

I would like to start by first saying hello to my ward councillor Jason Farr.

Secondly, I would like to state that I am writing on behalf of the birds.

When I visited the proposed area of development in Elfrida on Sunday March 21<sup>st</sup>, I observed a variety of bird species: Chickadees, Red-tailed hawks, Goldfinches, House finches, and most notably – Killdeer. I counted a total of 17 Killdeer in the area.

The following is from the Government of Canada website:

“Results from the Breeding Bird Survey suggest that the species has exhibited a large and unabated decrease in abundance since 1970. The Killdeer's use of cultivated or managed habitat exposes it to significant threats. The Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) has listed the Killdeer as is a [candidate wildlife species](#) for assessment. This species has been identified as a priority for conservation and/or stewardship in one or more [Bird Conservation Region Strategies](#) in Canada.”

Killdeer are listed as a priority species in the lower great lakes – our region.

Therefore, we need to ensure that our actions do not jeopardize this species even further.

There are three billion fewer birds in North America today than 50 years ago. One of the key threats to birds is habitat loss. I want Hamilton to freeze the urban boundary and build a climate resilient city – and a bird friendly city.

Thank you,

Sara Shwadchuck, Co-chair of Bird Friendly City of Hamilton & Burlington

Hamilton, Ontario

[birdfriendlycityhamburl@gmail.com](mailto:birdfriendlycityhamburl@gmail.com)