

Dear Mayor Guthrie and Councillors,

I am writing to voice my concern with the provincial government's proposed Bill 23.

1. It is irresponsible of Mr. Ford to "limit development and community benefit charges", thereby erroneously placing the financial onus of growth on municipalities and local taxpayers while easing the burden on developers.
2. Reducing site planning time will negate the importance of proper traffic, infrastructure, and environmental studies, and the study feedback given to developers to create proposals in keeping with Guelph's Official City Plan.
3. Reducing the influence of conservation authorities completely eradicates the purpose of these necessary environmental oversights. Who is watching out for our drinking water, wetlands and animal habitats?
4. The province's desire to override municipal planning decisions is undemocratic and appalling. Guelph has spent years attempting to create an environmentally conscious community that reflects the interests and needs of its population.

Guelph *is* growing quickly. To ensure that it's done wisely, with proper infrastructure that looks to the future for the protection of our water and environment, Bill 23 needs a huge overhaul.

I wish you luck in your debate on this concerning issue. Thank you for your time.

Cyndy Washington