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Halton farmers continue to raise concerns about the impacts of ROPA 38 on their rights to work the land. Pete Fisher photo

THIS POLICY HAS HALTON FARMERS FUMING, AND THE PROVINCE AND THE REGION CAN'T AGREE ON WHAT TO DO

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It's been nearly a decade, and James Fisher still doesn't fully understand how ROPA 38 will affect his farming practices. The North Burlington farmer has sat on the Halton Federation

of Agriculture's advisory committee on the matter, he's worked with private consultants, and he's sat in on countless consultation meetings with the region on the issue. It's a policy that aims to be cutting edge in environmental protection of land in Halton. However,

the hay and beef farmer says the policy doesn't do enough to recognize the rights of farmers working on the lands. "We're saying there are lot of impacts," said Fisher. The change to the official plan that impacts the farmers has to do with the planning mapping.

The primary designation of some farm lands is now "natural heritage site," with recognition for agriculture. He argues that this paves the way for environmental protection to supersede farming practices.

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