Friday, April 15, 2022

Honourable Merrilee Fullerton, MD, MPP Suite 100, 240 Michael Cowpland Drive, Kanata, ON K2M 1P6 merrilee.fullerton@pc.ola.org

Dear Merrilee.

Thank you for making time to speak with me earlier this week. Our call was cut short by your need to rejoin the Legislature and so, I write today to wrap up our discussion with the following key points.

The Kanata Greenspace Protection Coalition is truly disappointed in the recent Ontario Land Tribunal decision

- the premature consideration of a complex development application as but a planning matter without appropriate and concomitant consideration of its broader implications shortchanged our community
- the lack of a requisite, viable stormwater management plan approved by the municipality at any point in this hearing process warranted a procedural dismissal if not, at minimum, a hearing delay

There has been insufficient study of the impacts of this proposal on Kanata

- uncontested expert evidence documented incomplete environmental site assessment (ESA) studies around mercury and other contamination
- an acceptable stormwater management plan does not exist for the development site which is complicated by its location at the head of the Kizell watershed, a watercourse already burdened by an unresolved 8 year development controversy
- the negative impact of this development on the growth and global competitiveness of the nearby Kanata North Tech Park (KNTP), Canada's largest high tech campus and an exploding economic engine for both Ottawa and Ontario has received no consideration

There should be more consultation on these issues to appropriately include

- our KGPC, representing thousands of supporters, residents and families in our community and elsewhere
- the business organizations, including the Kanata North Business Association regarding the negative impacts of this development on the future growth for the Kanata North Tech Park, home to the 5G Innovation Zone and designated as a Special Economic District by Ottawa

The provincial government has reason to intervene to oppose this development

- our communities across Kanata North are unified Kanata Lakes, Beaverbrook and neighbourhoods beyond do not want this space converted into housing
- the City of Ottawa opposed this development with a unanimous Council vote
- as per the 40% Agreement, the Kanata Golf Club land must be shared with area residents as an integral part of a large green and natural open recreational space
- the loss of large scale urban greenspace diminishes Ottawa's capacity to meet current and future residents' needs including
 - o lost recreational space which negatively impacts the health of all residents
 - lost environmental spaces which diminish access to nature and damage biodiversity and impede our global fight to reverse climate change
 - damaging Kanata's 'quality of life' scale which is seen as essential to the highly skilled and remunerated workers required to ensure a globally competitive and sustainable Kanata North Tech Park

Last year, the provincial government chose to intervene in the Glen Abbey situation for the benefit of Oakville and its residents.

With a very substantial list of reasons, we are asking you and Premier Doug Ford to do the same for Kanata.

Sincerely,

Barbara Ramsay, Chairperson

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