

June 29th 2022

Chair W. Emmerson and Members of Regional Council,
Regional Municipality of York,
17250 Yonge Street,
Newmarket ON L3Y 6Z1

Dear Chairman and Regional Councillors:

Re: **York Regional Council Meeting, June 30th 2022**
Item: 2022 York Region Official Plan Adoption

Regional Council is at the precipice of making a decision that will have profound consequences for the future of our natural heritage, in particular, the Regional Greenlands System, the Oak Ridges Moraine and the Lake Simcoe watershed.

It is evident that Council continues to be overtly and relentlessly courted by those whose primary interests, in my opinion, do not lie in the well-being of current and future residents of York Region nor in the rightful protection of our natural environment. Changes are being proposed that will erode and undermine policies methodically crafted and written by those who had the good sense to understand the importance of protecting our remaining natural areas in perpetuity. The need has not diminished; conversely, it has grown yet this is not reflected in the evidently pro-development 2022 York Region Official Plan.

The thoughtful, well-researched delegations and letters from residents of this Region, residents whose interests lie in protecting the Oak Ridges Moraine, preserving the health of Lake Simcoe and our precious local farmland have seemingly been ignored. Such disregard is tragic and begs the question: how did we arrive at this shameful place in the Region's history? Viewing of Regional Council meetings has, to me, become a torturous exercise in witnessing the unfolding story of how an environmental disaster could and should have been avoided.

In conclusion, please do what is morally, ethically and economically right for the residents of York Region as well as beyond. Your vote is critical because once these environmental lands are lost to development, the effects are far-reaching and the damage cannot be undone.

I ask respectfully that you vote against the adoption of the Draft Regional Official Plan.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Wendy Kenyon
York Region Resident

