Directions* was researched and prepared by Allan & Partners Inc., a respected chartered accounting firm with extensive municipal finance experience, in November 2002. The EOWC commissioned this independent study to determine and highlight issues that were of particular significance to the upper tier municipalities of Eastern Ontario. The issues set out in *Future Directions* affect the region's ability to provide comprehensive, affordable services to the individuals and businesses that call the east home.

The EOWC has committed to annually updating and reviewing *Future Directions* in order to ensure that the data will remain current and relevant helping to provide its' members and the Government with salient, useful information upon which good public policy can be made.

The challenges identified in *Future Directions* and each subsequent *Future Directions Update* include a limited assessment base, a small tax base, extensive areas of Crown land that produce no property taxation, a small population base spread over large geographic areas and a requirement to provide extensive and expensive services to the residents and businesses of the Region. Add to these issues the responsibility for maintaining over 40% of former provincial highways that were transferred to the Upper Tier Municipalities (UTM) and emergency services that respond to needs in the vast Crown land areas, and the uniqueness of Eastern Ontario are clear.

The EOWC took the next logical step in 2004 and produced its Action Plan for Government. The Action Plan provided Government, both Provincial and Federal, with specific recommendations on a variety of the special challenges noted in *Future Directions* and the *Updates*.

The Action Plan for Government, *Future Directions* and subsequent research have identified a number of particularly difficult challenges - challenges that have lead to this pre-budget submission:

- Soaring Upper Tier tax increases that are not sustainable;
- Slower new assessment growth;
- Average family incomes 17.5% lower than the provincial average (see attached Addendum #1);
- A growing LSR (local services realignment) deficit;
- A stable or declining population base;

- A growing infrastructure deficit complicated by having the oldest infrastructure in the province;
- High commercial and industrial education tax rates that put our businesses at an economic disadvantage and hampers new economic development.
- 11,000 square kilometers (2 million acres) of Crown land that produce no revenues for either counties or local municipalities
- 1,268 kilometers of former provincial highway downloaded to counties that require \$22 million annually for maintenance and capital improvements.

Tax Increases:

Property taxpayers in our EOWC municipalities have been faced with significant increases at the upper tier/single tier as a result of many of the factors noted above.

- In 2002 we collectively levied \$184.7 m
- In 2005 we collectively levied \$235.6 m

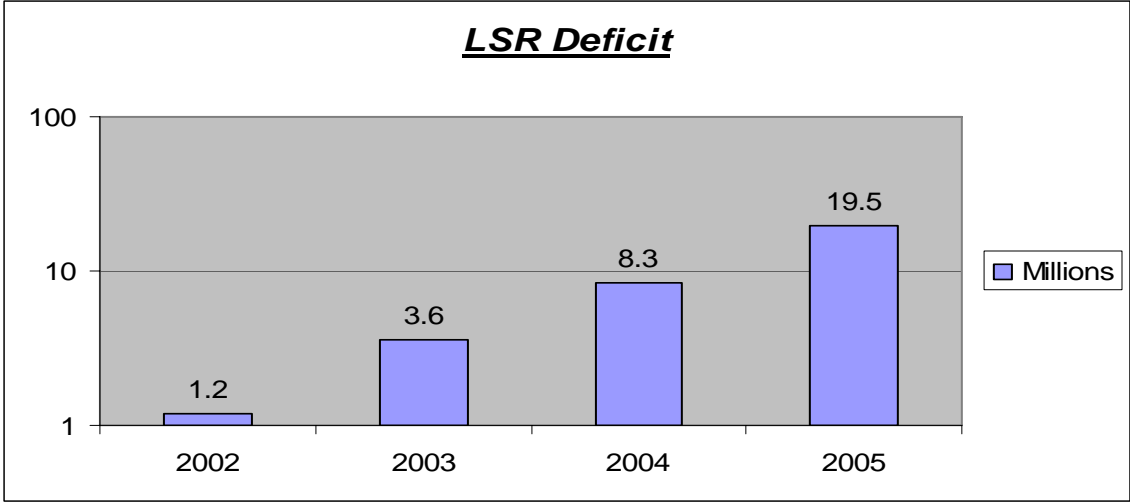
That represents a **25.7%** increase over the past three years. Property taxpayers cannot tolerate continued increases of this magnitude.

Growing LSR Deficit

Future Directions and the annual updates continue to calculate a dramatic increase in the amount of property taxes required to subsidize the cost of providing provincial services such as social housing, welfare, land ambulance, child care and long term care downloaded in the 1990s.

In 2002 property taxpayers contributed \$1.2 million more than they should have. In 2003 they contributed \$3.6 million more than they should have. In 2004 they paid \$8.3 million more than they should have. In 2005 property taxpayers had to pay \$19.5 million more than they should have, for these provincial services.

These numbers do not include the arbitrary \$5 million ‘savings’ target imposed by the last government at the time of the downloading exercise.



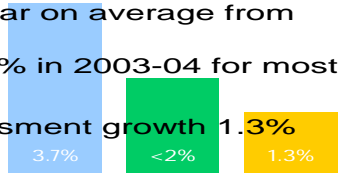
The upward trend has been dramatic and is not sustainable.

