

Attachment #2 – Policy Directions Report – Submissions and Response Chart
Part 3 – Public Submission – June 2020 to September 2020

Overview

This document is Part 3 of 7 that provides written submissions in verbatim and staff responses on comments related to the Regional Official Plan Review (excluding IGMS/PGC which are addressed in the Integrated Growth Management Strategy Submissions and Response Chart). The policy directions referenced in the staff response column have not been endorsed by Regional Council.

The full Policy Directions Report Submission and Response Chart includes the following parts:

- Part 1 - Public Authorities
- Part 2 - Advisory Committees and Stakeholders
- Part 3 - Public Submission – June 2020 to September 2020**
- Part 4 - Public Submission – October 2020
- Part 5 - Public Submission - November 2020 to November 2021
- Part 6 – Indigenous Peoples
- Part 7 – Additional Submissions

The document is organized into four columns: 'No.', 'Source', 'Submission', and 'Response'.

The submissions are organized chronologically.

Index of Submissions

No.	Source	Date Received	Page
1.	Maura Romanelli	Email dated July 7, 2020	2
2.	Vince Fiorito	Email dated August 3, 2020	2
3.	Milton Acheson	Email dated September 3, 2020	4
4.	Trafalgar Chartwell Residents Association	Email dated September 11, 2020	5
5.	Arbor Memorial Inc	Email dated September 14, 2020	6
6.	Capstone Farm	Email dated September 16, 2020	9
7.	Jennifer Lawrence & Associates on behalf of Halton Nine Grain Farm Ltd	Email dated September 18, 2020	12
8.	Jennifer Lawrence & Associates on behalf of Neatt Communities	Email dated September 18, 2020	15
9.	Coronation Park Residents Association	Email dated September 22, 2020	16
10.	Nelson Aggregates	Email dated September 24, 2020	19
11.	Christopher Marmont	Email dated September 28, 2020	21
12.	Cootes to Escarpment EcoPark System	Email dated September 29, 2020	39
13.	Country Heritage Park	Email dated September 29, 2020	40
14.	TransCanada Pipelines Limited	Email dated September 29, 2020	41

