

Pilon, Janet**Subject:** Letter from Minister Calandra - City of Hamilton**From:** minister.mah@ontario.ca <minister.mah@ontario.ca>**Sent:** October 16, 2023 7:57 PM**To:** clerk@hamilton.ca**Subject:** Letter from Minister Calandra - City of Hamilton**Ministry of
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234-2023-5060

October 16, 2023

Dear Municipal Clerks/CAOs, and Conservation Authority Administrators:

Subject: Proposed Legislation to Return Lands to the Greenbelt and Oak Ridges Moraine

I am writing to you to let you know that the Ontario government [introduced legislation](#) that if passed, would restore the 15 parcels of land that were redesignated or removed from the Greenbelt Plan and the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan areas in late 2022. The Greenbelt Statute Law Amendment Act, 2023, if passed, would enhance protections for these areas by ensuring any future boundary changes can only be made through an open, public and transparent legislative process.

In response to the feedback from Indigenous communities, the public, municipalities and stakeholders we introduced proposed legislative amendments that would:

- Add 15 sites back to the Greenbelt that were removed in December 2022 by incorporating the description of the Greenbelt Area and Oak Ridges Moraine Area boundaries directly into the proposed legislation.
- Eliminate the authority to remove lands from the Greenbelt Area and Oak Ridges Moraine Area by regulation so that any future removals would require legislative change to the Greenbelt Act or the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Act.
- Revoke the existing Greenbelt Area boundary regulation (O. Reg. 59/05) and the existing regulation that designates the Oak Ridges Moraine Area (O. Reg. 1/02).
- Undo the redesignation of lands to Settlement Area in the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan.
- Provide for a concurrent amendment to the Greenbelt Plan's land use schedules to restore the same protections to lands that they had before the 2022 amendment
- Continue to ensure provide that no Plan amendments can be made that would reduce its total area in the Greenbelt Plan..
- Reverse the repeal of the Duffins Rouge Agricultural Preserve Act, 2005.
- Restore the same protections for easements and covenants on the lands in the Duffins Rouge Agricultural Preserve that they had before the 2022 amendment, and

- Strengthen immunity provisions.

The amendments, if passed, will maintain the lands added to the Greenbelt in 2022, which includes a total of 9,400 acres (13 additions of Urban River Valleys and lands in the Paris Galt Moraine area).

Request for Feedback

More information on the legislative proposal to amend the Greenbelt Act, 2005, Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Act, 2001 and other related legislation can be found on the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) at:

- [ERO #019-7739 – Proposal to return lands to the Greenbelt - Greenbelt Statute Law Amendment Act, 2023.](#)
- [ERO #019-7735 – New Act regarding the Duffins Rouge Agricultural Preserve easements and covenants.](#)

Information and mapping on the 2022 decision to amend the Greenbelt Plan and Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan can be found here:

- [ERO #019-6216 - Amendments to the Greenbelt Plan](#)
- [ERO #019-6218 Proposed redesignation of land under the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan O. Reg. 140/02](#)

I look forward to receiving your feedback on this proposal. Comments can be sent through the registry or to greenbeltconsultation@ontario.ca by November 30, 2023.

Sincerely,



Hon. Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

- c. Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing
Sean Fraser, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Affairs and Housing, Planning and Growth Division
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