
From: kathy baiger [mailto:kbaiger@yahoo.ca]

Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:25 PM

To: huronadmin@huroncounty.ca; cmetzger@huroncounty.ca; Mayor Finch <gfinch@southhuron.ca>; Don Giberson <dgiberson@southhuron.ca>; Shawn Young <syounng@southhuron.ca>; Councillor Vaughan <mvaughan@southhuron.ca>; Councillor Faubert <dfaibert@southhuron.ca>; Rebekah Msuya-Collison <clerk@southhuron.ca>

Cc: Kathy Baiger <kbaiger@yahoo.ca>

Subject: Re: Oakwood GC , Tridon, : U.Wat. flood report, Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation

Thank you for considering my letter as part of the file for this application.

I live beside the east side of Oakwood Golf Course. If Huron County Council and the Municipality of South Huron Council and Staff permit the forthcoming proposal by Tridon to change the golf course zoning from Commercial Recreational ,which it has historically been, to Residential, to accommodate a 400 home development, my home will be at great risk to flooding.

I respectfully request that Huron County Council and the Municipality of South Huron Council and Staff acknowledge ,and take to heart , the findings of the following reports and reject a change in zoning.

Therefore, I am including 3 links to recent reports about the value of natural infrastructure preservation for your kind attention. The links are from U. Of Waterloo and the Intact Centre on Climate adaptation.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/climate-change-floods-1.5115447>

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/flood-report-1.5676624>

https://www.intactcentreclimateadaptation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/IBC_Wetlands-Report-2018_FINAL.pdf

2.2: Canada's natural infrastructure being lost to development – Conservation and restoration required Despite the intrinsic value of natural infrastructure preservation, Canada continues to experience the loss of wetlands, forests and vegetated areas. The loss of natural infrastructure is most pronounced in southern Canada, where population growth is concentrated, and agriculture

and urban development have expanded. For example: • In southern Ontario, 72% of the original wetlands have been lost to development

Excerpts:

CBC News · Posted: Apr 30, 2019 4:00 AM ET | Last Updated: April 30, 2019

A new report says provincial governments are not moving fast enough to protect homes and other buildings from the ravages of flooding.

Climate change and poor planning are fuelling more floods. Here's what we can do about it

The extreme rain, precipitation events that are occurring now are going to continue and indeed are going to get worse going forward for sure," said Blair Feltmate, head of the [Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation](#) at the University of Waterloo.

"Because a certain proportion of that which is driving these events is climate change itself. So we're getting more storms of greater magnitude, of greater intensity [and] higher volumes of water coming down over shorter periods of time."

Feltmate is also the chair of the federal government's [Expert Panel on Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience](#), which has been examining the role climate change is playing — and will continue to play — across the country.

But there are other factors to consider, including how we're using our land.

In cities, for example, all that concrete helps prevent water from being absorbed quickly.

"Here in Ontario — and the trend is the same right across Canada — we've lost 73 per cent of the original, natural infrastructure that was here 100 years ago: forests, fields, wetlands, marshes," Feltmate said. "That's disappeared. That's either been paved over or turned into agricultural development such that when the big storms hit, water isn't absorbed quickly on these new surfaces."

We should also be looking to preserve natural infrastructure. For example, along riverbanks, it's wiser to keep trees, bushes and grasses that have been there historically to hold back the water rather than to clear it for development.

But of particular concern is the fact that most flood plain maps are out of date, allowing houses to be built in flood-prone areas.

All levels of government need to work together to determine the best means of planning for the future of a changing climate, she said. (Deborah Harford, executive director at the [Adaptation to Climate Change Team](#) at Simon Fraser University)

"The goal posts are continually moving, every year. The events are getting worse and bigger. It's time to stop talking about climate as though it's a separate thing and just mainstream it through all of our urban planning."

Restrictions on development needed.

The report also shows most provinces don't have any regulations preventing new developments from going up in high flood-risk spots...

Flooding is Canada's most expensive type of natural disaster, and the number and frequency of floods has increased in recent years, largely attributed to climate change. Warmer air holds more moisture, which means heavier rains.

The risk of flooding doesn't just exist for people who live near rivers or flood plains. Blair Feltmate, head of the Intact Centre on Climate Adaptation at the University of Waterloo, said cities across Canada have paved and built over wetlands and other "natural infrastructure" that could otherwise absorb and slow the rush of floodwaters into overloaded sewer systems.

"All of these factors work in combination to contribute to flooding."

To stem the tide, governments can take several measures:

Ban construction on flood plains and design diversion channels, cisterns, stormwater ponds and berms to control water flow.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Baiger

72 Sandpiper Sq. Grand Cove

519 777 4833