Slower Growth

Eastern Ontario, with the exception of the City of Ottawa, continues to experience slower, new growth particularly in its commercial and industrial sectors. There is in fact a great deal of downward pressure in many parts of the region as a result of retrenchments in the forest sector and related industries.

Slowing assessment growth

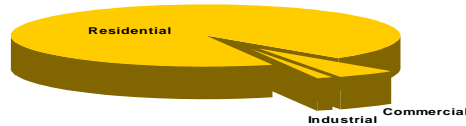
- Grew by 3.7% a year on average from 1998 to 2003
- But new growth <2% in 2003-04 for most counties...
- ... and 2005 assessment growth 1.3%



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The 2005 *Future Directions Update* noted that assessment growth for the EOWC region was only 1.26%. Commercial and industrial assessments accounted only for 4.9% and 1.4% of the total assessment. In other words, residential property taxpayers shoulder 94.7% of the total tax burden in our communities.

Homeowners bear the tax burden



- Commercial grew, but is only 4.9% of total assessment
- Industrial accounts for only 1.4%

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Part “B”

“Taking Action – Budget Recommendations”

The EOWC requests action in four specific areas. The 2006 Ontario Budget represents the most direct and appropriate vehicle for the implementation of these recommendations. As noted earlier we ask for:

- a new payment-in-lieu program for Crown lands;
- action to reduce education tax rates on commercial and industrial lands;
- creation of an Eastern Ontario Economic Prosperity Fund
- Provincial gasoline tax revenues to be made available to municipalities without mass transit systems

A) Crown Lands

Crown lands cover over 11,000 square kilometers in Eastern Ontario. This translates into more than 2,000,000 acres in our region. Crown lands generate no revenues for local or county municipal governments. (See the chart attached)

Crown lands on the other hand, generate substantial revenues for the Province of Ontario. These revenues come from land use permits, park usage fees, recreational trails, timber cutting rights, aggregate use permits, plus spin-off revenues such as fuel tax, licensing and sales tax. We understand that stumpage fees alone generate over \$100 million annually for the Province.

Counties and lower tier municipalities are required to operate and maintain a wide range of services including roads and bridges, ambulance, fire, and police that support activities in Crown lands. In addition, many provincial ministries use municipal

roadways in order to carry out their mandates with Crown Lands. They include the Ministry of Natural Resources for fish, wildlife, land management, and fire protection of these valuable resources.

The cost of these municipal services is borne entirely by property taxpayers outside of Crown land. The Province of Ontario pays absolutely nothing to assist in reducing this burden. From a point of fairness and equity, it is important that this cost be shared with the Province of Ontario. The free ride must end. An analysis of the revenues generated by applying the upper tier tax rate in 2002 is attached as Addendum # 2.

Recommendation

The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus requests that the Ontario Budget include provision for a new payment-in-lieu program for all Crown land based upon the application of local and county residential tax rates.

B) Education Tax Rates

Eastern Ontario commercial and industrial businesses face a built-in economic disadvantage compared to businesses in other regions of the province. Higher education tax rates hit our businesses hard by forcing them to pay significantly more.

These higher rates are the result of decisions made by the previous Provincial Government to freeze in place historic spending levels of school boards across the east. Given the challenges businesses in the east already face relief of some of this burden is essential.

To illustrate the financial dilemma faced by Eastern Ontario commercial and industrial businesses, the EOWC has prepared three comparative scenarios. When compared to counties in the western portion of the province it is clear that change in the way of a reduction in current education tax rates for our region is warranted.

Scenarios

2005 Commercial Education Tax Rates

1. Lennox & Addington County vs. Huron, Wellington, Bruce, Simcoe Counties

- i) 0.02112446 vs 0.01284857 - L&A rate is 64%➤ than Huron
- ii) 0.02112446 vs 0.01413496 - L&A rate is 49%➤ than Wellington
- iii) 0.02112446 vs 0.01521501 - L&A rate is 39%➤ than Bruce
- iv) 0.02112444 vs 0.01782575 - L&A rate is 18%➤ than Simcoe

In real dollar terms commercial businesses in Lennox & Addington County would have paid from \$394,500 - \$989,700 **less** had they been charged at the lower rates of these other counties. In percentage terms that represents a reduction of 15.6% to 39.2%. (see Addendum #1).

2. Northumberland County vs. Huron, Wellington, Bruce, Simcoe Counties

- i) 0.02127219 vs. 0.01284857 - North rate is 66%➤ than Huron
- ii) 0.02127219 vs. 0.01413496 - North rate is 50%➤ than Wellington
- iii) 0.02127219 vs. 0.01521501 - North rate is 40%➤ than Bruce
- iv) 0.02127219 vs. 0.01782575 - North rate is 19%➤ than Simcoe

In real dollar terms commercial businesses in Northumberland County would have paid from \$1,194,000- \$2,918,000 **less** had they been charged at the lower rates of these other counties. In percentage terms that represents a reduction of 16% to 40% (see Addendum #1).

