



GEORGINA

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

November 24, 2022

Margaret Quirk, BAsC
MAYOR

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON, M7A 1A1
premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Steve Clark
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
College Park 17th Floor, 777 Bay St,
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
steve.clark@pc.ola.org

The Honourable Graydon Smith
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry
Whitney Block, 99 Wellesley St W,
Toronto, ON M7A 1W3
minister.mnrf@ontario.ca

The Honourable David Piccini
Minister of Environment, Conservation and
Parks
College Park 5th Floor, 777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
david.piccinico@pc.ola.org

Dear Premier Ford, Minister Clark, Minister Smith and Minister Piccini:

Re: Corporation of the Town of Georgina Response – Proposed Bill 23, the More Homes Faster Act, 2022

On November 22, 2022, Georgina Council held a Special Council meeting to consider Bill 23 and related legislation under the Province of Ontario's Housing Supply Action Plan and passed Resolution No. C-2022-0354, a copy of which is attached hereto.

On behalf of the Council of the Town of Georgina I want to firstly express that we understand and appreciate the severity of the housing crisis and the desire to take bold steps to create more housing that is affordable and attainable for all Ontarians. In this regard, we commend the Province for the comprehensive review and assessment undertaken by the York Region Wastewater Advisory Panel leading to Schedule 10 to Bill 23 *Supporting Growth and Housing in York and Durham Regions Act, 2022* to expedite the expansion and extension of the York Durham Sewage System effectively replacing the Upper York Sewage Solution project. Council views this as a strong and positive commitment to ensuring the health and viability of Lake Simcoe and its watershed, while at the same time advancing much needed housing within our neighboring municipalities in northern York Region.

However, Council at the same time is very concerned about many aspects of Bill 23, and particularly the potentially significant financial impact to local municipalities in terms of lost development charge revenue and parkland which is vital to support new growth. Clearly, growth will not be paying for growth, and it is unacceptable that our existing residents would have to pay more taxes to make up for this lost revenue. As a result, I respectfully submit that the ability



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of local and regional municipalities to provide the critical infrastructure and services required for new housing construction in a timely manner will be severely compromised, and thus meeting the housing targets will not be possible.

Council is also very concerned that proposed changes to the Conservation Authorities Act and related legislation removes conservations authorities from an active role in supporting efforts to sustain the health of watersheds and in the case of Lake Simcoe, is counterproductive to efforts in the *Supporting Growth and Housing in York and Durham Regions Act, 2022* replacing the Upper York Sewage Solution Project with a servicing solution directed to the York Durham Sewage System.

In closing, Council concurs with York Region Council and many others that the legislative program under the umbrella of the Ontario Housing Supply Action Plan must be paused in order to have a more in-depth consultation with municipalities and other stakeholders. This will ensure that the proposed changes do not result in unintended consequences that will slow down the delivery of housing, but instead will be effective in giving municipalities the decision making authority, tools and financial resources needed to deliver new housing as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

Margaret Quirk,
Mayor, Town of Georgina

Attachments - November 22, 2022- Town of Georgina Council Resolution
- Region of York Report

cc.

MPP's – York Region Municipalities
Interim Leader, New Democratic Party of Ontario
Interim Leader, Liberal Party of Ontario
Leader, Green Party of Ontario
Clerk, All Ontario Municipalities
Lake Simcoe Watershed MPPs
Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority
Association of Municipalities of Ontario