

**Pilon, Janet**

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**Subject:** No Boundary Expansion - Stop the Corruption

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**From:** Joanne Turnell

**Sent:** November 13, 2023 6:42 PM

**To:** [clerk@hamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@hamilton.ca)

**Subject:** No Boundary Expansion - Stop the Corruption

Clerk City Clerk,

Wilson Street Farmers Market

CLOSED IN 2014 Wilson Street Farmers Market.

I would like to remind you of the forced closure of the Wilson Street Farmers Market in Ancaster over zoning.

In 2014 a local food truck ojo was awarded a grant by the Ontario Govt, thru Ted McMeekins local food act.

<https://www.toronto.com/news-story/4487472-ancaster-food-truck-business-opening-local-produce-market/>

Ojo rented a warehouse space at 1632 Wilson Street West in Ancaster, it was properly zoned for everything we proposed in our business plan, it was prior to the Farmers Market ByLaw Guide lines and despite push back from city hall we were given a reprieve by Council

<https://www.hamiltonnews.com/news-story/5430640-ancaster-s-wilson-street-farmers-market-gets-reprieve-from-city-of-hamilton/>

However, after the “reprieve” ojo was sat down by Joanne Hickey Evans of the City of Hamilton who informed that ojo would not be allowed to proceed with it’s business plans, even though we had already been issued very expensive and time intensive building permits by the City of Hamilton. Lloyd Ferguson was of no help except to recommend a move of the business to the Walmart Parking Lot.

The Wilson Street Farmers Market and Ojo are now closed and the building at 1632 Wilson Street West is now sold and the lands are/were part of the Greenbelt.

I now understand why Lloyd Ferguson opposed my business model. It is because if there was a Farmers Market on the land you can't pull it out of the Greenbelt. At the time I could not understand why I was getting so much push back, it is clear now the only reason to shut an emerging Farmers Market, was to facilitate development on the corner of Hwy 52 and Hwy 2.

And meanwhile Brandon House Developers (on the site of a single family home) (and that have donated to Fergusons funds) shove Retirement development proposals that it is NOT ZONED FOR and get a free pass for consideration? <https://www.thespec.com/local-ancaster/news/2021/04/10/amica-retirement-facility-proposed-for-former-brandon-house-property-in-ancaster.html>

Lloyd Ferguson was beholden to development.

2016 – 2018 I was the Publicity Manager for the Ancaster Fair and I also sat on the Board of Directors for the Agricultural Society.

2017 I was asked to join a new Committee to try to Save the Ancaster Well. I was passionate about saving the well and I still am.

My experience with #FREETHEWELL and Save Our Spring was and still stands that the Arsenic Scare started by Lloyd Ferguson was intentional to make people believe the Well was not saving, in a successful effort to remove the land use restrictions for the surrounding properties (Kennedy Farm Hwy 99) as described in Bylaw 18-068 to open up old Hwy 99 for development.

<https://www.toronto.com/news-story/7516894-ancaster-coun-lloyd-ferguson-asks-city-to-save-sulphur-springs-well/>

Lloyd Ferguson threatened to sue me in a war of words over the Ancaster Well.

<https://www.thespec.com/news/hamilton-region/2017/12/14/legal-action-threatened-in-dispute-over-ancaster-well-water.html>

A City of Hamilton employee tried to derail my plans to save the well, by attending our Home Owners Association and trying to defame my character.

<https://www.hamiltonnews.com/news-story/8107024-ancaster-well-activist-still-fuming-over-pot-venture-s-privacy-breach/>

After this episode during an Ancaster Fairgrounds Board meeting I was asked to remain behind for a private meeting with the Executive Team, where I was told that I had to stop speaking out about Lloyd Ferguson. The Head of the Executive is Lloyds Neice. Jill Ferguson.

I refused to give up my rights to Free Speech and I was told I could no longer remain on the Board of the Agricultural Society. I then resigned my position as Publicity Manager also and did not return.

My experience with the City of Hamilton has left a bitter taste in my mouth, and while I do love where I live, I think that the City is/was rife with corruption especially around Boundary Expansion.

Thank you for your time

Joanne Turnell

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