3. SD&G vs. Huron, Wellington, Bruce, Simcoe Counties

- i) 0.02164799 vs. 0.01284857 -SDG rate is 68%➤ than Huron
- ii) 0.02164799 vs. 0.01412496 -SDG rate is 53%➤ than Wellington
- iii) 0.02164799 vs. 0.01521501 -SDG rate is 42%➤ than Bruce
- iv) 0.02164799 vs. 0.01782575 -SDG rate is 21%➤ than Simcoe

In real dollar terms commercial businesses in Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry would have paid from \$767,400- \$1,766,800 **less** had they been charged at the lower rates of these other counties. In percentage terms that represents a reduction of 18% to 41%. (see Addendum #1).

2005 Industrial Education Tax Rates

1. Lennox & Addington vs. Huron, Wellington, Bruce, Simcoe Counties

- i) 0.03334999 vs. 0.01524133 -L&A rate is 121%➤than Huron
- ii) 0.03334999 vs. 0.02572129 -L&A rate is 23%➤than Wellington
- iii) 0.03334999 vs. 0.02295922 -L&A rate is 32%➤than Bruce
- iv) 0.03334999 vs. 0.02748826 -L&A rate is 18%➤than Simcoe

In real dollar terms industrial businesses in Lennox & Addington County would have paid from \$447,400 - \$1,382,200 **less** had they been charged at the lower rates of these other counties. In percentage terms that represents a reduction of 18% to 54%. (see Addendum #1).

2. Northumberland County vs. Huron, Wellington, Bruce, Simcoe Counties

- i) 0.03362540 vs. 0.01524133 -North rate is 183%➤than Huron
- ii) 0.03362540 vs. 0.02572129 -North rate is 24%➤than Wellington
- iii) 0.03362540 vs. 0.02295922 -North rate is 32%➤than Bruce
- iv) 0.03362540 vs. 0.02748826 -North rate is 18%➤than Simcoe

In real dollar terms industrial businesses in Northumberland County would have paid from \$371,000- \$906,000 **less** had they been charged at the lower rates of these other counties. In percentage terms that represents a reduction of 16% to 39%. (see Addendum #1).

3. SD&G County vs. Huron, Wellington, Bruce, Simcoe, Counties

- i) 0.02922874 vs. 0.01524133 -SDG rate is 48%➤than Huron
- ii) 0.02922874 vs. 0.02572129 -SDG rate is 12%➤than Wellington
- iii) 0.02922874 vs. 0.02295922 -SDG rate is 21%➤than Bruce
- iv) 0.02922874 vs. 0.02748826 -SDG rate is 6%➤than Simcoe

In real dollar terms industrial businesses in the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry would have paid from \$144,489 - \$1,161,191 **less** had they been charged at the lower rates of these other counties. In percentage terms that represents a reduction of 6% to 48%. (see Addendum #1).

Recommendation

The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus requests the Province to immediately provide financial relief to businesses across Eastern Ontario by reducing commercial and industrial education tax rates.

C) Eastern Ontario Prosperity Fund

Eastern Ontario is blessed with abundant natural resources, a location amidst major domestic markets, many diverse communities, and people with great warmth, community spirit and entrepreneurial bent. This should be a region with enormous opportunity – and it is. But this is also a region with serious challenges – a modest population spread over a large geographic area, steady out-migration of youth, average annual family incomes 17.5% lower than in other parts of the province, services that need repair but can't be because of a small tax base and a lack of profile with policy and financial decision-makers in other centers¹. This Rural Prosperity Plan will be formed in order to assist Eastern Ontario in reaching its full potential and with partnerships formed with Minister Dombrowsky of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and with assistance from local CFDCs' we hope that this plan will be the start of a beneficial relationship between the Province and Eastern Ontario Counties.

The Eastern Ontario Opportunity Action Plan (EEOAP) commissioned by the EOWC and its' CFDC partners identified a number of key drivers of future economic development success including the need to:

- Address physical infrastructure concerns;
- Tackle connectivity as the leading infrastructure imperative;
- Increase the region's pool of captive capital;
- Respond to changes in trading and tourism patterns;
- Introduce a targeted approach to tourism marketing and branding;

¹ Eastern Ontario Opportunity Action Plan, April 21, 2005

The EOOAP provides for a wide range of recommendations and action plans for many sectors of the Eastern economy including tourism, manufacturing, agriculture, technology, alternative energy, forestry and education.

The Plan also provides guidance and recommendations for creating the economic development infrastructure necessary to bring positive changes forward. Three main areas noted are i) broadband access, ii) labour supply and iii) branding the region. All of the improvements and strategies noted above require one thing – financial support. The EOWC has worked hard to bring the Federal Government to the table with a direct financial assistance program for Eastern Ontario. In 2004-5 they contributed \$18 million towards a wide variety of economic initiatives, which leveraged a total financial investment of nearly \$66 million across our region.

The time is right for the Province of Ontario to make a direct financial commitment to Eastern Ontario.

