

# Stephen Gawron & Janet Nairn

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Guelph ON

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February 13, 2022

Good morning Mayor Guthrie and City of Guelph Councillors,

We write with regards to the planned development of Rolling Hills as discussed at Council on January 17, 2022.

Janet and I have served the Guelph Community as Family Physicians for more than thirty years and have considered Guelph our Family home since 1990. In 1999 we found ourselves looking for a larger property where we would raise our young family but this proved challenging to find. We were fortunate to locate an overlooked lot at the end of Kilkenny Place that perfectly suited our purpose and built our home. We have raised three children and four dogs here and hope to watch our family continue to grow with the arrival of grandchildren. We have no interest in moving nor in the development of our land, so we were somewhat relieved to note that our lot has been designated Estate Residential on the latest plan proposal.

We are however very concerned about the prospect of runaway development on our street and in the Rolling Hills neighbourhood, as proposed by City Planners and a small minority of our neighbours and driven no doubt by the acquisitive intent of major developers. It is our feeling that such development will not only destroy our street and our neighbourhood but that it will be a terrible mistake for Guelph. We are not alone in placing a very high value on Guelph being a "Green City" and the Rolling Hills neighbourhood in particular epitomizes what should be viewed as one of the jewels of Guelph when it comes to environmentally responsible and sustainable living. We think this sentiment is increasingly lost in the discussions around growth. We understand the Provincial mandates call for this growth but to destroy an established and attractive neighbourhood like ours to account for 3% of the "required growth" in your plan is misguided. The benefit is marginal, and the loss to our City will be significant and permanent.

As Guelph grows it will attract new citizens, including professionals and business owners some of whom will be looking for space to live and raise families just as we did all those years ago. This neighbourhood is unique in offering newcomers another option in lifestyle and to dismiss this as "entitled" and "privileged" is short sighted and panders to Development interests in a disproportionate fashion. It also does so at irredeemable expense to the natural environment and a pristine source of our precious ground water.

We respectfully implore you, Mayor Guthrie and City Councillors to take this opportunity to resist development of Rolling Hills and to undertake whatever measures are required to instead protect it, commensurate with our reputation as one of Canada's greenest and most livable cities.

To lose Rolling Hills to development would be a travesty not just for those of us who call it home, but for all of Guelph and beyond.

Sincerely yours,



Stephen Gawron



Janet Nairn