

Guelph Junction Railway (GJR)
AGM
June 24 2025

Gregg Allan

Background

Reside in our current home in Puslinch since 1989.
Purchased our home knowing about the railway tracks
Our boys learned mathematics by counting the train cars

Past Concerns with the GJR

Clean up of old railways ties - happened ONLY when the neighbourhood complained
Fires ignited by train engines. First one was fun and exciting.
No engagement or communication regarding the Arkell siding installation

Current Concerns with GJR

1. Shunting of rail cars at Arkell siding
 - * Since the siding is so short to shunt cars train needs to block Arkell or Carter roads
 - * Results in shunting of cars for hours
 - * Each shunt requires the train whistle to blast numerous times
 - * Most annoying is the brakes squealing which has a very high decibel level- (Maintenance issue?)
2. Storage of rail cars with Hazardous Material
 - * Concerned for our water source
 - * Concern if the material is flammable
 - * Derailments and leaks do happen (GJR 2023)
3. Fire
 - * Climate is become hotter and drier
 - * Fires ignited by train engines
 - * To date we have been VERY lucky no major damage
 - * Water totes along the tracks are of little value to fight a major blaze with challenging access
4. Lack of the engagement of stakeholders outside the City of Guelph
 - * AGM material reports good activities within the City
 - * Engagement outside the City is non existent (i.e. Corwhin siding, Arkell siding)

My ask

1. Elimination of the brake high decibel squealing noise.
2. Elimination of storage of rail cars with Hazardous material at Arkell siding.
3. In Partnership with Puslinch Fire and Rescue develop a comprehensive plan for a major fire, leak or derailment along the track.
4. Create a plan to inform stakeholders outside of the City of Guelph about train safety and future activities of GJR.