Recommendation

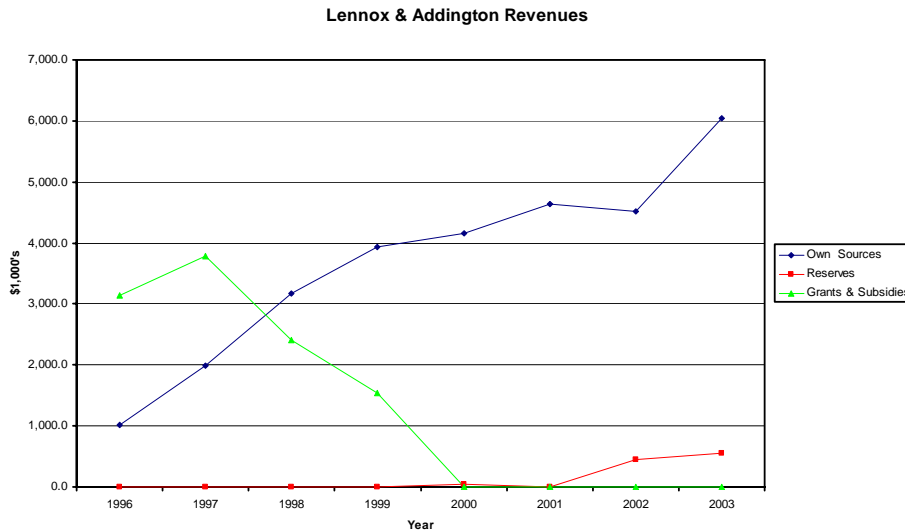
The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus calls upon the Provincial Government to establish its own Eastern Ontario Prosperity Fund dedicated to the improvement of the economy of Eastern Ontario. The EOWC further recommends that an annual fund of at least \$20 million be set-aside for this purpose.

D) Provincial Gas Tax

Rural Ontario's roads and bridges are its' transit systems. People pay the same Provincial gas tax in rural Ontario as those in our cities and towns. They deserve to benefit from a transfer in gas tax revenues as much as people served by transit systems. It is a question of fairness and equity.

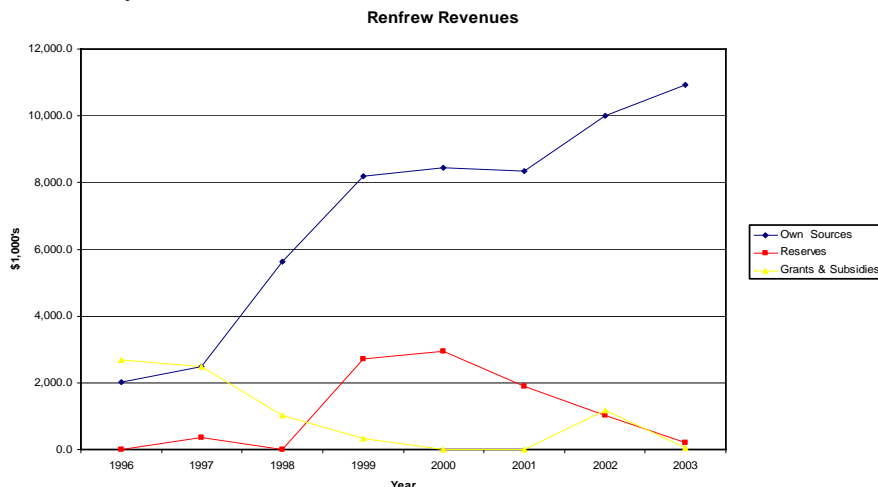
The cost of maintaining rural road systems, including former provincial highways that were downloaded in the mid-1990s, has become the sole responsibility of property taxpayers in our region. In 2003 the EOWC undertook an assessment of this situation.

Lennox & Addington County



The chart illustrates the dramatic decline in provincial government support to Lennox & Addington County's road system and the converse burden imposed on property taxpayers. In 1997 \$3.8 million in provincial support was received but by 2000 that had fallen to \$0. Property taxpayers by 2003 were funding over \$6 million in roads related costs.

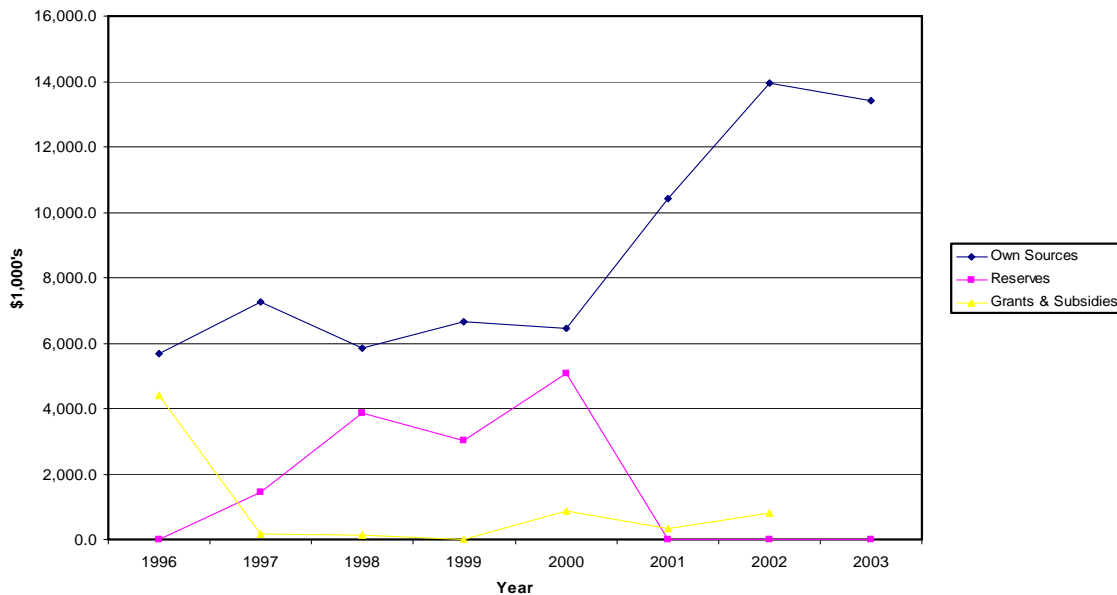
Renfrew County



In Renfrew County's case provincial grants and subsidies fell from a high of approximately \$2.2 million in 1996 to \$0 in 2003. Property taxpayers now fund 100% of the cost of the road system and in 2003 that was over \$10 million.

Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry

Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry Revenues



The United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry face a similar problem to the other counties in the East, the depletion of road reserves and the loss of provincial grants and subsidies. Road reserves are gone as is the financial support from the Province. As a consequence property taxpayers fully fund the \$13 million + (2003) cost for maintaining the county road system.

Allan & Partners Inc., who prepared the annual *Future Directions Update*, continue to advise the EOWC that its' members should be spending \$22 million each year on the 1,268 kilometers of former provincial highways that were downloaded in the mid 1900s. Eastern Ontario received 40% of all the highways transferred at the time and on a relative basis, this represented 15% more than any other comparable region. This burden continues to grow.

The state of rural road systems is not improving. It has to be in the interest of all Ontarians, including those who have access to local transit systems, to ensure that rural roads are adequately funded.

Recommendation

The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus calls upon the Provincial Government to share Provincial gas tax revenues with rural municipalities to support their road systems on the same basis as it provides these revenues to municipalities with transit systems.


Conclusion

The time is right for the Province of Ontario to increase its support to Eastern Ontario. The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus calls upon Minister Duncan and the Premier to include in the 2006 Provincial Budget the measures and recommendations contained in this pre-budget submission. Eastern Ontario property taxpayers need this direct financial support to grow and prosper.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Sweet, Chair
Warden of Renfrew County



Barbara Kelly, Mayor
City of Kawartha Lakes



Murray Fearrey, Warden
Haliburton County



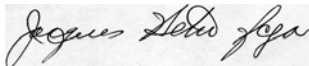
Aubrey Churchill, Warden
Lanark County



Douglas Bearance, Warden
Lennox & Addington County



Gary J. Barton, Warden
Prescott & Russell County



Jacques Hétu, Past-Chair
Prescott & Russell County

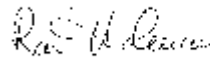


Neal Cathcart, Vice-Chair
Warden of Peterborough County

Leo Finnegan, Mayor
Prince Edward County



Clarence Ziemann, Warden
Hastings County



Ronald E. Holman, Warden
Leeds & Grenville County



Rick Austin, Warden
Northumberland County



Jim McDonnell, Warden
Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry County

