

Property assessments in the mail

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properties in Ontario. It's funded by municipalities and legislated by the province. The total value of all properties assessed in Ontario stands at \$2.2 trillion spread over five million properties.

"Our commitment is to share this information with municipalities to provide them an opportunity for engagement," said MPAC account manager for municipal and stakeholder relations Natasha Dawood.

"Success of this depends on participation from the municipality," she added.

Dawood continued the presentation by providing details of this year's property assessments, which will reflect the valuation date of Jan. 1, 2016. Whatever the value of a property was on that date is what will be presented in assessment notices.

York Region residents, including those in Whitchurch-Stouffville, will receive their property assessment notices starting this week. Notices will be mailed to property owners during a 21-week window. Residential property owners will have 120 days from the issue date to file a request for reconsideration.

USED TO SET TAXES

The updated property values will be used by municipalities to determine property taxes for the 2017-2020 tax years.

"Since 2014, MPAC has consulted stakeholders and municipalities in developing our assessment," Dawood said. "Some changes are we're mailing out notices earlier than ever."

Additional changes include transparent market trends available online. Property owners can now visit aboutmyproperty.ca to get a full report and compare property values with their community. Login information will be available on assessment notices.

MPAC has assessed 400,000 "data elements" in York Region and 10,926 in Whitchurch-Stouffville.

"Essentially, this means that we have looked at everything from building permits to sales investigations while determining the values," Dawood said in an email. "Ultimately, undergoing these processes are important because having accurate data relates to accurate assessments."

MPAC officials showed a brief video to council about how property taxes are calculated. The video is available to watch here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xgGbLotF_QQ