

# Agricultural LEAR OPA 29 / SCOP 12

## Project to designate Agricultural and Rural Lands – OPA 29 / SCOP 12

March 27, 2024

### **LEAR Methodology**

Number of Individual Conflicting Land Uses within 750m	0-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	21-25	>26
Score	10	8	6	4	2	0

The Conflicting Land Uses factor considers individual parcels with one of the following land uses: open space, industrial, or residential dwelling within 750 meters.

Parcel Size	Score
<81 Acres	10
51-80 Acres	8
26-50 Acres	6
11-25 Acres	4
6-10 Acres	2
1-5 Acres	1
>1 Acre	0

Parcel sizes were determined using MPAC data. Larger parcels were scored higher than smaller parcels as shown in the table above.

Percentage of Evaluation Unit (Parcel) Currently Used for Agriculture	Score
0%	0
1% - 9%	1
10% - 20%	2
21% - 30%	3
31% - 40%	4
41% - 50%	5
51% - 60%	6
61% - 70%	7
71% - 80%	8
81% - 90%	9
91% or Greater	10

MPAC and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's (AAFC) 2019 Cropland Data was used to determine whether and to what extent evaluated parcels are actively used for agriculture.

#### Importance of Local Knowledge

- The math component of LEAR is the starting point for designating prime agricultural <u>areas</u>.
- Parcels that score below the threshold can be included as well those that score above the threshold can be excluded.
- Mississippi Mills chose the LEAR approach to designating land because it considered more factors than the soil classification and it also included the opportunity for local input.
- Input from the community, property owners, the Agricultural Advisory Committee and experts was incorporated into the proposed mapping.

### Agriculture Advisory Committee - LEAR Working Group



#### Outcome Table 2006 versus OPA 29

	Agriculture designation	"Rural – Agriculture" Overlay
2006 COP Schedule A	11,705 hectares	5,558 hectares
2018 Draft AG Review OPA 21*	15,560 hectares	5,558 hectares
2021 Draft Schedule A OPA 29	14,343 hectares	-
2022 Draft Schedule A OPA 29**	13,564 hectares	-

From 11,705 Hectares (28923 acres) TO 13564 hectares (33,517 acres)

<sup>\*</sup> Agricultural review ws deferred from OPA 21

<sup>\*\* 2022</sup> Schedule A (OPA 29) also highlights 4 properties that are being proposed as "Rural" based on professional agrologist report's findings and conclusions.

Consultation Highlights

Date	Public Consultation Activity
April 2021	Virtual open house meeting
May 2021	Public Meetings recorded and published to Municipal website
March 2021-Sept 2022	Committee of the Whole - Reports and Meetings (4) plus Council meeting for approval
July 2021	Mailout $#1 - 578$ letters to landowners that were affected by a designation change. Received emails from 120 landowners and 15 phone calls that were followed up and included in the correspondence record for the project.
April 2021-Feb 2022	Agricultural Advisory Committee held 4 meetings and minutes published to municipal website
March 2022	Mailout $#2 - 508$ letters to landowners. Received emails from 80 landowners that were followed up and included in the correspondence record for the project.
June, 2021-Feb, 2022	LEAR Working Group held 8 meetings – video recorded and minutes published to municipal website
April 5 2022	Public Meeting recorded and published to Municipal website

### The winding road to get to this point