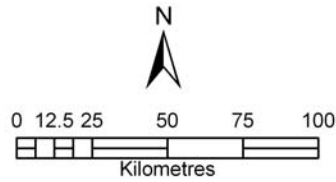


Bill Lake, Warden
Frontenac County

**Total Family Income
Canada 2001 Census
Statistics Canada**

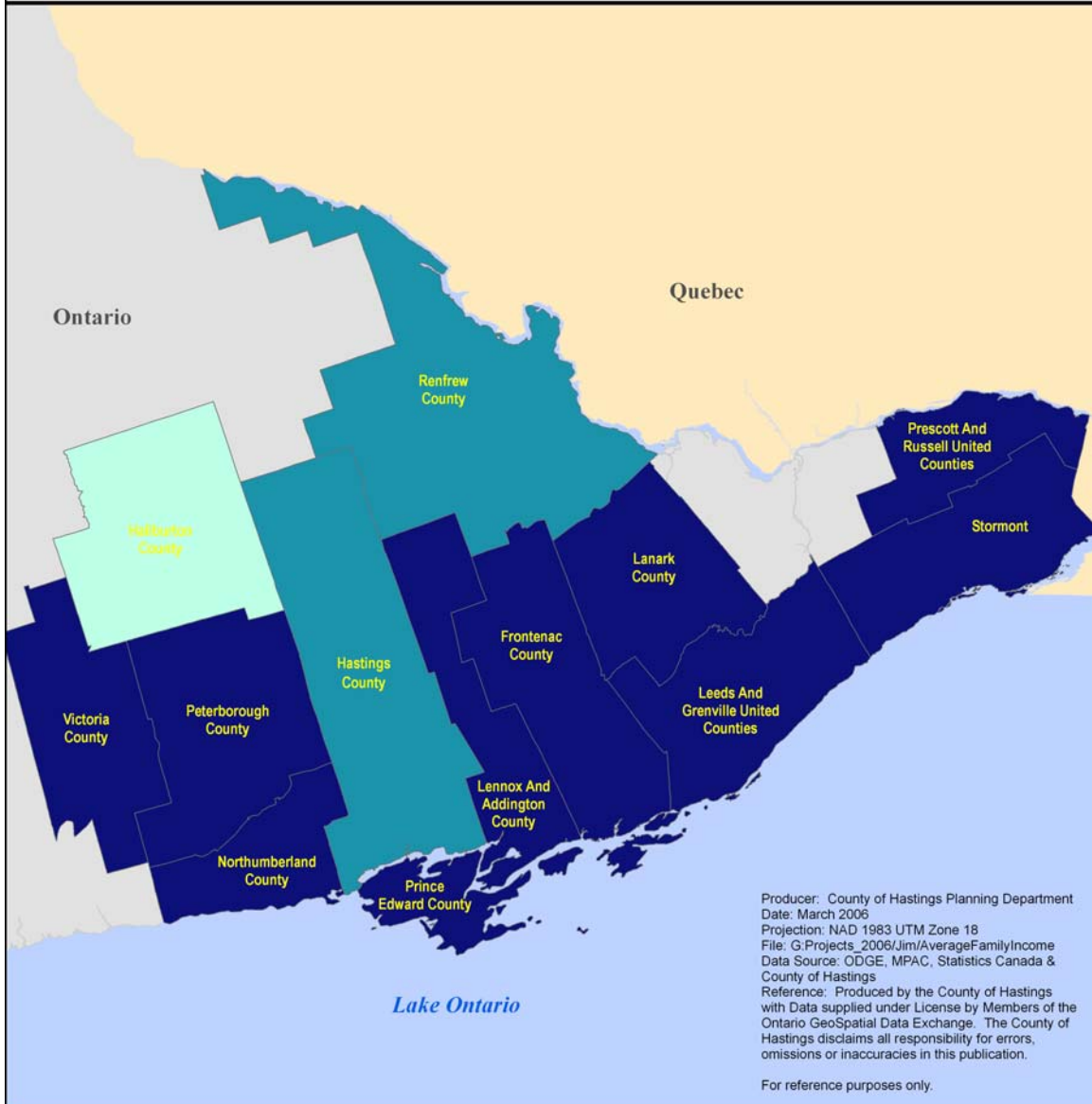
Report prepared by:
Kimberly Oliver, GIS Coordinator
County of Hastings Planning Department
March 6, 2006

Average Family Income (2000)
Statistics Canada
Eastern Ontario



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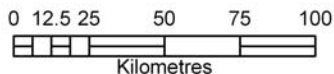
Average Family Income



Producer: County of Hastings Planning Department
 Date: March 2006
 Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18
 File: G:\Projects_2006\Jim\AverageFamilyIncome
 Data Source: ODGE, MPAC, Statistics Canada & County of Hastings
 Reference: Produced by the County of Hastings with Data supplied under License by Members of the Ontario GeoSpatial Data Exchange. The County of Hastings disclaims all responsibility for errors, omissions or inaccuracies in this publication.

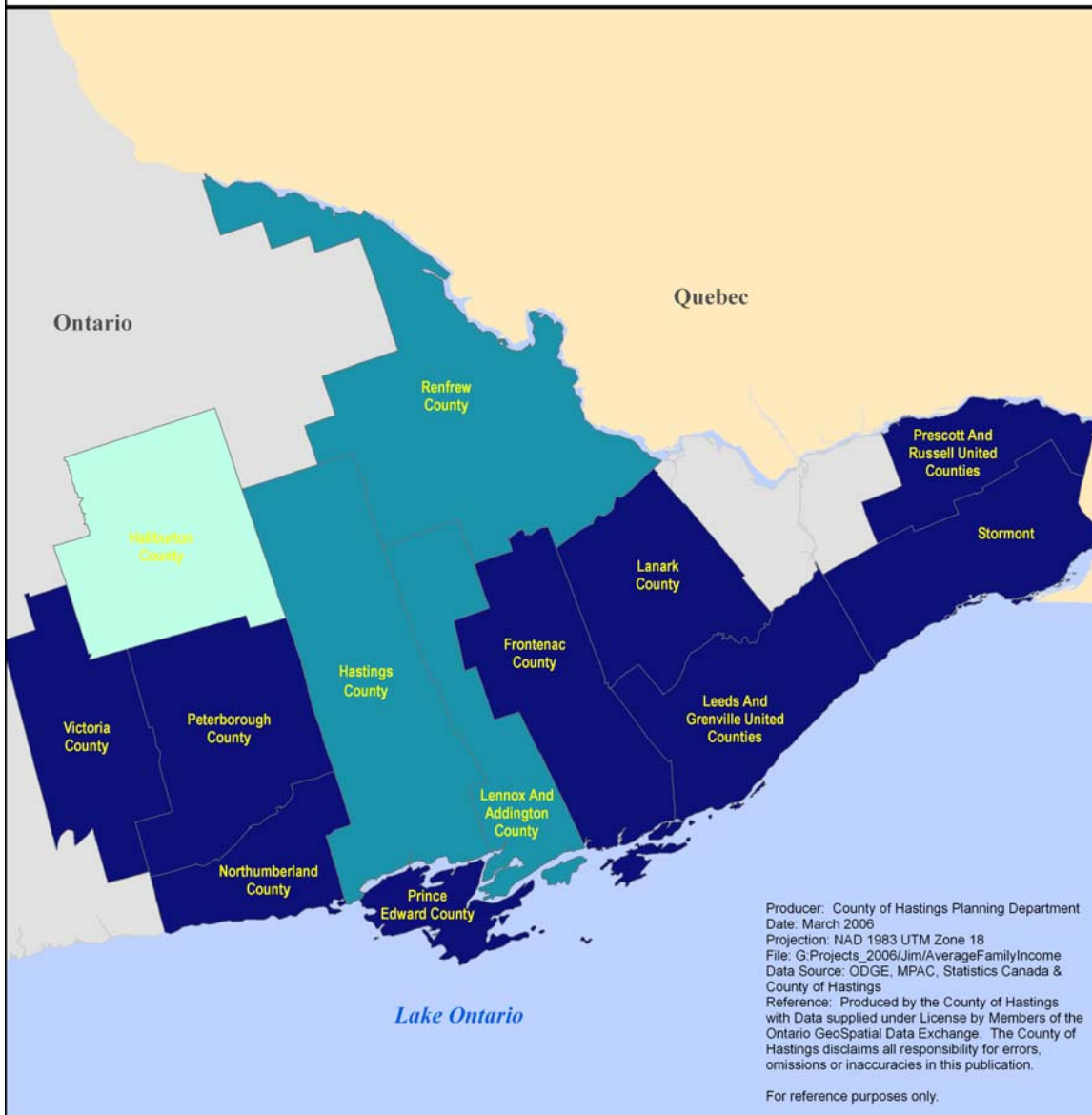
For reference purposes only.