Submissions & Responses

No.	Source	Submission	Response
1.	Maura Romanelli	<p>Dear Curt Benson Now that the Official Plan review is underway I would specifically like to know if my address 6589 Milborough Line has any changes affected by this review? There are too many pages to review and the link I was looking for does not open so I specifically would like to know of any refinements affect our property? So that I am not surprised later on it's best I know now so I am prepared. And a clear answer would be very appreciated.</p> <p>Thank you Maura Romanelli Registered Nurse</p>	<p>According to the Region's draft updated mapping of the Natural Heritage System, which includes the Province's Natural Heritage System, there are no changes proposed on your property with respect to natural heritage features and areas such as woodlands and wetlands that are required to be protected by Provincial Plans and policies. Mapping was provided to the landowner.</p> <p>A portion of your property also includes Class 1 and 2 soils that have been evaluated by the Province as part of the Provincial Prime Agricultural mapping. As a result, part of your property is proposed to be classified as "Prime Agricultural Area" in the draft updated mapping for the Regional Official Plan. Mapping was provided to the land owner.</p> <p>Although there are no changes to the limits of the Natural Heritage System mapping, the Provincially Significant Wetlands GIS data was updated by the Province and will be reflected in the next update to the key feature mapping of the draft proposed Natural Heritage System as part of Stage 3, Phase 3 of the ROPR.</p>
2.	Vince Fiorito	<p>To Whom It May Concern:</p> <p>The Halton Region is located next to Lake Ontario and the Niagara Escarpment, where the Carolinian and Great Lakes Life Zones meet.</p> <p>At one time, Halton was a North American biodiversity hot spot. Today it has 48 endangered species: (https://conservationhalton.ca/halton-species-at-risk) Dozens more species have gone extinct in recent history (https://caroliniancanada.ca/sar/nature-rarities)</p> <p>Human "stewardship", out of control invasive species and pollution are destroying the Halton Region ecosystem. The Region's environmental problems have become so bad, they have become self sustaining.</p> <p>Halton's environmental problems can't be fixed without significant human intervention and government policy change.</p> <p>Setting aside land currently being overrun by invasive species, will only preserve what will eventually become Buckthorn, Honeysuckle, Garlic Mustard and Phragmites dominated landscapes. Not enough volunteers or tax dollars exist to stop this inevitable change. Most of Halton's remaining Natural Heritage has already been destroyed. Most of the rest will disappear within a few generations.</p> <p>If we are serious about preserving our natural heritage, the most important change we can make, is our perceptions regarding responsible land/water stewardship.</p> <p>I have proven with my property at 5441 Sheldon Park Drive, Burlington, that habitat for endangered species is restorable with less effort than it takes to create and maintain a lawn. Government and environmental organizations in the Halton need to recognize and encourage individual efforts to recreate and restore habitat for nature. Governments should lead natural habitat restoration efforts by example.</p>	<p>The Regional Natural Heritage System is a systems approach to protecting and enhancing natural features and functions. Key features include significant habitats of endangered and threatened species. Policy Directions NH-6 and NH-7 outline proposed mapping and land designations and overlays and updates to the mapping through refinements is occurring where updated information is available through detailed studies at the time of a development or site alteration application in accordance with Policy 116.1 of the ROP... With regards to threatened or endangered species, certain development proposals may trigger the need for an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), which demonstrates that any proposed development or site alteration will result in no negative impacts to that portion of the Regional Natural Heritage System. Through screening, if it is determined that a threatened or endangered species may be present, then a component of that EIA would include engagement with the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) as it relates to Species at Risk (SAR) habitat. Further studies could also include screening for significant wildlife habitats. In addition to the foregoing, Policy Direction NH-4 recommends implementing a Water Resource System to provide for the long-term protection of surface and ground water features which, through watershed and subwatershed studies, may need to be updated to reflect current data and direction from Provincial Plans.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>Instead most government properties are examples of native species habitat destruction, and sources of invasive species. Across the region, we allow industries to poison our land, air and water for profit with impunity.</p> <p>Government policy must encourage all to pollute less and "create" habitat for endangered species through education, tax incentives, policy/bylaw changes and other ways and means. At the same time, government policy must make habitat destruction and pollution more expensive and inconvenient. >>></p> <p>A small biodiversity hot spot exists near my home. It's a tiny remnant of the original Carolinian forest, whose pits, mounds and ephemeral pools suggest it's never been logged or farmed. A real plan would have a way for me to report this site for consideration as a biodiversity hotspot, recruit neighbors to remove invasive species or stop neighbors from dumping trash, yard waste and trampling delicate forest plants with mountain bike trails. I recommend people visit this biodiversity hot spot before it's completely destroyed https://goo.gl/maps/E8XWmpWbtvR87JiM7 >>></p> <p>I live along Sheldon Creek. Mink and Coyote feed on spawning trout and salmon in the ravine behind my home. Upstream, a sewer from a steel company regularly poisons the Sheldon Creek with industrial effluent. (location) Further upstream is a toxic waste dump with old pesticide and petrochemical barrels next to a residential neighborhood (location). You can see images backing up the above statements on this FaceBook page (link) I've reported these problems to municipal, regional and provincial authorities for years, but few people whose job it is to care, have taken any action.</p> <p>Will the new plan lead to action to solve these environmental problems? >>></p> <p>The Green Belt Land Act allows the recognition of "key" river valleys in urban areas adjacent to the Greenbelt. This means that cities and regions can opt out of protecting most drinking water sources. If Lake Ontario was a swimming pool, our current policies would allow some peeing in the pool, while other parts of the pool would be protected from peeing. The plan should be to restore all urban waterways as habitat for endangered species and manage them as wildlife corridors that clean our water and purify our air. >>></p> <p>The second most important change after perceptions is political. Environmental problems have political solutions. While we keep electing governments that value short term corporate profit over long term biosphere health, not much will change except that the Ministry of the Environment and Conservation Authorities will grow increasingly like Orwellian authorities. >>></p> <p>Until I see fundamental change in the way we perceive responsible stewardship, and the types of governments we elect, I expect that humans will eventually destroy all remaining ecosystems as a direct consequence of greed and short term self interest, over time.</p> <p>The Halton Region is a prime example of the long term consequences of habitat loss and biosphere destruction. The way we manage the land, water and air in the Halton Region contributes to serious global existential threats to the Earth's biosphere and ultimately us, as a species.</p>	<p>Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>If anyone is serious about solving specific problems I've been identifying for years, growing the Green Belt, identifying local biodiversity hotspots and making polluters/developers pay for biosphere destruction, please contact me.</p> <p>Vince Fiorito</p>	
3.	Milton Acheson	<p>4. What do you think the Region should do to help you reduce your GHG emissions? For example, if you typically commute by car to work or school every day, what would make you consider taking transit, biking, walking?</p> <p>Campbellville Go station using Mohawk Parking Lot</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why not extend the Go Train from Milton to Campbellville using Mohawk existing 4,000+ vehicle parking lot which is mostly empty during the day Mon. to Fri. and Go parking demand is low when Mohawk parking is required? 2. Most of the expensive transit capital requirement already exist (Land, installed Track, & Trains). 3. Minimum environmental impact since the train track exist. 4. Purchase buses to shuttle people between Mohawk and Campbellville Go Station. 5. Place Campbellville Go station inside Mohawk which would help Mohawk Casino & Restaunts business. 6. Campbellville Go station would potentially remove 4,000+ vehicles from the 401 freeway. 7. Room is available in the area to expand parking lot if required. 8. Commuters using Campbellville Go station would bypass the 401 freeway high accident zone between Guelph line & hwy. 25. 9. Operate Go train with 1 or 2 railcars (round trip to all stations between Campbellville & Toronto) during non-peak times. Peak times currently use 12 railcars for each Go trains. Each railcar has 136 to 162 (seated) capacity. 10. Glen Eden Go Station (Seasonal Winter & Summer) would deliver skiers to the base of the ski hill which would be great advertisement for both Glen Eden and Go Train. Use Glen Eden Chalet for Go services. Go station would reduce Glen Eden parking demand and increase Go & Glen Eden ticket sales. Glen Eden 2012/2013 Ski Season 330,000 Skiers & 85,000 vehicle visits. 11. Reduce Campbellville & Glen Eden Go Station platform cost by servicing only 1 or 2 railcars instead of the whole train then lengthen platform as required. <p>Convert Go & Freight Diesel / Electric Trains to Electric & Diesel / Electric Hybrid Locomotive Trains</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why not modify the current Go & Freight Diesel / Electric Trains to Electric & Diesel / Electric Hybrid locomotives? 2. Currently locomotives use noisy diesel engines to generate electricity to drive the locomotives electric motors. 3. Assuming current locomotives are in good working order with many years of service life then modify these locomotives so that they can operate with efficient overhead electric cables like is done in other countries. 4. Low traffic rail lines without overhead electric cables would operate these hybrid locomotives by diesel. <p>Regards, Milton Acheson</p>	<p>Staff acknowledges comments regarding opportunities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through rail electrification and enhanced passenger rail connectivity between Campbellville, Milton, and Toronto. This submission will form part of our documentation and will be considered by staff as we proceed with the ROPR.</p> <p>Metrolinx is currently electrifying some GO rail lines however within Halton Region, this work is largely focused on the Lakeshore West and the Kitchener lines. More information is available on their project webpage (http://www.metrolinx.com/en/electrification/electric.aspx).</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
4.	Trafalgar Chartwell Residents Association	<p>Halton Region September 11, 2020 1151 Bronte Road Oakville, ON L6M 3L1 Attention: Mr. Dan Tovey Manager, Policy Planning Planning Services Reference: Regional Official Plan Review</p> <p>Dear Mr. Tovey,</p> <p>This letter is a submission from the Trafalgar-Chartwell Residents' Association (TCRA). It is in response to the Region's request for public engagement in the current review of the Regional Official Plan (ROP). TCRA represents residents who live west of Chartwell Road and north of Lakeshore Road in Oakville's Ward 3. TCRA congratulates Halton Region Planning Services for the very high quality of the ROP Review process, and for the discussion papers and other information available during this phase. Very well done!</p> <p>TCRA endorses five priorities proposed by Oakville's Mayor Burton for policy updates to the ROP:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parkland, Trails and Green Space. Policy to require adequate parkland and green space in new subdivisions and settlement areas, taking into account that higher densities need more public space. 2. Private Growth Node Initiatives. Policy stating that a private application for development of any new growth node or area (beyond those already in a Municipal Official Plan), of sufficient magnitude as to require significant new public investment or having significant impact on transportation and existing public facilities, will require a Municipal Comprehensive Review. 3. Incompatible Land Use. Policy building on Ministry of the Environment Land Use Guidelines (D-Series) to establish strong separation distances between incompatible land uses. 4. Intensity of Permitted Activity on Employment Land. Policy which allows some regulation in Zoning By-Laws of the <i>intensity</i> of permitted activity on a site so as to reduce the impact of the activity on neighbouring property. 5. Conversion of Employment Area to Residential Area. Policy to protect an employment area, following conversion of some of it into residential area, from attempts to limit permitted activity (traffic, noise etc.) on the remaining parts. <p>In addition to the above, TCRA suggests the points below for your consideration. Please excuse any redundancy between these thoughts and your discussion papers. Your papers are so thorough that there is every chance that we bring to your attention something which you have already covered.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Regional Transportation. The Golden Horseshoe Growth Plan and the Regional Official Plan depend on getting regional transportation right. We encourage continuing efforts from all concerned to follow through on Metrolinx's 2041 Regional Transportation Plan for the GTHA. We register concern with the emphasis placed on Bus Rapid Transit, preferring non-road solutions, such as Light Rail. 7. Disruptive Change. We are entering a period of extraordinary change. We must expect further global warming and unpredictable and extreme weather; epidemiologists warn of new pandemics; new battery technology is likely to change power distribution completely; autonomous road vehicles are just around 	<p>Integrated Growth Management Strategy</p> <p>Regional staff notes that comments on the Regional Urban Structure Discussion Paper/Integrated Growth Management Strategy (IGMS) have been addressed in material related to Regional Official Plan Amendment No. 48 (ROPA 48), or will be addressed through the Preferred Growth Concept materials, including the Submissions Charts. More details are also available in the IGMS Policy Directions.</p> <p>Climate Change</p> <p>The response to climate change through the Regional Official Plan is guided by the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, the Provincial Policy Statement and the Planning Act. The Regional Official Plan Review will address land use-related climate change impacts through land use policies, actions, and strategies to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and to provide for adaptation to a changing climate.</p> <p>Halton Regional Council has formally declared a climate emergency and staff have been committed to taking action against climate change during the ROPR. Regional planning staff has developed policy directions that align with Provincial policy and plans and were informed through feedback from members of the public, advisory committees, stakeholders, and local municipalities.</p> <p>The Region is also undertaking a broader set of actions to respond to climate change in accordance with the Region's Strategic Business Plan 2019-2022 and Council's emergency declaration.</p> <p>Halton Region has also partnered with Halton Environmental Network to advance the Region's work in addressing climate change. The partnership will result in the preparation of a community greenhouse gas emissions inventory, community greenhouse gas emission reductions targets, community engagement, and outreach in collaboration with the Halton Climate Collective.</p> <p>Natural Heritage</p> <p>Policy Direction NH-10 recommends a new policy in the Regional Official Plan that requires the Region to develop a Halton Region Natural Heritage Strategy. The purpose of the strategy would be to identify a framework for initiatives such as monitoring, stewardship/restoration, and community awareness that need to be undertaken to achieve a sustainable, natural environment. As the Strategy is developed in consultation with the local agencies, stakeholders, and the public, it may be identified that a woodland strategy should be created under this 'umbrella' to address tree canopy loss within settlement areas.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>the corner; analysts expect urban air taxis to be common by 2040. Our view is that the ROP must address extreme uncertainty very seriously.</p> <p>8. Tree Canopy. Halton's tree canopy sets us apart from neighbouring regions. We value it, and policy (at least in Oakville's Official Plan) is deep. However, we are frustrated by exemptions and lack of enforcement on development sites. Anything which can be included in the Regional Official Plan to address this problem would be most welcome.</p> <p>9. Waste Management. Doubling the population of Halton over the next twenty years will intensify our waste management problem, irrespective of new regulation on packaging from higher levels of government. The ROP should address all matters within the Region's authority to deal with this issue.</p> <p>10. Gated Residential Housing Enclaves. Gated enclaves comprised of single family houses, by virtue of their exclusivity, can compromise the health of communities. The Region should consider policy regulating (or outlawing) such gated housing enclaves.</p> <p>11. Harbours. Harbour areas and public waterfront land are important natural amenities which should be preserved for public enjoyment and protected from development of adjacent high-rise condos buildings. There should be regional policy which enables appropriate local municipal zoning.</p> <p>12. Variances, Appeals and Emergency Actions. Between Queen's Park, LPAT and Committees of Adjustment, Official Plans and Zoning By-Laws nowadays seem to be routinely overridden. Residents are frustrated and discouraged. <i>We expect official plans and zoning by-laws to be respected.</i> It is most desirable that there is guidance in the updated ROP to help preserve the overall vision embodied in it and in Municipal Plans.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p> <p>Carolyn McMinn</p> <p>President, Trafalgar-Chartwell Residents' Association</p> <p>Copy: Rob Burton Oakville Mayor Gary Carr Halton Region Chair Curt Benson Halton Region Planning Services Director</p>	
5.	Arbor Memorial Inc	<p>2020.09.14 VIA EMAIL: ropr@halton.ca Halton Region Official Plan Review Halton Region 1151 Bronte Road, Oakville, Ontario L6M 3L1</p> <p>Re: Rural and Agricultural System Discussion Paper: Cemetery Discussion Submission to Halton Region Official Plan Review</p> <p>We represent Arbor Memorial Inc. ("AMI") in regards to planning matters which may impact their cemetery and funeral establishment properties and, in Halton Region, in regards to Burlington Memorial Gardens in the City of Burlington and Glen Oaks Memorial Gardens in the Town of Oakville. We have been monitoring the Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR) of the Halton Region Official Plan and have made submissions regarding cemetery policies. Most recently, we have reviewed the Rural and</p>	<p>Regional staff acknowledges concerns expressed by Arbor Memorial Inc. regarding cemeteries being overlooked in the planning process. To appropriately plan for cemeteries in Halton, Regional staff developed a specific Policy Direction to further consider and explore this issue. Policy Direction RAS-3 outlines the recommended approach for permitting cemeteries within the proposed Rural Lands designation. Consultation on cemeteries revealed a preference for cemeteries to be directed to settlement areas, but suggestions were also made regarding cemeteries being permitted on rural lands to meet unmet demands, support complete communities, and satisfy other criteria. It was also recommended that details such as cemetery size be determined by local municipalities. Additionally, there was broad support from consultation to restrict cemeteries in prime agricultural areas as these areas are a valuable and finite resource.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>Agricultural System Discussion Paper (“RASDP”) which addresses cemeteries in the rural and agricultural area.</p> <p>We appreciate that Halton Region has reviewed cemeteries in regard to the policy documents that govern land use in Halton Region. Our review of the RASDP indicates that staff also have partially considered our previous submissions. While we feel that it would be more appropriate to address AMI’s team directly, we appreciate your consideration of our submissions on this matter. We acknowledge that while we have some areas of agreement with the interpretation included within the RASDP, there are other areas we wish to provide some clarification on as follows:</p> <p>CEMETERIES AS A LAND USE</p> <p>Historically cemeteries have been considered to be both an urban and rural land use. Early on, cemeteries were associated with church yards (as a burying ground), but as the population grew and settlements expanded, the need for an organized approach emerged to accommodate the burial needs of the population. Additionally, health concerns favoured the location of the new burying grounds outside of populated areas. Over time the expansion of the settlement areas overtook the rural cemeteries, and many became part of the urban landscape, however that was not the intended outcome. Land within the settlement areas was deemed too important for a use that did not contribute to the economic health of the community, albeit a necessary social use. Thus, most modern cemeteries have been located outside of urban areas where the competition for land supports the setting aside of large parcels to accommodate the burial and memorialization needs of society. Thus, cemeteries represent a unique and necessary land use that has been recognized in the Provincial Policy Statement (“PPS”) 2020 as a necessary part of a complete community (comprised of urban and non-urban lands).</p> <p>We note, respectfully, that the PPS does not imply that cemeteries are strictly an urban use best directed to settlement areas. The PPS recognizes that cemeteries are necessary and, therefore, should be considered within the planning process like other traditional uses to meet the needs of both urban and rural residents. The intent of the PPS is to provide direction to Planning Authorities to consider this use when planning for communities and recognizes cemeteries as both an urban and rural land use. Unfortunately, cemeteries, as a land use, are generally overlooked in the land use planning process. Thus, it is important that Municipal (Regional) Official Plans provide appropriate land use policy accommodating this important land use in a manner in which the provision of new cemeteries will be achieved. The Region of Halton needs to be proactive in this endeavour.</p> <p>Typically, new cemeteries continue to be located outside urban areas. As discussed previously, cemeteries located within urban areas, like Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Toronto, were developed when the property was in the rural area and subsequently cities grew to surround them. Land Use policy which directs cemeteries solely to settlement areas will make it difficult, and possibly impossible, to attract new cemetery development in Halton Region. With respect, this approach is flawed. There is no planning evidence or theory that supports a position that cemeteries are best directed to settlement areas.</p> <p>The major developers and operators of cemeteries typically seek properties that are 40 ha or more in size to accommodate a range of memorialization options and burial preferences for their patrons, provide for cultural diversity and practices, and accommodate generations of families wishing to be buried together or within the same cemetery. Additionally, cemeteries must be large enough to support the economic scale required to finance their development and the maintenance of the trust fund requirements pursuant to the Funeral, Burial, and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA2002). Locating such large properties of this size within or on the periphery of a settlement area is very challenging, and perhaps not desirable as will be discussed presently.</p>	<p>Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>Notwithstanding the foregoing, we recognize that new smaller cemeteries are also developed, but these tend to be for a specific user group (faith or denomination), and do not address the greater needs of the public. Locational options are greater for the small cemetery developer / operator as it is generally easier to locate smaller parcels of land within a specific area. Their challenges, however, are similar to the larger operator. Competition for land within or immediately adjacent to urban areas is intense, favouring uses that provide a more immediate return on investment, address recognized municipal needs for the more traditional development forms (including residential, commercial, employment and even institutional uses). Municipal land use and development policy favours uses which can contribute financially to the development and maintenance of the urban area quickly (in the context of planning horizons). Cemeteries, because their planning horizon is linked to a generational approach, is significantly greater than traditional timeframes used in urban and infrastructure planning.</p> <p>Cemeteries do not require expensive municipally serviced land for their development. In the unlikely event that a large parcel of urban land is available and a cemetery developer is willing and able to purchase and develop the land as a cemetery, Halton Region needs to consider whether Provincial and Municipal intensification and infrastructure utilization policies support a land extensive use like a cemetery that does not require services within a settlement area. The question to be asked is whether a cemetery is the best use of a large parcel of serviced urban land? Interestingly, it is noted that the Niagara Escarpment Plan 2017 (NEP) specifically permits cemeteries on Rural Lands in the Escarpment Protection Area and Escarpment Rural Area designations. This suggests a recognition that cemeteries are appropriated located on rural lands, which is consistent with the PPS.</p> <p>Rural areas in Halton Region largely are comprised of environmental and agricultural lands which will make the siting of new cemeteries in the Rural Area of Halton Region a challenge. This situation, however, exists across the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) and is the challenge also being addressed by other Regions in the GTA. Given the impending shortage of cemetery space in the GTA and the population projections in the Growth Plan, it is important that Halton Region ensure that the memorialization needs of its residents can be met within Halton Region.</p> <p>CEMETERIES AS AN INSTITUTIONAL USE</p> <p>While some planning documents still identify cemeteries as an institutional use, this identification should not define the way in which cemeteries are planned for. Cemeteries differ from what is traditionally considered as an institutional use: large institutional buildings like hospitals, schools and community centres. Cemeteries typically comprise large naturalized and beautifully landscaped properties with low building coverage, typically reflecting the environment in which they are located. Many municipalities now identify cemeteries as an open space use and most upper and lower tier municipalities consider them as both a rural and urban use.</p> <p>CONCERNS PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED</p> <p>These concerns were brought forward during the hearing process for ROPA 38. At that time, the Region and our client, Arbor Memorial Inc. agreed on a settlement of the matter subject to the Region committing to work with AMI during the next MCR process to develop appropriate cemetery policies. Formal Minutes of Settlement were prepared and agreed to by the parties, removing AMI's objections to ROPA 38. The intent of the settlement was to provide an opportunity to work collaboratively to develop appropriate land use policy to guide the development of new cemeteries where appropriate within Halton Region. The belief at the time was that the Region would work not only with AMI but other Cemetery developers / operators as well to address this important issue. To date there have been no working groups that we are aware of that have been established to look at this issue and provide appropriate input to the MCR process.</p>	<p>Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>We continue to welcome the opportunity to meet with the Region to further discuss this matter as we would have expected pursuant to the Settlement Agreement. It would be truly unfortunate if the opportunity for constructive discourse on the challenges of providing for this specialized land use, and the exploration of possible solutions through which the needs of society could be appropriately addressed was not acted upon in a cooperative manner.</p> <p>CONCLUSION</p> <p>As the population of the GTA continues to grow there will be a corresponding increase in demand for cemetery land. For this reason, we request that Halton Region at least recognize cemeteries as both an urban and rural use and create flexibility within the policies to ensure that Halton Region will be able to meet the memorialization needs of its residents. We also strongly encourage the Region to review existing cemeteries within the Region and facilitate the full development of each existing cemetery.</p> <p>We hope that this letter helps to clarify our Client's concerns with the Rural and Agricultural Discussion Paper.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>LARKIN+ Michael T. Larkin, M.Pl., MCIP, RPP Principal</p> <p>cc Cosimo Casale, Cosmopolitan Associates Tom Barlow, Fasken Martineau Dan Tovey, Halton Region</p>	<p>Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.</p>
6.	Capstone Farm	<p>Good morning.</p> <p>I am submitting the following questions for September 17th PIC. I have included them as a word document and PDF as well. I look forward to the answers.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If the PPS 2020 now requires that prime agricultural areas be shown as a separate designation in official plans, AND if Regional Council Report No. LPS45-18 directed Regional staff to "Provide for the agricultural system as a land use designation" and for "the natural heritage system as an overlay", why is the first Discussion Question in the Rural and Agricultural Discussion Paper "Should the updated ROP designate prime agricultural areas with a separate and unique land use designation"? 2. What direction or mandate created the "Region's fundamental value in land use planning: landscape permanence.", and how does this principle inform the interpretation of policy when evaluating NHS vs. Agricultural (viability) priorities? 3. The agricultural community is seeking clarity around the prioritizing of NHS over Prime Agricultural and Rural lands and agricultural and rural uses. The <i>Precautionary Principle</i> that states that, as it relates to Natural Heritage, when a planner is faced with uncertainty around the protection of natural heritage components, they should "err on the side of being conservative". Combined with the "fundamental value" of landscape permanence, agricultural viability faces serious threats. If faced with a clear planning choice between protecting (renewable) NHS including some Key Features, and non-renewable class 1-3 farmland, which does the Region prioritize? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Province has outlined several ways in which Prime Agricultural Areas can be designated in Official Plans while protecting Natural Heritage features and areas as well and identifying rural lands. The question was asked to determine if there was support for the Provincial approach. 2. The direction for the Region's fundamental value of land use planning: landscape permanence was established by Regional Council and has long been embedded in the Regional Official Plan. Both the NHS and the agricultural system are key elements of the rural countryside and are intended to be protected. 3. Clarity is being provided in the land use designations. Regional staff recognizes the relationship between the Agricultural System and NHS in Halton. Policy Direction RAS-1 (also see NH-6) outlines proposed mapping and land designations and overlays for the rural area. RAS-1 recommends the designation of prime agricultural areas, rural lands, and key features with the remaining NHS as an overlay. This mapping approach is recommended by staff as it strikes a balance in the preservation of agriculture and protection of the environment. The introduction of broadened permissions with agriculture-related and on-farm diversified uses as identified in RAS-2 provides the opportunity for farm operations to diversify and generate additional revenue streams to assist with farm viability.


