

Hello,

I wanted to submit a written comment for Item 7.1 on the agenda for the Council Meeting on February 13 in regards to The Objection to the Designation of 331 Clair Rd E.

My name is Kaitlyn Skinner. I am the 4th-great-grandchild of John Hanlon and Ellen Lynch, who first owned the land that the dwelling at 331 Clair Rd E sits. Growing up, I always knew that some of my ancestors lived in the Puslinch area, but I didn't realize the gravity of their impact on the region until I was older. As a kid, I thought it was so cool when my friends had grandparents or aunts and uncles living in other countries; it felt interesting and exotic. All of my family lived in Canada, which felt less exciting. As I grew up and started researching my family tree, I came to appreciate the sacrifices many, many generations prior made to immigrate to Canada, before Canada was even a Confederation. John and Ellen Hanlon left Ireland with a dream of a better life and ended up in Puslinch. I have seen in early census records that they lived with their many children in a log house on this land. And then their son John and his wife Maria built the house that still stands.

It was quite a significant day learning about this house after it has lived many lives and serviced many families over more than a century. Through distant relatives, seeing a photo of John and Maria in front of this home really made me feel connected to this region. The craftsmanship of this home and the importance of families of this time to develop this region are vitally important to our heritage as a family and as a community. I hope that this home can be preserved as the heritage cornerstone that it is.

Thank you for your time.

Kaitlyn Skinner