Median Family Income (2000)
Statistics Canada
Eastern Ontario



Legend

Median Family Income



Producer: County of Hastings Planning Department
 Date: March 2006
 Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18
 File: G:\Projects_2006\Jim\AverageFamilyIncome
 Data Source: ODGE, MPAC, Statistics Canada &
 County of Hastings
 Reference: Produced by the County of Hastings
 with Data supplied under License by Members of the
 Ontario GeoSpatial Data Exchange. The County of
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 omissions or inaccuracies in this publication.

For reference purposes only.

2000 Family Income	Ontario	
Total census families	3,135,155	% base
Under \$10,000	129,515	4%
\$ 10,000 - \$19,999	165,636	5%
\$ 20,000 - \$29,999	290,882	9%
\$ 30,000 - \$39,999	312,802	10%
\$ 40,000 - \$49,999	317,325	10%
\$ 50,000 - \$59,999	307,058	10%
\$ 60,000 - \$69,999	298,235	10%
\$ 70,000 - \$79,999	261,961	8%
\$ 80,000 - \$89,999	220,626	7%
\$ 90,000 - \$99,999	179,994	6%
\$ 100,000 and over	651,645	21%
Dominant income range	Over \$100K	
Average income	\$74,033	
Median income	\$61,496	
Couple families	2,655,550	% base
Under \$10,000	73,543	3%
\$ 10,000 - \$19,999	85,275	3%
\$ 20,000 - \$29,999	217,487	8%
\$ 30,000 - \$39,999	240,752	9%
\$ 40,000 - \$49,999	260,286	10%
\$ 50,000 - \$59,999	265,602	10%
\$ 60,000 - \$69,999	266,364	10%
\$ 70,000 - \$79,999	240,279	9%
\$ 80,000 - \$89,999	206,358	8%
\$ 90,000 - \$99,999	170,576	6%
\$ 100,000 and over	629,796	24%
Dominant income range	Over \$100K	
Average income	\$79,980	
Median income	\$66,953	

2000 Family Income	Eastern Ontario	
Total census families	301,220	% base
Under \$10,000	10,330	3%
\$ 10,000 - \$19,999	18,900	6%
\$ 20,000 - \$29,999	35,330	12%
\$ 30,000 - \$39,999	36,852	12%
\$ 40,000 - \$49,999	37,286	12%
\$ 50,000 - \$59,999	35,104	12%
\$ 60,000 - \$69,999	31,187	10%
\$ 70,000 - \$79,999	24,556	8%
\$ 80,000 - \$89,999	19,037	6%
\$ 90,000 - \$99,999	14,410	5%
\$ 100,000 and over	38,377	13%
Dominant income range	Over \$100K	
Average income	\$61,040	
Median income	\$53,415	
Couple families	261,380	% base
Under \$10,000	5,694	2%
\$ 10,000 - \$19,999	10,175	4%
\$ 20,000 - \$29,999	27,711	11%
\$ 30,000 - \$39,999	30,804	12%
\$ 40,000 - \$49,999	32,792	13%
\$ 50,000 - \$59,999	32,111	12%
\$ 60,000 - \$69,999	29,072	11%
\$ 70,000 - \$79,999	23,262	9%
\$ 80,000 - \$89,999	18,212	7%
\$ 90,000 - \$99,999	14,009	5%
\$ 100,000 and over	37,646	14%
Dominant income range	Over \$100K	
Average income	\$65,187	
Median income	\$57,340	

