

October 22, 2023

Premier, Hon. Paul Calandra, Hon. Doug Downey and Hon. Parm Gill

Since 2007, BurlingtonGreen has worked with the community through advocacy, action and awareness to protect the environment, mitigate climate change and to create a healthier, more environmentally responsible Burlington. We strive to protect what we have and reverse the damage caused by human activity to ensure a liveable, sustainable future for generations to come. To date we have advocated on more than 145 environmental issues including those pertaining to the protection of greenspace for the benefit of Ontarians.

BurlingtonGreen supports:

- Protection of urban greenspace, natural assets, sensitive lands and biodiversity
- Growth through sustainable, more efficient use of land
- Ending sprawl as a means of accommodating new population
- Designing complete, walkable, transit-supportive mixed-use communities
- Saving farming, not just farms
- Broad, meaningful community consultation including Indigenous voices
 Consistent with the Province of Ontario's "A Made-In-Ontario Environmental Plan", and
 Flooding Strategy, conserving natural spaces play an important role in mitigating and adapting to the effects of climate change by:
 - providing safe havens for wildlife,
 - capturing and storing carbon, and
 - improving resilience to weather events, such as flooding and drought.

The loss of urban greenspace at the Millcroft area in the City of Burlington would lead to increases in urban heat and flooding, and the removal of vegetation would release stored carbon into the atmosphere, undermining future carbon storage potential. Newer

subdivisions with young trees and lawns do not provide the heat mitigation, flood protection and biodiversity support that existing, more mature landscapes do.

We therefore request your immediate halt to the Ontario Land Tribunal process with the issuance of an MZO to protect the current uses of Major Parks and Open Space at Millcroft - a critical piece of Burlington's green infrastructure.

Respectfully submitted,

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Acknowledging - Honouring - Acting

In Burlington, our work with the community takes place within the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, and we recognize this land as being home and the traditional territory to Indigenous people since time immemorial. <u>Learn more</u>.