No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>4. If the Region recognizes that “the combination of Escarpment Protection and Escarpment Natural Area designations are a de facto NHS”, why does it duplicate these protections (particularly in an area like Rural Burlington which is almost entirely NEP land)?</p> <p>5. If an AIA “may be required to accompany development applications that have the potential to IMPACT agriculture”, how can they be required FOR agricultural development? Further, why would a renewable energy project (ground mounted solar facilities on prime agricultural land) NOT be subject to an AIA and why might permitted but non-agricultural uses on rural lands require an AIA if no class 1-3 farmland is being impacted?</p> <p>6. The PPS 2020 defines an “Agricultural System” as “...a group of inter-connected elements that collectively create a viable, thriving agricultural sector. It has two components: 1. An agricultural land base comprised of prime agricultural areas, including specialty crop areas, and rural lands that together create a continuous productive land base for agriculture; 2. An agri-food network which includes infrastructure, services, and assets important to the viability of the agri-food sector.” Why should consideration be given to “adding a “made in Halton” definition for “Agricultural System” through the phase 3 implementation process and if consideration should be given, why not in the discussion paper phase?</p> <p>7. Both the NHS and the Rural and Agricultural discussion papers reference the PPS direction to create a “Rural” designation for rural areas outside of the Prime Agricultural designation. Why is this not further reviewed in the discussion papers and why is this designation not included in ANY of the mapping options given. Further, how might land additional land use permissions on rural lands conflict with the concept of “landscape permanence”, or does rural/agricultural financial viability not support the Region’s view of landscape permanence?</p> <p>8. If not all Key Features should act as a constraint to Agricultural uses (ie. Earth ANSIs), why designate Key Features as mutually exclusive to Prime Agricultural lands (as in Option 2 and 3 Mapping Concepts)?</p> <p>9. If Option 4 Mapping Concept does not meet Provincial or Regional Council direction, why has it been included here?</p> <p>10. Why is “Evidence of recent productions by aerial photos” or “aerial views indicating production” used in the analysis of Prime Agricultural candidate areas? How does current use change soil class or future need for food/crop production?</p> <p>11. Why would a micro-brewery or distillery using hops or honey or some other farm-produced resource not be a permitted ‘agriculture-related use’ when a winery is? Are these not also “industrial operations that process farm commodities from the area”, like “food and beverage processors (e.g., wineries and cheese factories)? Same question for, for example, furniture making using farmed resources.</p> <p>12. In specifically what land use areas is the Region recommending that agriculture-related uses “be specifically permitted”? What NHS constraint layers and policies might restrict those uses?</p> <p>13. What policy guideline requires that an on-farm diversified use be permissible “provided the building used was also available for agricultural purposes at other times.”?</p>	<p>4. The Regional Official Plan attempts to provide clarity to the end-user on what permissions apply in these areas and the Region is required to incorporate the NEP into the Regional Official Plan.</p> <p>5. Agricultural Impact Assessments are used as a tool to ensure land use compatibility between agriculture and non-agricultural uses. Rural and Agricultural System Discussion Papers did ask the question as to whether the AIA policy requirements in the ROP sufficiently protect agricultural operations. The Guidelines on Permitted Uses in Ontario’s Prime Agricultural Areas provides some guidance (Section 4) on renewable energy projects which will be considered in policy development as outlined in RAS-4. Other comments have been received on this topic area for further consideration. The Agricultural System is made of prime agricultural lands as well as rural lands and ensuring compatibility with farm operations in both mutually exclusive designations is important.</p> <p>6. Part of the Regional Official Plan Review includes updating definitions. As mentioned in the Rural and Agricultural System Discussion Paper, the “agricultural system” is not defined in the current Regional Official Plan. Agriculture in municipalities close to large urban centres can be very different than agriculture in more remote parts of the province. The Discussion Paper merely suggests that consideration be given to a “made in Halton’ definition and this will be further examined in Phase 3 of the ROPR. There will be further opportunities to consult on this matter.</p> <p>7. Please see the response to comment 3 above. Areas outside of Prime Agricultural Areas were already determined through a Regional LEAR conducted in 2009 and reflected in the current OP. The Province had identified additional Prime Agricultural Areas through its own LEAR as well as candidate areas that must be designated Prime Agricultural Lands or Rural Lands as described in the Rural and Agricultural System Discussion Paper. The Region developed a geo-viewer and worked with the HRFA to assist landowners in determining current and proposed mapping.</p> <p>8. Key Features must be identified in the Regional Official Plan as required By Provincial Policy. However, it is recognized in our current Official Plan that the Agricultural System includes those parts of the Natural Heritage System outside the Key Features or where the only Key Feature is a significant earth science area of nature and scientific interest.</p> <p>9. Mapping Option 4 is the existing policy and mapping approach used by the Region as a result of Sustainable Halton (ROPA 38). During the consultation with our Regional Advisory Committees, it was requested that it be added as a mapping option. Mapping Option 4 was not chosen as the preferred direction. Please see the response</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>14. If the mandate of the Halton Agricultural Advisory Committee is to advise and assist the Region's work to maintain a permanently secure, economically viable agriculture industry and preserve the character and landscape of Halton's rural areas, and the Committee's work includes reviews and recommendations on many aspects of agriculture and agricultural policy in Halton, why have they not reviewed these discussion papers? If they have reviewed them, where can the public access the Committee's feedback?</p> <p>15. Given the complexity of planning policy, the onerous multi-tier Regional/Municipal governance system, a global pandemic and the lessons learned from the disaster that was ROPA 38, why ONLY 75 days for a consultation process between draft and final ROPA? How will this timeline properly include notice to and consultation with landowners?</p> <p>16. Why did the Region's review not address the unintended, negative consequences of ever-increasing NHS protections/constraints in the Rural Area? Does the Region recognize that a landowner's stewardship incentive might be curtailed by fear of future NHS protections and if so, how will ROPA policies address this?</p> <p>17. Why doesn't either discussion paper address Environmental Impact Assessment requirements and guidelines, particularly for agricultural uses? Why are the updated EIA guidelines not provided in this review?</p> <p>18. Why is the Official Plan Review Draft Mapping (https://webgeo2.halton.ca/Html5ViewerROPR/Index.html?viewer=PLN_OfficialPlanReviewViewer_Halton_OfficialPlanReviewViewer_HTML5) not referenced anywhere in the discussion papers?</p> <p>19. Are the candidate areas still to be reviewed?</p> <p>20. Where can the public access the (pre-2009?) LEAR study referenced?</p> <p>Regards, Vanessa Warren, BSc. Capstone Farm "For Educated Equestrians In Any Tack" 5556 Bell School Line Burlington, ON L7M 0P1</p>	<p>to comment 3 above Mapping is reflected in RAS-1.</p> <p>10. Aerial views simply provide additional information that can be used along with other pertinent sources of information in evaluation.</p> <p>11. The sourcing of materials helps determine whether a micro brewery or distillery would be considered an agriculture-related use or an on-farm diversified use. If the majority of the ingredients are local, then it would be an agriculture-related use. In the case of micro-breweries, if the only local ingredient is "hops" which makes up a small component of the final product, then it would be an on-farm diversified use. However, if for example the barley used was locally grown, then a case could be made that it is an agriculture-related use. It is anticipated that further direction on this will be provided in the policy development phase.</p> <p>12. Agriculture-related uses are proposed to be permitted within Prime Agricultural Areas and Rural Lands designations. Policy Direction RAS-2 provides additional information on the recommended approach to update the policies of the Regional Official Plan to broaden permissions and allow for more opportunities for agriculture-related uses and on-farm diversified uses as outlined in Provincial policies, plans, and guidelines RAS-2 should primarily follow the direction of the Provincial Policy Statement, 2020, Growth Plan, Greenbelt Plan, and the Guidelines on Permitted Uses in Ontario's Prime Agricultural Areas for clear and consistent application of the policies.</p> <p>13. OMAFRA's Guidelines on Permitted Uses in Ontario's Prime Agricultural Areas provides guidance on permissions for on-farm diversified uses. On-farm diversified uses will be further explored through RAS-2.</p> <p>14. The Halton Agricultural Advisory Committee's comments on the ROPR Discussion Papers can be found in the Advisory Committee and HRFA Submission Response Chart.</p> <p>15. The 75 day consultation period was determined based on requirements found in the Planning Act. The Regional Official Plan Review work has been separated from ROPA 48 implementing components of the Regional Urban Structure to establish a hierarchy of strategic growth areas in the Regional Official Plan. This was approved in Nov 2021. ROPA 49. The Preferred Growth Concept and Policy Directions will form part of the foundation of a new Regional Official Plan Amendment which will be subject to public consultation. The Rural and Agricultural System, Climate Change, and Natural Heritage theme work will be addressed in a future Draft Regional Official Plan Amendment. The consultation will continue throughout Phase 3 work in 2022 and 2023.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
			<p>16. An Agricultural Working Group (AWG) was created (of which you are a part) to identify issues, challenges, and opportunities facing the agricultural community. Through this process, a series of approaches that support agriculture while protecting the natural environment have been identified for further exploration during Phase 3 of the ROPR. These approaches were provided to HAAC and NHAC for comment.</p> <p>17. EIA guidelines were updated in 2020 and can be found on the Region's website. EIA Guideline, 2020.</p> <p>18. The ROPR Mapping Viewer is referenced on the ROPR webpage where the discussion papers are also available for download. The geoviewer was developed and made available on the Regional website following the release of the Discussion Papers.</p> <p>19. The candidate areas have been reviewed and mapping is reflected in the proposed draft mapping available on the Geo-viewer. The Region worked with the HRFA to provide this tool to landowners so they could identify proposed designations on their property. Virtual landowner consultation sessions were set up with anyone wishing to speak with Regional staff about their property. Additional information is provided in the Consultation Summary document.</p> <p>20. The 2009 LEAR study is available by searching Phase 3 Sustainable Halton Report 3.03. The final version of the LEAR study was approved unanimously by HAAC before obtaining Regional Council approval.</p>
7.	Jennifer Lawrence & Associates on behalf of Halton Nine Grain Farm Ltd	<p>September 18, 2020 Mr. Curt Benson Director, Planning Services and Chief Planning Official Region of Halton 1151 Bronte Road Oakville, ON L6M 3L1 Dear Mr. Benson: Re: Region of Halton Official Plan Review (ROPR) Natural Heritage Discussion Paper 9660 Ninth Line Part Lot 9, Concession IX (Esquesing) Town of Halton Hills</p> <p>I have been retained by Halton Nine Grain Farm Ltd to provide professional planning advice related to the proposed natural heritage system outlined within the Natural Heritage Discussion Paper (June 2020) as it pertains to 9660 Ninth Line in the Town of Halton Hills (Subject Lands) .</p>	<p>Regional staff has met with the landowner and consulted to discuss the recommendations as it relates to the removal of certain NHS components (Linkages) through the subject lands.</p> <p>Regional staff conducted a site visit in May 2021 and will continue to engage with the landowner on the draft proposed Natural Heritage System mapping through the Stage 3 Phase 3 ROPA.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>The Subject Lands are located on the west side of Ninth Line, south of 10 Sideroad as shown on Attachment 1. With the exception of a cell tower, associated laneway and residence, the vast majority of the Subject Lands are actively farmed by the owner.</p> <p>Conservation Halton (CH) online mapping identifies the very upper limit of a headwater tributary of Sixteen Mile Creek originating at the southern limit of the Subject Lands (Attachment 1). ROPA 38 RNHS mapping is consistent with CH's regulatory extent in this regard and stops at this northernmost limit of the headwater tributary. The proposed RNHS limits provided in Figure 9 of the Natural Heritage Discussion Paper and as shown on the Region's ROPR Online Viewer, has been expanded northerly, through the Subject Lands, along what is shown as a Hydrologic Connection, sometimes referred to as a Headwater Drainage Feature, on CH's online mapping (Attachment 1). Based on the ROPR online viewer, this drainage feature is being shown as an NHS Component, rather than as an NHS Key Feature, which would mean it is intended to fulfill either a Linkage, Buffer or Enhancement Area function. Given that the RNHS along the drainage feature continues northerly to two wetland/woodland features on the property at 14256 No. 10 Sideroad, it is assumed that it is being shown as a Linkage however, confirmation of this would be appreciated.</p> <p>Based on the assumption that it is intended to be a Linkage, Section 255 of the Region of Halton Official Plan defines Linkages as follows:</p> <p><i>means an area intended to provide connectivity supporting a range of community and ecosystem processes enabling plants and animals to move between Key Features over multiple generations. Linkages are preferably associated with the presence of existing natural areas and functions and they are to be established where they will provide an important contribution to the long term sustainability of the Regional Natural Heritage System. They are not meant to interfere with normal farm practice. The extent and location of the linkages can be assessed in the context of both the scale of the proposed development or site alteration, and the ecological functions they contribute to the Regional Natural Heritage System.</i> (emphasis added)</p> <p>As is visible on air photos, this drainage feature is cropped through annually and does not have any associated riparian vegetation through the Subject Lands or through the neighbouring lands to the north. A review of Google Earth images dating back to 2004 confirms that this feature is either barely visible or not at all visible on air photos over the past two decades. Over that time period, the lands have been actively farmed and no riparian vegetation is visible.</p> <p>The distance between the upper limit of the regulated watercourse (at the very southern limit of the Subject Lands) and the woodland to the north is approximately 900m. Although the Subject Lands are not within the Growth Plan NHS, it is interesting to note that Growth Plan Policy 4.2.2.3(a)(ii) requires demonstration that the connectivity between key natural heritage features and key hydrologic features located within 240m of each other will be maintained and, where possible, enhanced for the movement of native plants and animals across the landscape. The provision of a 900m linkage along an unvegetated swale seems excessive and not in-keeping with Provincial practice in terms of proximity of features for connection through an NHS.</p> <p>Of note, there is a much more substantial watercourse immediately to the west of the Subject Lands, at 9655 8th Line (Attachment 1) which is in close proximity to one of the two wetland/woodland features on the property to the north (within 80m of the watercourse, within 50m of the flood plain associated with the watercourse), it is respectfully recommended that it is not necessary to show a linkage along what is essentially a drainage swale through a farmer's field in order to force a linkage between the upper limit of CH's regulated watercourse on the Subject Lands and the wetland/woodland feature 900 m to the north. It</p>	<p>Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.</p>



