



Acton
Georgetown
Esquesing

Town of Halton Hills
Office of the Mayor
Rick Bonnette

March 5, 2018

Kathleen Wynne, Premier
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A1

Re: Protection of Municipally-Designated 'Whitebelt' Areas

Dear Premier Wynne:

I am writing to express my concern about a recent motion that was passed by Halton Regional Council concerning designation of lands within the Halton Hills boundary. As you can appreciate, upholding a municipality's rights to plan and develop for the purposes of managing growth in a responsible, sustainable and strategic manner that best meets the needs of its communities is a fundamental role of the local planning authority.

Further, please know that public engagement is a tenet of Halton Hills Council and to this end I have led a citizen task force that resulted in the creation of a Public Engagement Charter. This document was approved by Council and speaks to the municipality's commitment to engaging its citizens in a transparent and participatory manner with appropriate notification to residents and specific vested interest parties on issues as appropriate. I would ask that any consideration by your government of the motion passed by Halton Regional Council would allow such time for a proper and thorough consultation with our Halton Hills residents.

To be clear, the Town of Halton Hills (the Town) supports the potential greenbelt expansion study area as currently defined by the Province. The Town *does not* support the Regional resolution and the request to extend the study area for Greenbelt expansion to include the 'whitebelt' lands within the inner ring until the appropriate analysis and review is completed. Further, the Region's resolution pre-empts its own Municipal Comprehensive Review which will include the growth management strategy up to 2041.



Your consideration in denying the request for Greenbelt expansion into Halton Hills lands is appreciated and failing this direction, I respectfully request that the municipality be allowed the time to consult with its residents and that these findings be included in the Province's consideration of this matter.

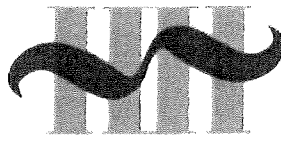
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Bonnette". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Rick Bonnette, Mayor

c.

Minister of Municipal Affairs
Minister of Economic Development and Growth
Members of Halton Hills Council
Greater Golden Horseshoe Municipalities
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce
Environmental Defence
Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation
Ontario Greenbelt Association
Ontario Nature
Earth Roots
Eco Spark
Save the Oaks Ridges Moraine (STORM)
Building Industry and Land Development Association



REGION OF HALTON – PLANNING & PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING
February 21, 2018

WHEREAS the Greenbelt is an integral component of land use planning in the Greater Golden Horseshoe, complementing the Growth Plan to encourage smart planning, the reduction of sprawl, protection of natural and hydrological features and agricultural lands; and

WHEREAS the Province’s Advisory Panel chaired by David Crombie recommended that the Greenbelt grow to address the protection of areas of critical hydrological significance, such as key headwaters; and

WHEREAS the Province’s current study area for Greenbelt expansion has prematurely omitted areas under the most direct threat of development, known as the ‘whitebelt’ which is neither in the Greenbelt nor in the urban settlement area that contain such critical areas; and

WHEREAS a fulsome study of all potential Greenbelt expansion areas should be undertaken as part of this review in order to make the best, most consistent land use planning decisions across the Greater Golden Horseshoe;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

THAT the Region of Halton commend the province for continued action toward growing the Greenbelt through the current consultation process; and

THAT the province be strongly urged to extend the study area for Greenbelt expansion to include the whitebelt lands within the inner ring, lands that are the most immediately vulnerable to development in the province; and

THAT that the province expeditiously grow the Greenbelt by incorporating appropriate whitebelt lands within the inner ring to protect our limited freshwater and natural heritage features; and

THAT this resolution be distributed to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, all Greater Golden Horseshoe municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Environmental Defence, Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation, the Ontario Greenbelt Association, Ontario Nature, Earth Roots, Eco Spark, and Save the Oak Ridges Moraine (STORM).

1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills, Ontario L7G 5G2