2000 Family Income	Ottawa	
Total census families	208,040	% base
Under \$10,000	6,720	3%
\$ 10,000 - \$19,999	9,626	5%
\$ 20,000 - \$29,999	13,643	7%
\$ 30,000 - \$39,999	15,280	7%
\$ 40,000 - \$49,999	16,109	8%
\$ 50,000 - \$59,999	17,387	8%
\$ 60,000 - \$69,999	18,399	9%
\$ 70,000 - \$79,999	17,197	8%
\$ 80,000 - \$89,999	15,850	8%
\$ 90,000 - \$99,999	14,148	7%
\$ 100,000 and over	63,816	31%
Dominant income range	Over \$100K	
Average income	\$86,151	
Median income	\$74,026	
Couple families	174,905	% base
Under \$10,000	3,276	2%
\$ 10,000 - \$19,999	4,368	2%
\$ 20,000 - \$29,999	9,249	5%
\$ 30,000 - \$39,999	10,907	6%
\$ 40,000 - \$49,999	12,542	7%
\$ 50,000 - \$59,999	14,307	8%
\$ 60,000 - \$69,999	15,674	9%
\$ 70,000 - \$79,999	15,223	9%
\$ 80,000 - \$89,999	14,450	8%
\$ 90,000 - \$99,999	13,157	8%
\$ 100,000 and over	61,777	35%
Dominant income range	Over \$100K	
Average income	\$93,876	
Median income	\$81,328	

Addendum #2

FUTURE DIRECTIONS – CROWN LANDS

	Crown Land Assessment	Residential Tax Rates (2002)	Municipal Taxation For County Purposes
Frontenac	22,945,400	0.003688967	\$84,660.95
Haliburton	92,343,400	0.00234524	\$216,567.44
Hastings	70,384,200	0.00466900	\$328,623.83
Lanark	114,800	0.00507084	\$582.13
Leeds & Grenville	523,900	0.00390572	\$2,046.21
Lennox & Addington	22,918,100	0.00510900	\$117,088.57
Northumberland	849,300	0.00458525	\$3,894.25
Peterborough	57,589,700	0.00394768	\$227,345.71
Prescott & Russell	1,498,600	0.00566737	\$8,493.12
Prince Edward	1,635,600	0.00954387	\$15,609.95
Renfrew	402,600,000	0.00437019	\$1,759,438.49
Stormont Dundas & Glengarry	81,200	0.00741850	<u>\$602.38</u>

ADDENDUM #3

Education Tax Rates – Scenarios

Lennox & Addington
County

	L&A CURRENT COMMERCIAL TAXES	L&A REVISED COMMERCIAL TAXES	\$ REDUCTION	% REDUCTION
Huron tax rate	2,526,300	1,536,600	989,700	39.2%
Wellington tax rate	2,526,300	1,690,400	835,900	33.1%
Bruce tax rate	2,526,300	1,819,600	706,700	28.0%
Simcoe tax rate	2,526,300	2,131,800	394,500	15.6%

	L&A CURRENT INDUSTRIAL TAXES	L&A REVISED INDUSTRIAL TAXES	\$ REDUCTION	% REDUCTION
Huron tax rate	2,545,600	1,163,400	1,382,200	54.3%
Wellington tax rate	2,545,600	1,963,300	582,300	22.9%
Bruce tax rate	2,545,600	1,752,500	793,100	31.2%
Simcoe tax rate	2,545,600	2,098,200	447,400	17.6%

Northumberland County

EASTERN ONTARIO WARDENS' CAUCUS
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	NORTHUMBERLAND CURRENT COMMERCIAL TAXES	NORTHUMBERLAND REVISED COMMERCIAL TAXES	\$ REDUCTION	% REDUCTION
Huron tax rate	7,370,000	4,452,000	2,918,000	39.6%
Wellington tax rate	7,370,000	4,897,000	2,473,000	33.6%
Bruce tax rate	7,370,000	5,271,000	2,099,000	28.5%
Simcoe tax rate	7,370,000	6,176,000	1,194,000	16.2%

	NORTHUMBERLAND CURRENT INDUSTRIAL TAXES	NORTHUMBERLAND REVISED INDUSTRIAL TAXES	\$ REDUCTION	% REDUCTION
Huron tax rate	2,287,000	1,381,000	906,000	39.6%
Wellington tax rate	2,287,000	1,520,000	767,000	33.5%
Bruce tax rate	2,287,000	1,636,000	651,000	28.5%
Simcoe tax rate	2,287,000	1,916,000	371,000	16.2%

**EASTERN ONTARIO WARDENS' CAUCUS
2005 EDUCATION TAXES**

	SDG CURRENT COMMERCIAL TAXES	SDG REVISED COMMERCIAL TAXES	\$ REDUCTION	% REDUCTION
Huron tax rate	4,346,495	2,579,743	1,766,752	40.6%
Wellington tax rate	4,346,495	2,838,025	1,508,470	34.7%
Bruce tax rate	4,346,495	3,054,878	1,291,617	29.7%
Simcoe tax rate	4,346,495	3,579,064	767,431	17.7%

	SDG CURRENT INDUSTRIAL TAXES	SDG REVISED INDUSTRIAL TAXES	\$ REDUCTION	% REDUCTION
Huron tax rate	2,426,479	1,265,288	1,161,191	47.9%
Wellington tax rate	2,426,479	2,135,301	291,178	12.0%
Bruce tax rate	2,426,479	1,906,003	520,476	21.4%
Simcoe tax rate	2,426,479	2,281,990	144,489	6.0%