No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>is respectfully recommended that there is a much more logical and defensible linkage connection between the more substantial watercourse to the west and the woodland/wetland on the property to the north.</p> <p>Recommendation Based on a review of the ROPR RNHS mapping, ROPA 38 RNHS mapping and CH's approximate regulation limit mapping, it is respectfully recommended that the Region remove the NHS Component (Linkage) through the Subject Lands. A 900m linkage along this undefined and difficult to discern drainage feature, with no associated riparian vegetation, appears to be out of place and not in-keeping with the Region's stated definition for Linkages. The length of the linkage is also not in-keeping with Provincial direction which suggests that features within 240m of one another should be considered for connectivity. It is respectfully recommended that, if the intention is to provide a connection between the wetland/woodland on the property to the north and a water feature, it would be more appropriate to provide that connection from the wetland/woodland to the watercourse immediately to the west on 14256 10 Sideroad, rather than along this undefined drainage feature on 9660 Ninth Line.</p> <p>Prior to identifying any new components of the RNHS within the Official Plan mapping, it is recommended that Regional staff, or their representative, attend on-site to view the feature(s) in the field.</p> <p>I trust the above is of assistance. If you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.</p> <p>Yours truly,</p> <p>Jennifer Lawrence, MCIP, RPP President Encls. (1)</p> <p>Cc: Frank Varga, by Halton Nine Grain Farm Ltd., OFA 4188215 FBR, email Mr. Bert Arnold, Arnold Foster LLP, email</p>	<p>Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.</p>

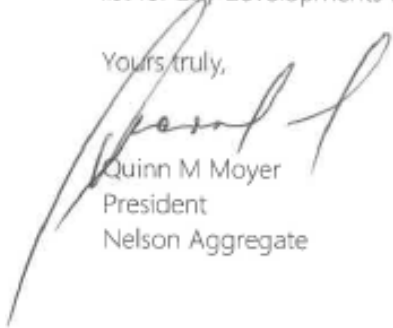
No.	Source	Submission	Response																
		<p style="text-align: center;">9660 Ninth Line Halton Hills Attachment 1</p>  <p>9/12/2020, 3:16:36 PM</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Parcels</td> <td>Shoreline Hazard</td> <td>Meander Belt Hazard</td> <td>Waterflow</td> </tr> <tr> <td>100 year Flood Hazard</td> <td>Headwater Floodplains</td> <td>Stable Top of Bank Hazard</td> <td>Regulated</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dynamic Beach Hazard</td> <td>Floodplains Hazard</td> <td>Wetlands Hazard</td> <td>Hydrologic Connection</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Approximate Regulation Limit</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: right;">0 0.05 0.1 0.2 mi 0 0.1 0.2 0.4 km</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community, CH GIS, Created by Conservation Halton GIS, Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community, Conservation Halton, 2020</p>	Parcels	Shoreline Hazard	Meander Belt Hazard	Waterflow	100 year Flood Hazard	Headwater Floodplains	Stable Top of Bank Hazard	Regulated	Dynamic Beach Hazard	Floodplains Hazard	Wetlands Hazard	Hydrologic Connection				Approximate Regulation Limit	<p>Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.</p>
Parcels	Shoreline Hazard	Meander Belt Hazard	Waterflow																
100 year Flood Hazard	Headwater Floodplains	Stable Top of Bank Hazard	Regulated																
Dynamic Beach Hazard	Floodplains Hazard	Wetlands Hazard	Hydrologic Connection																
			Approximate Regulation Limit																
8.	Jennifer Lawrence & Associates on behalf of Neatt Communities	<p>September 15, 2020 Mr. Curt Benson Director, Planning Services and Chief Planning Official Region of Halton 1151 Bronte Road Oakville, ON L6M 3L1 Dear Mr. Benson:</p> <p>Re: Region of Halton Official Plan Review (ROPR) Natural Heritage Discussion Paper 150 Steeles Avenue</p> <p>Town of Milton I have been retained by Neatt Communities to provide professional planning advice related to the proposed natural heritage system outlined within the Natural Heritage Discussion Paper (June 2020) as it pertains to 150 Steeles Avenue in the Town of Milton (Subject Lands).</p> <p>The Subject Lands are located on the south side of Steeles Avenue, west of Martin Street as shown on Attachment 1. The Sixteen Mile Creek and its associated valley feature are adjacent to the Subject</p>	<p>Regional staff further reviewed the request made to have the draft proposed RNHS mapping updated to match the NHS shown on Schedules C.2.B and K in OPA 31.</p> <p>The version of Appendix C.2.B included in Attachment 4 of your letter submitted September 15, 2020, is not the version that was ultimately approved by the Region. The version in the submission is dated May 2018 while the version in the Region's decision is dated August 2018 (see the final Notice of Decision attached). The Region had issued a Draft Decision on OPA 31 for the Town of Milton's Council to consider through the Council Report PD-029-18 (see report). Appendix I of that report contains the Region's letter on the Draft Decision dated May 25, 2018. On page 2 of this letter, the Region flagged that there were still outstanding considerations related to the boundaries of the RNHS that needed to be resolved in advance of the Final Decision. In the time in between the Draft and Final decisions, the work related to the boundaries of the RNHS was undertaken and the results are reflected in the schedules as approved dated August 2018 included in the Final Decision. Therefore, the draft proposed RNHS mapping does match the NHS shown on Schedules C.2.B and K (dated August 2018) in</p>																

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>Lands' southwestern property line. Beyond the valleylands, the southern tableland portions of the property contain treed areas. ROPA 38 mapping of the NHS, as provided on the Region's ROPR Online Viewer, remains unchanged as part of the ROPR NHS Discussion Paper mapping. The mapping, identifying Key Features, incorporates the Sixteen Mile Creek valley as well as the treed areas. Although the online viewer does not allow for confirmation, it is assumed that a 30m buffer has been applied to the outer limit of the treed areas on the Subject Lands in order to delineate the NHS.</p> <p>It is unclear why the NHS mapping includes areas attributed to the Growth Plan NHS (Attachment 2), given that the Growth Plan NHS is only intended to apply outside of the Urban Area boundaries. Specifically, Growth Plan Policy 4.2.2.1 states:</p> <p><i>A Natural Heritage System for the Growth Plan has been mapped by the Province to support a comprehensive, integrated, and long-term approach to planning for the protection of the region's natural heritage and biodiversity. The Natural Heritage System for the Growth Plan excludes lands within settlement area boundaries that were approved and in effect as of July 1, 2017.</i> (emphasis added)</p> <p>It is respectfully recommended that the Region take this opportunity to advise the Province that they have erroneously identified Growth Plan NHS within settlement area boundaries that were approved and in effect as of July 1, 2017 and request that the Growth Plan NHS limits be removed from within the Settlement Area boundary. Further, we recommend that the Region advise the Province that they intend to remove the Growth Plan NHS limits on the Subject Lands as part of the ROPR NHS limit refinement exercise. Growth Plan Policy 5.2.2.3 provides for this opportunity:</p> <p><i>The Province may review and update provincially significant employment zones, the agricultural land base mapping or the Natural Heritage System for the Growth Plan in response to a municipal request.</i></p> <p>In addition to the above, the Region approved Town of Milton OPA 31 on November 22, 2018. Unfortunately, OPA 31 contains conflicting NHS limit mapping within various schedules. For example, the NHS on Schedule C.2.A (Attachment 3) appears to closely align with the Region's RNHS limits on the online viewer (i.e., incorporates Sixteen Mile Creek valley plus treed areas on the tableland) however, the NHS on Schedule C.2.B (Attachment 4) shows a smaller NHS area that appears to only include the Sixteen Mile Creek valley and does not include the tableland treed areas. The NHS limits on Schedule C.2.B are carried through onto Schedule K (Intensification Areas) (Attachment 5) which would suggest that the tablelands, outside of the Sixteen Mile Creek valley and associated top of bank setback, are available for future development. Policy C.2.5.12 (Special Study Area) was also included in OPA 31 and reads as follows:</p> <p><i>The "Special Study Area" designation for the area bound by Steeles Avenue, Martin Street, the CP Rail line and the CN Rail line on Schedule C.2.B" is an overlay designation. The lands in this Special Study Area, with the exception of the Natural Heritage Area and the Residential Area along Martin Street, have been identified as an Intensification Area on Schedule K to this Plan. Development applications in this area shall be considered premature until the required study is completed. Further study is required with respect to land use, transportation, servicing and environmental issues prior to redevelopment. Consideration of the introduction of any non-employment uses shall require the completion of a municipal comprehensive review and amendment to this Plan.</i></p> <p>Policy C.2.5.12 specifically refers to Schedule K and indicates that, with the exception of the Natural Heritage Area and Residential Area along Main Street as shown on Schedule K, the lands have been identified as an Intensification Area. As noted above, the NHS limits on Schedule K, and Schedule C.2.B,</p>	<p>OPA 31. We will notify the Milton Planning staff of the discrepancy of the version date for Schedules C.2.B and K.</p> <p>Due to the file size of these decisions, files can be downloaded through a separate e-mail with a link to Halton's Dropbox website (including password).</p> <p>It is important to note Section 116.1 of the Regional Official Plan may allow for the boundaries of the Regional Natural Heritage System to be refined, with addition, deletions, and/or boundary adjustments, through Subwatershed Study undertaken for an Area-Specific Plan, Environmental Impact Assessment or similar studies based on terms of reference and accepted by the Region.</p> <p>Furthermore, to reiterate from our previous conversation, a submission has been made to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to request that the removal of the Growth Plan NHS mapping within Halton Region's settlement areas as it does not apply with these areas as per Policy 4.2.2.2.4 of the Growth Plan.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>are smaller than those identified by the Region within the NHS Discussion Paper. Given that OPA 31 was recently approved by the Region, we recommend that the RNHS mapping be updated to reflect the revised NHS limits as shown on Schedules C.2.B and K. It is acknowledged that Policy C.2.5.12 requires the completion of further studies, including environmental issues however, it is important to establish the baseline limits of the NHS through the ROPR.</p> <p>Recommendation Based on a review of the ROPR RNHS mapping, Growth Plan NHS limit mapping and OPA 31, it is respectfully recommended that the Region remove the Growth Plan NHS from the lands, given that they are within the settlement area boundary and, as such, the Growth Plan NHS limits are not applicable. Further, we recommend that the Region refine the RNHS limits to align with the NHS limits as shown on Schedules C.2.B and K within OPA 31.</p> <p>I trust the above is of assistance. If you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.</p> <p>Yours truly,</p> <p>Jennifer Lawrence, MCIP, RPP President</p> <p>cc: Mr. Colin Rauscher, Mr. Mike Vernooy, Neatt Communities Ms. Barbara Koopmans, Commissioner, Planning and Development, Town of Milton Ms. Jill Hogan, Director, Planning Policy and Urban Design, Town of Milton</p>	<p>Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.</p>
9.	Coronation Park Residents Association	<p>September 21, 2020 Mr. Curt Benson Director of Planning Services and Chief Planning Official Region of Halton 1151 Bronte Road Oakville, ON L6M 3L1 Dear Mr. Benson,</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the current review of Halton Region's Official Plan. Coronation Park Residents Association is located in Southwest Oakville within an area comprising older, established neighbourhoods. Our boundaries are as follows: Rebecca Street in the North, Lake Ontario in the South, Third Line in the West and Fourth Line in the East. We support Halton Region's continued commitment to preserve and protect Oakville's stable residential neighbourhoods. We have reviewed the materials provided in the review and wish to state our agreement with, and support for, the responses formulated by Town of Oakville planning staff. In the past several years, neighbourhoods in south Oakville have experienced increasing issues that are the direct result of climate change, aging infrastructure and the propensity for new development/redevelopment to create increased impervious surfaces, reduced green space, reduced tree canopy, heat island effects and others. While we recognize the need for official plans at all levels to comply with provincial requirements, we believe the review of Halton's official plan represents an opportunity to make serious efforts to improve our environment and livability. As stated above, we support the Town of Oakville responses to the discussion papers presented. In light of our ongoing concerns related to our local environment and natural heritage, the following thoughts mirror or expand on those responses:</p>	<p>Regional Council has formally declared a climate emergency and staff have been developing policy directions that are guided by changes to Provincial policy and plans and consultation input to ensure the updated ROP includes climate change mitigation and adaption policies to foster resilience in Halton.</p> <p>Regional staff notes that comments on the Regional Urban Structure Discussion Paper/Integrated Growth Management Strategy (IGMS) have been addressed in material related to Regional Official Plan Amendment No. 48 (ROPA 48), or will be addressed through the Preferred Growth Concept materials, including the Submissions Charts. More details are also available in the IGMS Policy Directions. Additionally, a Climate Change lens has been applied to the IGMS policy directions to highlight how they support climate change adaption, mitigation, and resiliency through planning for growth.</p> <p>Policy Direction RAS-1 (also see NH-6) outlines proposed mapping and land designations and overlays for the rural area. RAS-1 recommends the designation of prime agricultural areas, rural lands, and key features with the remaining NHS as an overlay. This mapping approach is recommended by staff as it strikes a balance in the preservation of agriculture and protection of the environment.</p> <p>Updates to the ROP will include climate change specific goals, objectives, and policies, in accordance with Policy Direction CC-1, that builds on the current ROPA 38 policy framework. Policy Direction CC-2</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • direct growth of both residential and employment uses, in appropriate proportions, to areas with higher order transit networks and/or the capability to provide such support. • direct municipalities to undertake policies to increase open space and park areas within, and adjacent to, development areas. • minimize and restrict development over prime agricultural land and/or natural heritage areas. Sadly, Oakville has no agricultural land. We must therefore protect and enhance the remaining land within Halton to help us preserve our community's ability to feed our population. • ensure the planning and implementation of ongoing Urban Structure policies continually be reviewed in order to ensure they reflect adaptation, mitigation and resiliency in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. the context of climate change ii. rapidly developing AI technology that will impact changes in transportation modes, demand, and modal splits iii. changing nature of office employment resulting from the current pandemic and ongoing technological advances iv. our urban structure's ability to address housing need and affordability v. the methods with which intensification can be accommodated while still protecting and preserving our livability. • establish a stand-alone Climate Change set of policies, statements and objectives to advance the actions that must be taken to achieve objectives. Support the development of enhanced strategies to address storm and waste water. Prescribe that development include approaches such as green construction, green infrastructure (bioswales, permeable pavement, green roofs, rain gardens/ green alleys/green parking, etc.) uses of renewable energy, tree canopy preservation and complete streets designs. We would also hope that construction and development under the direct control of Halton Region would also reflect the above measures. • develop a stand-alone strategy to cover both natural heritage and source water protection. <p>In closing, we offer our congratulations to Halton Region and its staff for the manner in which this review has been undertaken. It has been well organized, well publicized and given a sufficient time frame within which interested residents can participate and respond.</p> <p>Sincerely, Pamela Knight President Don Cox Vice President cc. Kirk Biggar, Senior Planner, Town of Oakville Regional Councillor C. Duddeck</p>	<p>supports a culture of conservation and recommends updating existing ROP policies, including policies on water, to emphasize the relationship to climate change. Policy Direction CC-3 recommends the incorporation of low-impact development and green infrastructure into stormwater management planning and Policy Direction CC-4 recommends requirements for the Region and the Local Municipalities to assess infrastructure risk and vulnerabilities, and identify actions and investments to address climate change where possible. Comments regarding green constructions are reflected in Policy Direction CC-5 which encourages local municipalities to introduce and/or enhance their green development standards for new developments. Support for renewable energy, alternative energy, and district energy systems is guided by Policy Direction CC-6 which also recommends Community Energy Plans as a requirement of the area-specific planning process.</p> <p>Additionally, Policy Direction NH-10 recommends a new policy in the Regional Official Plan that requires the Region to develop a Halton Region Natural Heritage Strategy. The purpose of the strategy would be to identify a framework for initiatives such as monitoring, stewardship/restoration, and community awareness that need to be undertaken to achieve a sustainable, natural environment. As the Strategy is developed in consultation with the local agencies, stakeholders, and the public, it may be identified that a woodland strategy should be created under this 'umbrella' to address tree canopy loss within settlement areas.</p> <p>Regional staff acknowledge comments about AI technology impacts and transportation and will consider and explore these issues through the ongoing ROPR.</p>

