

In 1985, after teaching for 5 years on a native reserve in northern B.C., my husband and I decided to move back to Ontario...we chose Guelph! It was an hr drive to both families and my husband's alma mater. We got teaching jobs, bought a condo, sold it, bought another house, had a child, sold that house and finally built a lovely 2 storey cape cod on the green space in the west end. We live on a crescent with very caring neighbours. I had an unexpected emergency life saving heart operation in January of this year....Wow, 'Still Here' is my new mantra.

I am 68 years young, a year older than my husband. We pay all taxes, including federal and municipal on time and in full every year. So I find it very disturbing that the rules surrounding trailers are changing.

Over the years we have bought several different types of trailers. We started out in a mid size tent trailer, moved up to a 18ft travel trailer, back to a smaller tent trailer, and finally an all in one van (no more pulling for us). It is beautiful! New, shiny (my husband takes pride in keeping it that way). We feel so fortunate to own it. Our neighbours and other walkers often stop and ask us where we've been and what adventure is next for us in our 'tin can' as I call it. The van also serves as our second vehicle, a necessity as my husband and I are quite active.. We have never had a complaint about parking in our driveway.

A self contained van is one of the safest ways of travelling in these Covid times. That's why I find your timing so confusing, annoying and basically downright nasty that the Guelph Council has the nerve to say we cannot park our van in our driveway, on property that we own, and with the exorbitant taxes that we pay each year.

Find another way...wait, you have one...it's the present complaint based rule. It works, keep it!

I have never felt the need to voice my concerns in a letter, until now.
Please do not pass this new bylaw!

—Gertie Clement-Blair