

Good morning Mayor, Councillors and Chair,

My name is Victoria Moral, and I live off of Echovalley Drive, which is within 3km of the GFL landfill. In 2023, when this nightmare began, I created the Facebook group “Shut Down the Stoney Creek Dump”, because no one should have to endure what we’ve been forced to live with.

For far too long, residents like myself have suffered through unbearable, nauseating odours that make life miserable. Something as simple as sharing a meal on our back deck, taking a walk in our neighborhood, or even cracking open a window for fresh air has become impossible. These are not just minor inconveniences—our homes, our sanctuaries, have been tainted. Our well-being, both mental and physical, is being stolen from us, and it is unacceptable.

The first motion, calling for the temporary closure of the landfill, is not just reasonable - it is absolutely necessary. Every day that passes without action means more suffering for the families who live near this site. GFL has repeatedly admitted they don’t know what caused the horrific odours in the summer of 2023, yet they claim the problem is “resolved.” How can they fix a problem without knowing the root cause of it? And why are we still experiencing horrendous odour events?

During one of these odour events this past September, I decided I had had enough. After reporting the odour to GFL, I waited on my porch and confronted a worker as they drove by. This worker—who, notably, was not a GFL employee but a temporary night-shift worker hired by GFL - confirmed the smell and stated it was definitely coming from the leachate pond. He assured me and another neighbour that he would be recording it in his binder as a strong odour from the leachate pond. I made it clear to him that I was sick and tired of GFL dismissing our complaints, constantly shifting blame, and using excuses such as “weather data does not support the claim”. Fast forward to September 19th when I received the email response from GFL regarding the odour event. The email stated “GFL staff arrived at your location immediately following receipt of the complaint. Staff conducted a perimeter inspection of the area and found the odour to potentially be related to the treatment at the holding pond.” Potentially? This is undeniable proof that GFL has been lying to residents in their official responses. A worker on-site confirmed the source, yet GFL continues to downplay and mislead. This should alarm everyone in this room—especially our elected officials, who are taking GFL’s word at face value when it comes to decisions such as building a school directly across the street from the landfill.

How can we allow a company with a clear pattern of dishonesty to continue operating without consequences?

The only way to protect our community is to shut the landfill down until real solutions—not empty reassurances—are found.

The second motion, for tax relief, is not a request for special treatment—it’s a demand for fairness. We have lost the use and enjoyment of our homes and outdoor spaces during odour events, and this reality must be acknowledged. Many of us have endured sleepless nights, stress, anxiety, and even physical illness because of this situation. The financial burden of our suffering should not rest solely on our shoulders.

These motions are for our community to get the justice we deserve. They are about holding those responsible accountable and standing up for the rights of an entire community. The time for action is now. We are begging for relief—immediate and lasting. I ask you to please, do the right thing.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Victoria Moral