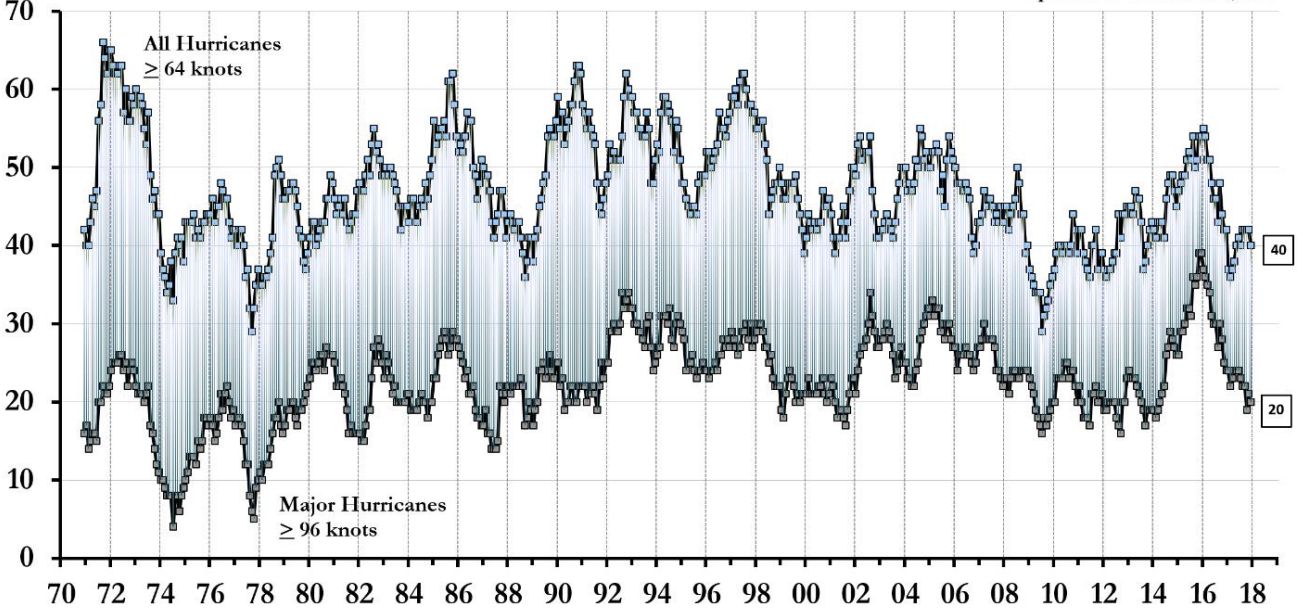
No.	Source	Submission	Response
10.	Nelson Aggregates	 <p>September 24, 2020</p> <p>Ms. Heather Watt Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Manager, Community Planning & Development College Park 13th Floor, 777 Bay St Toronto, ON M7A 2J3</p> <p>Ms. Lorelea Tulloch Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Senior Planner, Community Planning & Development</p> <p>College Park 13th Floor, 777 Bay St Toronto, ON M7A 2J3</p> <p>Mr. Curt Benson Region of Halton, Planning Services Director, Planning Services and CPO 1151 Bronte Road Oakville, ON, L6M 3L1</p> <p>Mr. Dan Tovey Region of Halton, Planning Services Manager, Policy Planning 1151 Bronte Road Oakville, ON, L6M 3L1</p> <p>Dear Sir/Madam,</p> <p>RE: Nelson Aggregate Co. - Comments on the Region of Halton Official Plan Review and Associated Discussion Papers</p> <hr/> <p>Nelson Aggregate Co. would like to thank the Region for the opportunity to provide comments on the following discussion papers which are to serve as a basis of an update to the Region of Halton Official Plan as part of the Growth Plan conformity exercise, as well as to ensure conformity/consistency with other provincial plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural Heritage Discussion Paper (June, 2020); • Climate Change Discussion Paper (June, 2020); and • Rural and Agricultural System Discussion Paper (June, 2020). <p>Based on Nelson's review, we offer the following comments.</p> <p>With regard to the Natural Heritage Discussion Paper, three options are provided for the updating of the Regional approach to Natural Heritage:</p> <p>Option i. Provide Separate policies and mapping for each of the Regional Natural Heritage System (RNHS), the Natural Heritage System for the Growth Plan (GPNHS), and the Greenbelt Natural Heritage System (GBHNS);</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <small>HEAD OFFICE</small> <small>P.O. Box 1070, Burlington, Ontario, L7R 4L8</small> <small>Telephone: 905-335-5250 1-800-263-6320 Fax: 905-332-4484</small> </p> 	<p>Natural Heritage</p> <p>In terms of comments on the Natural Heritage Discussion Paper, staff acknowledges Nelson Aggregates' concerns as it relates to the three options proposed for updating the Regional approach to Natural Heritage.</p> <p>Policy Directions NH-2 recommends incorporating and updating policies in the Regional Official Plan that implement updated policies on natural heritage in the Greenbelt Plan and the Niagara Escarpment Plan. This policy is in keeping with the updated Provincial Plans resulting in updated policies for the Greenbelt Plan and updated boundaries for the Niagara Escarpment Protection Area and Natural Area designations. Policy Direction NH-3, recommends harmonizing the mapping and policies for the Greenbelt Natural Heritage Systems and the Growth Plan Natural Heritage System to create a Provincial Natural heritage System. It is important to note that the Regional Natural Heritage System will remain separate and distinct and is not subject to these plans (but will receive direction through the Provincial Policy Statement, 2020). This policy direction aligns with the feedback received from consultation on the Natural Heritage Discussion Paper that the preferred mapping approach for the Growth Plan Natural Heritage System was to harmonize it with the Greenbelt Plan Natural Heritage System to create a Provincial Natural Heritage System. This approach would simplify policies, create a more streamlined approach and still allow for flexibility to occur for unique policy approaches in the Regional Natural Heritage System.</p> <p>Rural and Agriculture System</p> <p>In terms of the Rural and Agriculture System, Policy Direction RAS-1 (also see NH-6) outlines proposed mapping and land designations and overlays for the rural area. RAS-1 recommends the designation of prime agricultural areas, rural lands, and key features with the remaining NHS as an overlay. This mapping approach is recommended by staff as it strikes a balance in the preservation of agriculture and protection of the environment. As per Planning Act requirements, the Region will ensure the Regional Official Plan is consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement, 2020, inclusive of policies pertaining to aggregate extraction in prime agricultural areas.</p> <p>Climate Change:</p> <p>The Regional Official Plan will ensure it is consistent with provincial policy provision that as much of the mineral aggregate resources shall be made available as close to markets as realistically possible. The Regional Official Plan Review acknowledges the associated benefits with this policy relating to air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, and fossil fuel consumption.</p>

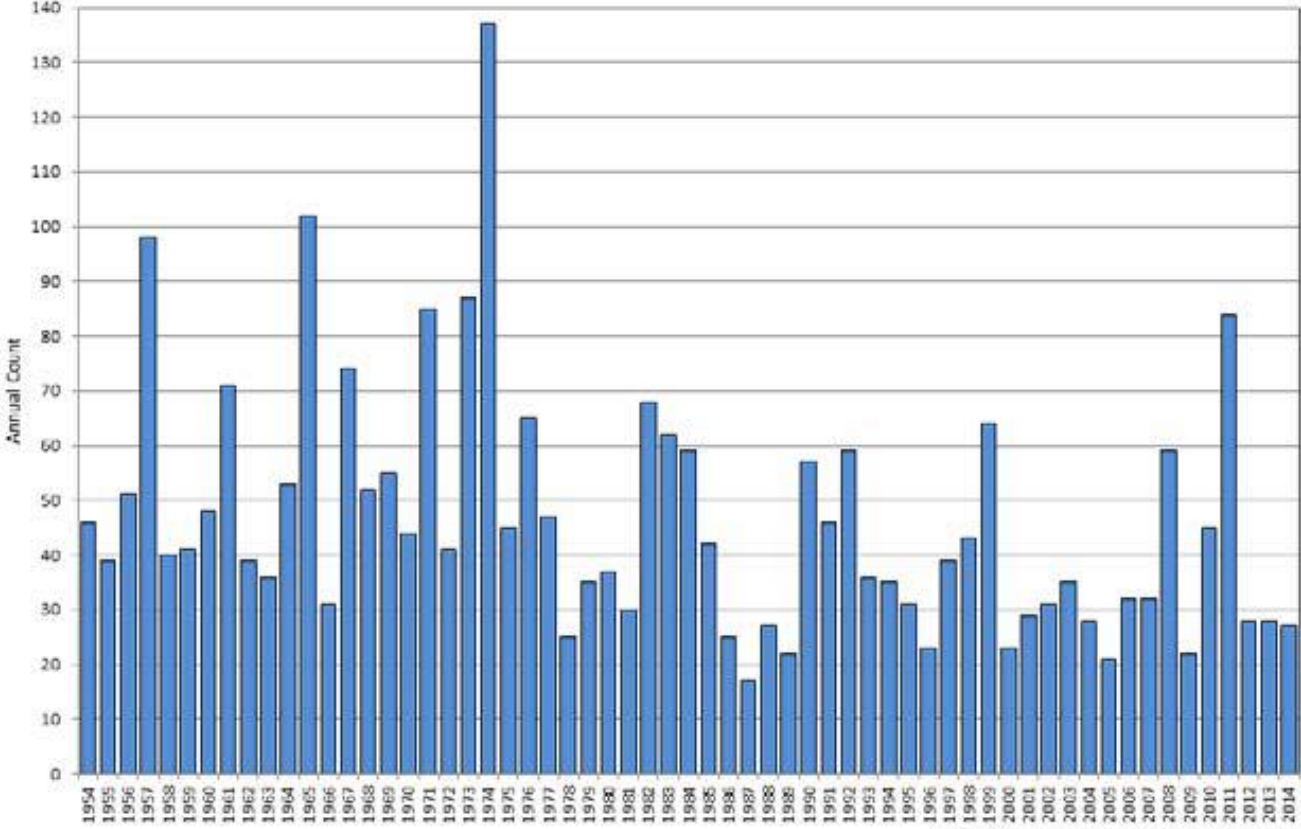
No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>Option ii. Harmonize the GPNHS and GBNHS, applying the most restrictive policies of the two plans in overlapping areas and perhaps offering opportunity for mutual exclusivity in policy language elsewhere; or</p> <p>Option iii. Create an updated RNHS mapping which incorporates the GPNHS and GBNHS, and then applying the most restrictive policies to the combined RNHS layer.</p> <p>Of the three options, options ii and iii are not consistent with the policy direction provided by the Province. Merging various levels of provincial and/or municipal NH mapping then applying the most restrictive policies associated with each of the respective plans is not consistent with the intent behind the provincial plans. For example, in the Greenbelt and Niagara Escarpment Plan Areas aggregate extraction is permitted in certain environmental features as well as in their associated vegetated protection zones.</p> <p>With regard to the Region's Rural and Agricultural System Discussion Paper, the Region indicated they are considering various approaches to implement prime agricultural area policy. As part of this update, Nelson requests that the provisions from the 2020 PPS which relate to aggregate extraction in prime agricultural areas be reflected in the Region's new Official Plan, consistent with that of the existing Region of Halton Official Plan.</p> <p>Related to the Climate Change discussion paper, the Region recognizes transportation to be one of the largest contributors to GHG emissions both in Halton and Ontario as a whole. While the region recognizes the role of community form and commuter patterns on these emission trends, there is no mention of the role of the aggregate sector. Provincial policy has for some time provided that mineral aggregate resources be made available as close to markets as possible. This is a policy underpinned by a recognition that locating aggregate operations close to market has the environmental benefit of minimizing the adverse effects associated with long-distance transportation to market, including air quality, greenhouse gas emissions and fossil fuel consumption.¹ While these benefits are not outlined to any extent within the discussion paper, Nelson requests Halton consider these benefits and provincial policy requirements when it updates its new Official Plan.</p> <p>Thank you for consideration of our comments and please ensure we are included on the notification list for any developments related to the Official Plan Review.</p> <p>Yours truly,</p>  <p>Quinn M Moyer President Nelson Aggregate</p> <p>¹ Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, (2010). The State of the Aggregate Resource in Ontario Study. Consolidated Report,</p>	<p>The current objectives of the Regional Official Plan are to reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases to improve air quality and to address the impact of climate change.</p> <p>There is an opportunity to consider and explore these comments through Policy Direction CC-1 which recommends strengthening and enhancing the Regional Official Plan's vision, goals, objectives, policies, and definitions so that the impacts of a changing climate are a key factor to consider in making decisions on growth and development and the protection of the Region's natural heritage, water resource, and agricultural systems.</p> <p>Nelson Aggregate comments will be considered in a future phase of the work program when changes to the ROP are being formulated.</p>

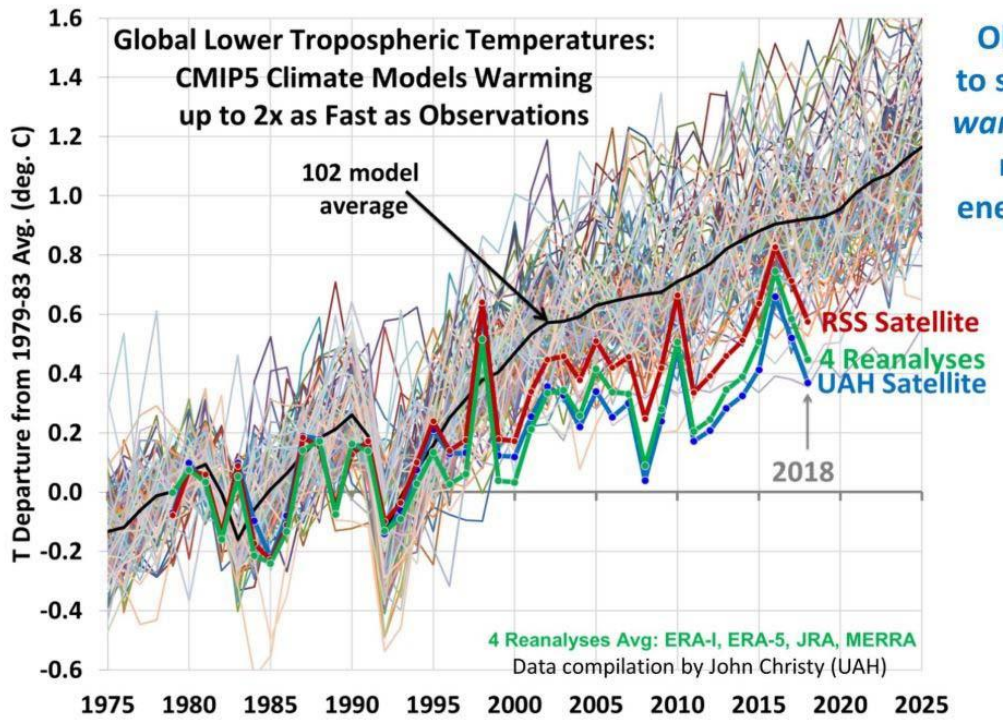
No.	Source	Submission	Response
11.	Christopher Marmont	<p>Tel (905) 845-2179 Suite 301, 1230 Marlborough Court Cell (905) 464-3439 Oakville, Ontario Canada. L6H 3K6 September 28, 2020.</p> <p>Re: Halton Region Official Plan Dear Planners,</p> <p>Please find attached partially completed Technical and General Questionnaires of the ROPR. As an enthusiastic and lifelong (recently retired) geoscientist, I believe that I am fairly well qualified to comment on questions related to climate and environment, and have not strayed too far into questions of urban planning.</p> <p>Sadly, I believe that the Government of Ontario has led Halton Region and all Municipalities on a fool's errand by forcing upon these 'lower' levels of government directives that are misguided, poorly informed, and a waste and incredible multiplication of human resources and taxpayers' money by requiring that planning issues be viewed through a climate change lens.</p> <p>Halton proudly announced that it had joined municipalities across Canada in declaring a climate emergency. Halton provided no evidence of the need to make this declaration other than that many municipalities had done the same. I find this justification disappointing. The Town of Oakville also declared a Climate Emergency in June 2019 and cited several examples of climate induced environmental change that were allegedly already affecting us, such as incursions of emerald ash borer, gypsy moth, cankerworm and ice storms. Had anyone thought to check these 'facts' at the Natural Resources Canada website, they would have found that none of these problems is attributable to climate change. Rather, the invasive species are brought to our area by human agencies such as vehicles and packaging.</p> <p>Halton's starting premise is that our climate is "warmer, wetter and wilder".</p> <p>Warmer? Yes, a bit, relative to the Little Ice Age that ended in the mid-19th. century, and which was the coldest period of the current 12,000 year old interglacial period. This additional warmth is a good thing. Historical and archeological data indicate that civilizations flourished in warmer periods, and collapsed in colder times. Flora and fauna are abundant and incredibly diverse in the tropics, but sparse and with few species in the Arctic and sub-Arctic regions. Warmth is good. Growing seasons are longer. Warming of about 1°C over the past 150 years has been beneficial to human welfare and agriculture, and the rate of change has been unremarkable. Previous abrupt climate changes have seen warming or cooling of several degrees over the course of only a few decades.</p> <p>Wetter? Not so. Environment Canada's IDF Engineering data which record the Intensity, Duration and Frequency of rainfall events reveal no trend in these precipitation events. [Refs 16,17].</p> <p>Wilder? Definitely not. While the IDF data reveal no trends in southern Ontario, or in Canadawide precipitation trends, so there is no trend in the frequency, intensity of global hurricanes. The number of strong tornadoes (> F3) has been decreasing [see graphs in Appendix II]. I also tuned in to Halton's information session on the climate component of the ROPR. In the Q & A, one questioner asked what steps Halton would take if warming were to improve the environment. The two experts, Leilani Lee-Yates and Laura Taylor were quite bemused by this thought. Inquisitive scientists such as I have been puzzled that climate change is always presented as producing only negative outcomes; this is simply implausible. I believe that the questioner mentioned that</p>	<p>Climate Change</p> <p>Regional staff understand there are differences of opinion on the impacts of climate change, but the response to climate change through the Regional Official Plan is guided by the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, the Provincial Policy Statement and the <i>Planning Act</i>. The Regional Official Plan Review will address land use-related climate change impacts through land use policies, actions, and strategies to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and to provide for adaptation to a changing climate.</p> <p>Halton Regional Council has also formally declared a climate emergency and staff have been committed to taking action against climate change during the ROPR.</p> <p>Regional planning staff has developed policy directions that align with Provincial policy and plans and were informed through feedback from members of the public, advisory committees, stakeholders, and local municipalities. More fulsome details on the recommended policy directions are available in the Policy Directions Report.</p> <p>The Region is also undertaking a broader set of actions to respond to climate change in accordance with the Region's Strategic Business Plan 2019-2022 and Council's emergency declaration.</p> <p>Halton Region has also partnered with Halton Environmental Network to advance the Region's work in addressing climate change. The partnership will result in the preparation of a community greenhouse gas emissions inventory, community greenhouse gas emission reductions targets, community engagement, and outreach in collaboration with the Halton Climate Collective.</p> <p>Natural Heritage</p> <p>It should be noted that the approximate 50.6% of Halton Region that is protected through a natural Heritage designation is an evolutionary figure, which began when the Region introduced its first feature-based approach. In 1980, the Region introduced Environmentally Significant Areas, which protected approximately 13.4% of Halton Region. The 2006 ROP built on this strong foundation by further introducing comprehensive protection of natural features, called the Greenlands System, which was required through the 1997 Provincial Policy Statement. This system covered approximately 21.9% of Halton Region. The evolution of natural heritage protection continued through Sustainable Halton in 2009 (ROPA 38), which is a systems-based approach, established through technical background review. As such, 50.6% of Halton Region is now protected through a Natural Heritage System. Within this vision, two concepts feature prominently. The first is "sustainable development", in which protecting the natural</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>the growing season would lengthen and that the world has greened over the past 30 years. Indeed, satellite observations show that the LAI – leaf area index – has increased 15 %, and this is generally attributed to the increased level of CO2 in the atmosphere. During the last ice-age CO2 levels were perilously low - close to the limit that permits plant growth. As the planet emerged from the last glaciation, CO2 levels in the atmosphere increased, much being due to its release from the warming oceans (basic physical chemistry). What is wrong with having a longer growing season? One only has to go a few hundred kilometres south to find a flourishing agricultural industry operating under conditions which computer models tell us will be dangerous for Canada in a few decades time.</p> <p>On Page 48 of Halton’s ROPR Climate Change Discussion Paper, Oakville’s Climate Change Strategy is referenced. On page 15 of that document it states that monthly, seasonal and annual projected values of temperature and precipitation are calculated from the collective of these [climate] models, citing the A2 High Emissions Scenario as the most likely model. Scenario A2 was replaced by RCP8.5 in IPCC’s 2014 Fifth Assessment Report. This is now regarded as implausible by many (most?) climate modelers as a highly unlikely set of circumstances. Consequently temperatures projected for future decades (always a dubious exercise) from Scenario A2 and RCP8.5 have no credibility. Computer models have consistently overestimated future global atmospheric temperatures by a factor of 2 to 3. McKittrick (see References 12-15 at the end of my submission) adds that the Canadian climate model is actually the most egregious in that its estimates are seven times higher than observed values.</p> <p>I append a few simple graphs from official sources that contradict the false climate narrative that is currently promulgated by our higher level politicians, educators and media.</p> <p>I hope that you will consider that actions taken by Halton Region to mitigate the purported negative effects of climate change, could backfire if and when the official projections prove to be wrong – the climate could cool or change very little in the coming decades! Even if there turns out to be very little change in our weather patterns, then Halton will have wasted money that could have been better spent on real environmental problems, local infrastructure and improvements to local social and other programs.</p> <p>Sincerely, Christopher Marmont, M.Sc., P. Geo (Retired).</p> <p>APPENDIX I CLIMATE EMERGENCY REFUTATION I provided the following explanations in a letter Mayor Burton and Oakville Councillors last year to correct Council’s assertions justifying its Declaration of Climate Emergency. The Declaration includes in its evidence of climate change the following issues:</p> <p>The ice storm of 2013. This was a weather event, entirely unrelated to climate change. It was a natural component of our climate in southern Ontario. Ice storms have happened regularly in the past and will happen regularly in the future. Environment Canada has published research that indicates that there is no reason to expect these events will happen more frequently or be more severe in the future. (Reference 1). The severity of such events will be strongly determined by the strength and rate of movement of the two juxtaposed weather systems required to generate freezing rain.</p> <p>Emerald Ash Borer The Declaration states that infestations of the Emerald Ash Borer are the result of climate change, but Natural Resources Canada makes absolutely no connection with climate change: “The emerald ash borer is characterized as an invasive species that was accidentally imported into North America, probably via wooden packaging materials, and is causing both economic and ecological impacts. The distribution of emerald ash borer in Canada will continue to increase from the natural spread of the insect</p>	<p>environment is a vital factor. The second is “landscape permanence”, which recognizes that although the Region will urbanize and change, certain landscapes must be preserved permanently. In terms of enhancements, an analysis was completed to refine the components of the NHS including Buffers, Enhancement Areas, and Linkages. This was necessary to reflect the updated boundaries of Key Features and other feature components of the NHS (watercourses, wetlands, Escarpment Protection Areas, and Escarpment Natural Areas). Enhancements and linkages were evaluated to ensure they were still valid after the updates, identify new enhancement and linkages opportunities, and that those identified were consistent with the approach taken for the existing, in-force, RNHS.</p> <p>Rural and Agriculture System:</p> <p>In terms of the Rural and Agriculture System, RAS-1 recommends the designation of prime agricultural areas, as well as rural lands and key features. Designating these areas provides added protection for agriculture to preserve lands with higher class soils. RAS-2 recommends updating the policies of the Regional Official Plan to broaden permissions and allow for more opportunities for agriculture-related uses and on-farm diversified uses as outlined in Provincial policies, plans, and guidelines. RAS-2 should primarily follow the direction of the Provincial Policy Statement, 2020, Growth Plan, Greenbelt Plan, and the Guidelines on Permitted Uses in Ontario’s Prime Agricultural Areas for clear and consistent application of the policies.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>through flight and by the human-assisted movement of infested ash commodities (firewood, nursery stock and wood products)." NRCan also states that it is native to areas that have a similar climate to Canada: "The emerald ash borer is an Asian species native to China, Japan, Taiwan, Korea, Mongolia and the Russian Far East." So, there is absolutely no need to attribute its invasion to climate change. Like the vast majority of invasive species it is here as the result of human transportation – not a result of migration to newly warmed areas.</p> <p>West Nile Virus While the Declaration does not mention West Nile Virus, the Town's Climate change primer (Table 2) does express concern that an extra 4 cm of annual rainfall might result in "Increased breeding grounds and West Nile Virus activity...and potential for increases in other water or mosquito borne diseases." Apart from this being implausible, I'm not sure how this is reconciled with efforts to preserve and restore wetlands. Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) states, "West Nile Virus was first isolated in the West Nile District of Uganda in 1937. Since then it has spread through Africa, southern Europe, the Middle East, Asia, Oceania and, most recently, North America. It propagates in temperate zones of the world..." This is particularly awkward for the Town's thesis that it has spread because of climate change (aka global warming), since Uganda is generally known to be rather warmer than Canada. NRCan goes on to say: "The West Nile Virus (WNV) quickly spread across the United States after the first reported cases in Queens, New York in 1999. The virus is believed to have entered in an infected bird or mosquito, although there is no clear evidence. The disease spread quickly through infected birds. Mosquitoes spread the disease to mammals." As is the case for the emerald ash borer, zebra mussels, purple loosestrife and other non-native species, human agency has brought in these invasive species, not creeping environmental change brought about by climate change. It would be interesting to know the proportion of non-native species currently stocked in our commercial nurseries. The obvious and positive conclusion to be drawn from these invasions is that species are quite adaptable, although in the examples cited above, their new home is commonly similar to their old home. Furthermore, if a species from Uganda can make the transition to Canada, I suspect that our local species will be able to handle whatever miniscule climate change may currently be occurring.</p> <p>Rising Lake Levels Oakville also justifies its Declaration on rising lake levels. This ought to be especially embarrassing to the Town's staff, given that its Climate Change Primer cites climate change induced low lake levels as an impact which has significant negative economic consequences.</p> <p>So, where is the climate emergency?</p> <p>APPENDIX II CLIMATE CHANGE AT A GLANCE A quick look at the following graphs should trigger your innate thirst for knowledge, and inspire you to do your own research on the multi-disciplinary subject of climate change.</p> <p>GLOBAL OBSERVATIONS Global hurricanes. http://wx.graphics/tropical/</p>	<p>Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p style="text-align: center;">Global Major Hurricane Frequency -- 12 month running sums Dr. Ryan N. Maue Updated December 31, 2017</p>  <p>Bottom line: NO TREND. Note that while there was some serious, albeit not unprecedented, hurricane activity in the Atlantic basin in 2017, global activity was unremarkable. The US National Ocean and Atmospheric Agency has the following to statement on hurricanes in the north Atlantic: <i>[...] We find that, after adjusting for such an estimated number of missing storms, there is a small nominally positive upward trend in tropical storm occurrence from 1878-2006. But statistical tests reveal that this trend is so small, relative to the variability in the series, that it is not significantly distinguishable from zero (Figure 2). Thus the historical tropical storm count record does not provide compelling evidence for a greenhouse warming induced longterm increase.</i> [My bold]. NOAA Atlantic Basin Hurricanes. https://www.gfdl.noaa.gov/historical-atlantic-hurricane-andtropical-storm-records/</p> <p>TORNADOES NOAA, decreasing trend of Tornadoes. https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/climateinformation/extreme-events/us-tornado-climatology/trends</p>	<p>Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p data-bbox="801 318 1902 358" style="text-align: center;">U.S. Annual Count of Strong to Violent Tornadoes (F3+), 1954 through 2014</p>  <p data-bbox="668 1191 1519 1221">Downloaded September 2020. (Apparently Not updated since 2014).</p> <p data-bbox="668 1251 885 1282">TEMPERATURE</p> <p data-bbox="668 1286 1973 1447">The following graph [10] demonstrates that climate models consistently overestimate temperature. The solid red line is the average of 102 climate model 'runs' and represents warming rate of 0.44°C per decade, whereas direct measurements satellites (blue, red) and from millions of weather balloons (green) yield only 0.15°C per decade. This rate of warming is not dangerous, nor will it result in dangerous conditions in the year 2100.</p>	<p data-bbox="2007 254 2790 314">Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		 <p data-bbox="677 927 1258 963">Dr. John Christy, UAH (University of Alabama).</p> <p data-bbox="677 997 1103 1028">CLIMATE COMPUTER MODELS</p> <p data-bbox="677 1032 1973 1320">Computer models are used to project current weather/climate conditions to times far in the future. Oakville’s Climate Change Strategy, Page 15, section 3.3 (shown below) uses the inappropriate High Emissions Scenario A2 to justify its case for mitigation measures. IPCC’s ‘A2 High Emissions scenario’ was superseded by (Representative Concentration Pathway) RCP 8.5 in its Assessment Report AR5, and has generally been represented as business as usual. The purpose of the RCP’s was to attempt to project (not predict) what happens when modelers input different assumptions to the models – to gain a better understanding of how changing one parameter affects the others. Many senior climate scientists have recently acknowledged that RCP 8.5 not a realistic scenario [11, 12, 13, 14].</p>	<p data-bbox="2004 252 2797 312">Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.</p> <p data-bbox="1585 252 1958 443">Observations continue to show considerably less warming than the climate models upon which energy policies are based.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
-----	--------	------------	----------

3.3 Climate Change Scenarios

For the purpose of this strategy the town uses the data represented in the A2 High Emissions and B1 Low Emissions scenarios. Each scenario is made up of over 20 different global climate models and characteristics of each scenario can be found in the table below. The A2 High Emissions scenario, is considered to be closest to observed trends.

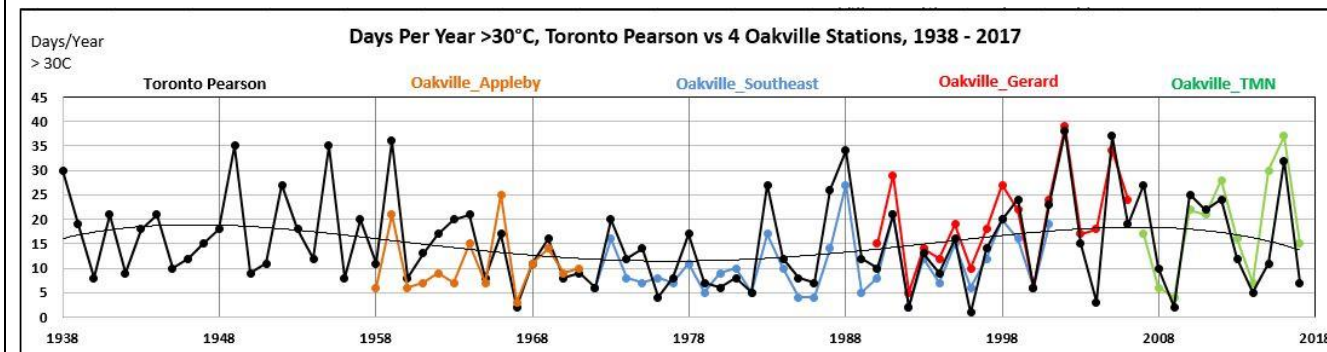
Scenario	A2 High Emissions	B1 Low Emissions
Population Growth	Low	Low
GDP Growth	Very High	High
Energy Use	High	Low
Land Use Change	Low	High
Oil/Gas Resource Availability	Medium	Low
Technological Change	Rapid	Medium
Change Favouring	Non-fossil fuel	Efficiency and dematerialization

Figure 3: Climate change scenario characteristics.

Monthly, seasonal and annual projected values of temperature and precipitation are calculated from the collective of these models.

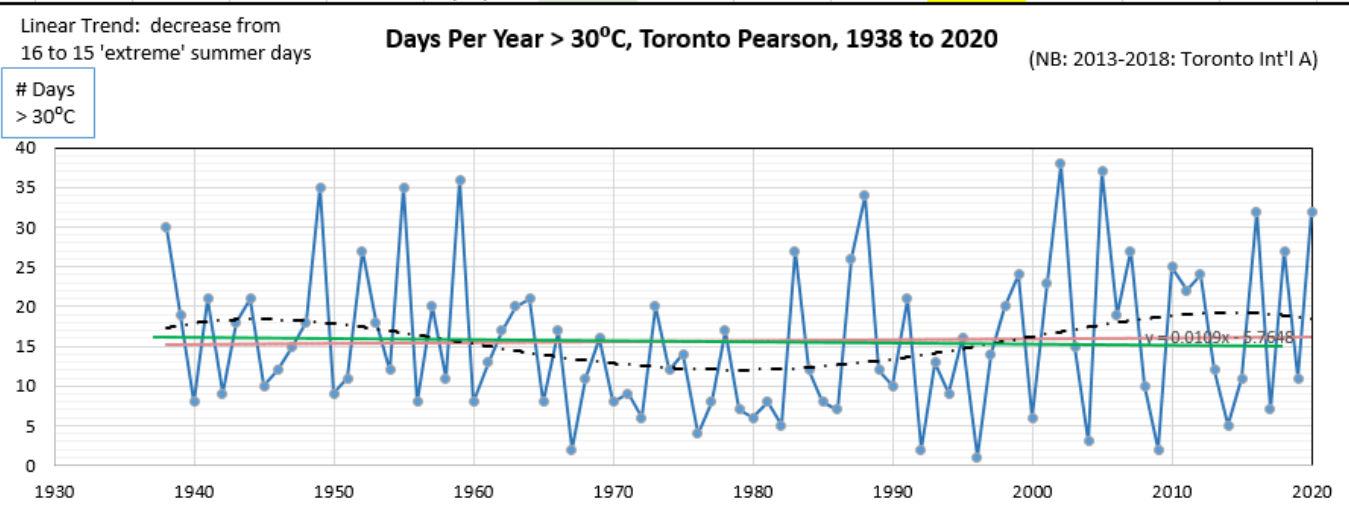
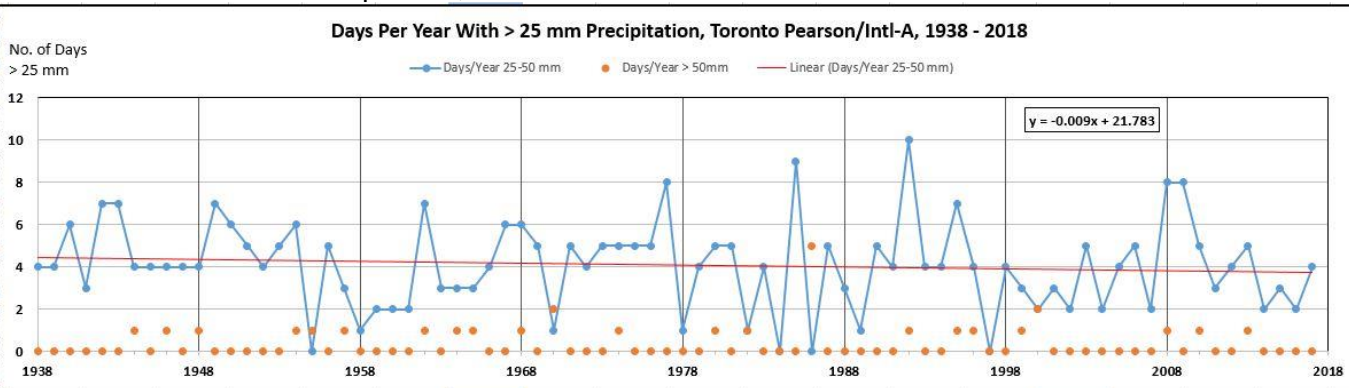
**LOCAL OBSERVATIONS
TEMPERATURE**

Environment Canada Daily Historical Weather Data, Oakville Southeast, Oakville Gerard, Oakville (Appleby), Toronto Pearson, Int'l A, Toronto Agincourt.
http://climate.weather.gc.ca/historical_data/search_historic_data_e.html



Source of Data: Environment Canada Historical Data. Note the large inter-annual variation, reasonable correlation of Oakville stations with the much longer term Pearson data, and that recent years exhibit variation that is no different from historical variation.

Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>Update to September 5, 2020:</p> <p>Linear Trend: decrease from 16 to 15 'extreme' summer days</p> <p>Days Per Year > 30°C, Toronto Pearson, 1938 to 2020 (NB: 2013-2018: Toronto Int'l A)</p>  <p>RAINFALL Toronto Pearson Total Precipitation, 1938 – 2018.</p>  <p>Source of data: Environment Canada Historic Data. Note slight decline in number of days having rainfall amounts greater than 25 mm (approx. 1 inch). Precipitation recorded at Oakville stations is consistent with Pearson: flat from 1970–2001, and slight decreases from 2002-2017.</p> <p>Temperature and Precipitation Data, Toronto Pearson International Airport:</p>	<p>Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response																																																																																																																																							
		<p>▼ Temperature</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1981 to 2010 Canadian Climate Normals station data</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Temperature</u></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Jan</th> <th>Feb</th> <th>Mar</th> <th>Apr</th> <th>May</th> <th>Jun</th> <th>Jul</th> <th>Aug</th> <th>Sep</th> <th>Oct</th> <th>Nov</th> <th>Dec</th> <th>Year</th> <th>Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Daily Average (°C)</td> <td>-5.5</td> <td>-4.5</td> <td>0.1</td> <td>7.1</td> <td>13.1</td> <td>18.6</td> <td>21.5</td> <td>20.6</td> <td>16.2</td> <td>9.5</td> <td>3.7</td> <td>-2.2</td> <td>8.2</td> <td>A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Standard Deviation</td> <td>3.2</td> <td>2.3</td> <td>2.0</td> <td>1.6</td> <td>1.9</td> <td>1.6</td> <td>1.5</td> <td>1.5</td> <td>1.6</td> <td>1.5</td> <td>1.5</td> <td>2.6</td> <td>1.0</td> <td>A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daily Maximum (°C)</td> <td>-1.5</td> <td>-0.4</td> <td>4.6</td> <td>12.2</td> <td>18.8</td> <td>24.2</td> <td>27.1</td> <td>26.0</td> <td>21.6</td> <td>14.3</td> <td>7.6</td> <td>1.4</td> <td>13.0</td> <td>A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daily Minimum (°C)</td> <td>-9.4</td> <td>-8.7</td> <td>-4.5</td> <td>1.9</td> <td>7.4</td> <td>13.0</td> <td>15.8</td> <td>15.1</td> <td>10.8</td> <td>4.6</td> <td>-0.2</td> <td>-5.8</td> <td>3.3</td> <td>A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Extreme Maximum (°C)</td> <td>17.6</td> <td>14.9</td> <td>25.6</td> <td>31.1</td> <td>34.4</td> <td>36.7</td> <td>37.6</td> <td>38.3</td> <td>36.7</td> <td>31.6</td> <td>25.0</td> <td>20.0</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Date (yyyy/dd)</td> <td>2005/13</td> <td>1984/23</td> <td>1945/28</td> <td>1990/25</td> <td>1962/16</td> <td>1952/25</td> <td>1988/07</td> <td>1948/25</td> <td>1953/02</td> <td>2007/08</td> <td>1950/01</td> <td>1982/03</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Extreme Minimum (°C)</td> <td>-31.3</td> <td>-31.1</td> <td>-28.9</td> <td>-17.2</td> <td>-5.6</td> <td>0.6</td> <td>3.9</td> <td>1.1</td> <td>-3.9</td> <td>-8.3</td> <td>-18.3</td> <td>-31.1</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Date (yyyy/dd)</td> <td>1981/04</td> <td>1943/15</td> <td>1950/04</td> <td>1972/07</td> <td>1966/07</td> <td>1949/08</td> <td>1968/30</td> <td>1965/30</td> <td>1965/27</td> <td>1969/23</td> <td>1949/26</td> <td>1942/20</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year	Code	Daily Average (°C)	-5.5	-4.5	0.1	7.1	13.1	18.6	21.5	20.6	16.2	9.5	3.7	-2.2	8.2	A	Standard Deviation	3.2	2.3	2.0	1.6	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.5	2.6	1.0	A	Daily Maximum (°C)	-1.5	-0.4	4.6	12.2	18.8	24.2	27.1	26.0	21.6	14.3	7.6	1.4	13.0	A	Daily Minimum (°C)	-9.4	-8.7	-4.5	1.9	7.4	13.0	15.8	15.1	10.8	4.6	-0.2	-5.8	3.3	A	Extreme Maximum (°C)	17.6	14.9	25.6	31.1	34.4	36.7	37.6	38.3	36.7	31.6	25.0	20.0			Date (yyyy/dd)	2005/13	1984/23	1945/28	1990/25	1962/16	1952/25	1988/07	1948/25	1953/02	2007/08	1950/01	1982/03			Extreme Minimum (°C)	-31.3	-31.1	-28.9	-17.2	-5.6	0.6	3.9	1.1	-3.9	-8.3	-18.3	-31.1			Date (yyyy/dd)	1981/04	1943/15	1950/04	1972/07	1966/07	1949/08	1968/30	1965/30	1965/27	1969/23	1949/26	1942/20			<p>Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.</p>
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year	Code																																																																																																																												
Daily Average (°C)	-5.5	-4.5	0.1	7.1	13.1	18.6	21.5	20.6	16.2	9.5	3.7	-2.2	8.2	A																																																																																																																												
Standard Deviation	3.2	2.3	2.0	1.6	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.5	2.6	1.0	A																																																																																																																												
Daily Maximum (°C)	-1.5	-0.4	4.6	12.2	18.8	24.2	27.1	26.0	21.6	14.3	7.6	1.4	13.0	A																																																																																																																												
Daily Minimum (°C)	-9.4	-8.7	-4.5	1.9	7.4	13.0	15.8	15.1	10.8	4.6	-0.2	-5.8	3.3	A																																																																																																																												
Extreme Maximum (°C)	17.6	14.9	25.6	31.1	34.4	36.7	37.6	38.3	36.7	31.6	25.0	20.0																																																																																																																														
Date (yyyy/dd)	2005/13	1984/23	1945/28	1990/25	1962/16	1952/25	1988/07	1948/25	1953/02	2007/08	1950/01	1982/03																																																																																																																														
Extreme Minimum (°C)	-31.3	-31.1	-28.9	-17.2	-5.6	0.6	3.9	1.1	-3.9	-8.3	-18.3	-31.1																																																																																																																														
Date (yyyy/dd)	1981/04	1943/15	1950/04	1972/07	1966/07	1949/08	1968/30	1965/30	1965/27	1969/23	1949/26	1942/20																																																																																																																														

No.	Source	Submission	Response																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
		<p style="text-align: center;">1981 to 2010 Canadian Climate Normals station data</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Precipitation</u></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Jan</th> <th>Feb</th> <th>Mar</th> <th>Apr</th> <th>May</th> <th>Jun</th> <th>Jul</th> <th>Aug</th> <th>Sep</th> <th>Oct</th> <th>Nov</th> <th>Dec</th> <th>Year</th> <th>Code</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Rainfall (mm)</td> <td>25.1</td> <td>24.3</td> <td>32.6</td> <td>63.0</td> <td>74.3</td> <td>71.5</td> <td>75.7</td> <td>78.1</td> <td>74.5</td> <td>60.6</td> <td>68.0</td> <td>34.0</td> <td>681.6</td> <td>A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Snowfall (cm)</td> <td>29.5</td> <td>24.0</td> <td>17.7</td> <td>4.5</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>0.4</td> <td>7.5</td> <td>24.9</td> <td>108.5</td> <td>A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Precipitation (mm)</td> <td>51.8</td> <td>47.7</td> <td>49.8</td> <td>68.5</td> <td>74.3</td> <td>71.5</td> <td>75.7</td> <td>78.1</td> <td>74.5</td> <td>61.1</td> <td>75.1</td> <td>57.9</td> <td>785.9</td> <td>A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Average Snow Depth (cm)</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>3</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>3</td> <td>2</td> <td>A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Median Snow Depth (cm)</td> <td>5</td> <td>5</td> <td>2</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>2</td> <td>1</td> <td>A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Snow Depth at Month-end (cm)</td> <td>8</td> <td>5</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>3</td> <td>1</td> <td>A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Extreme Daily Rainfall (mm)</td> <td>58.7</td> <td>31.8</td> <td>41.7</td> <td>55.8</td> <td>92.7</td> <td>53.8</td> <td>118.5</td> <td>80.8</td> <td>108.0</td> <td>121.4</td> <td>86.1</td> <td>40.9</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Date (yyyy/dd)</td> <td>1946/09</td> <td>1975/24</td> <td>1942/16</td> <td>1992/11</td> <td>1944/31</td> <td>2000/13</td> <td>1980/28</td> <td>1970/30</td> <td>1948/18</td> <td>1954/15</td> <td>1962/10</td> <td>1962/06</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Extreme Daily Snowfall (cm)</td> <td>36.8</td> <td>39.9</td> <td>32.3</td> <td>26.7</td> <td>2.3</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>0.0</td> <td>7.4</td> <td>33.5</td> <td>28.2</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Date (yyyy/dd)</td> <td>1966/23</td> <td>1965/25</td> <td>1964/10</td> <td>1939/10</td> <td>1976/07</td> <td>1938/01</td> <td>1938/01</td> <td>1938/01</td> <td>1938/01</td> <td>1962/25</td> <td>1940/30</td> <td>1944/11</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Extreme Daily Precipitation (mm)</td> <td>58.7</td> <td>55.9</td> <td>41.7</td> <td>55.8</td> <td>92.7</td> <td>53.8</td> <td>118.5</td> <td>80.8</td> <td>108.0</td> <td>121.4</td> <td>86.1</td> <td>40.9</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Date (yyyy/dd)</td> <td>1946/09</td> <td>1965/25</td> <td>1942/16</td> <td>1992/11</td> <td>1944/31</td> <td>2000/13</td> <td>1980/28</td> <td>1970/30</td> <td>1948/18</td> <td>1954/15</td> <td>1962/10</td> <td>1962/06</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Extreme Snow Depth (cm)</td> <td>67</td> <td>48</td> <td>30</td> <td>13</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>13</td> <td>18</td> <td>36</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Date (yyyy/dd)</td> <td>1999/15</td> <td>2008/13</td> <td>2008/09</td> <td>1975/04</td> <td>1955/01</td> <td>1955/01</td> <td>1955/01</td> <td>1955/01</td> <td>1955/01</td> <td>1969/22</td> <td>2002/18</td> <td>2008/24</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Canadian Climate Normals, present a quick overview of weather data, for example from Pearson International Airport. It is interesting to note that most extreme high or low temperatures, or 'extreme' rainfalls were reported before the rise of CO2 was considered an important factor causing 'global warming'.</p> <p>https://climate.weather.gc.ca/climate_normals/</p> <p>REFERENCES</p> <p>1. Ice Storms: https://www.iclr.org/images/2004_Nov_ICLR_Final_ICE_STORMS.pdf</p> <p>2. Emerald ash borer (factsheet) https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/forests/fire-insects-disturbances/topinsects/13395</p>		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year	Code	Rainfall (mm)	25.1	24.3	32.6	63.0	74.3	71.5	75.7	78.1	74.5	60.6	68.0	34.0	681.6	A	Snowfall (cm)	29.5	24.0	17.7	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	7.5	24.9	108.5	A	Precipitation (mm)	51.8	47.7	49.8	68.5	74.3	71.5	75.7	78.1	74.5	61.1	75.1	57.9	785.9	A	Average Snow Depth (cm)	6	7	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	A	Median Snow Depth (cm)	5	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	A	Snow Depth at Month-end (cm)	8	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	A	Extreme Daily Rainfall (mm)	58.7	31.8	41.7	55.8	92.7	53.8	118.5	80.8	108.0	121.4	86.1	40.9			Date (yyyy/dd)	1946/09	1975/24	1942/16	1992/11	1944/31	2000/13	1980/28	1970/30	1948/18	1954/15	1962/10	1962/06			Extreme Daily Snowfall (cm)	36.8	39.9	32.3	26.7	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.4	33.5	28.2			Date (yyyy/dd)	1966/23	1965/25	1964/10	1939/10	1976/07	1938/01	1938/01	1938/01	1938/01	1962/25	1940/30	1944/11			Extreme Daily Precipitation (mm)	58.7	55.9	41.7	55.8	92.7	53.8	118.5	80.8	108.0	121.4	86.1	40.9			Date (yyyy/dd)	1946/09	1965/25	1942/16	1992/11	1944/31	2000/13	1980/28	1970/30	1948/18	1954/15	1962/10	1962/06			Extreme Snow Depth (cm)	67	48	30	13	0	0	0	0	0	13	18	36			Date (yyyy/dd)	1999/15	2008/13	2008/09	1975/04	1955/01	1955/01	1955/01	1955/01	1955/01	1969/22	2002/18	2008/24			<p>Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.</p>
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year	Code																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
Rainfall (mm)	25.1	24.3	32.6	63.0	74.3	71.5	75.7	78.1	74.5	60.6	68.0	34.0	681.6	A																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
Snowfall (cm)	29.5	24.0	17.7	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	7.5	24.9	108.5	A																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
Precipitation (mm)	51.8	47.7	49.8	68.5	74.3	71.5	75.7	78.1	74.5	61.1	75.1	57.9	785.9	A																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
Average Snow Depth (cm)	6	7	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	A																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
Median Snow Depth (cm)	5	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	A																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
Snow Depth at Month-end (cm)	8	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	A																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
Extreme Daily Rainfall (mm)	58.7	31.8	41.7	55.8	92.7	53.8	118.5	80.8	108.0	121.4	86.1	40.9																																																																																																																																																																																																																								
Date (yyyy/dd)	1946/09	1975/24	1942/16	1992/11	1944/31	2000/13	1980/28	1970/30	1948/18	1954/15	1962/10	1962/06																																																																																																																																																																																																																								
Extreme Daily Snowfall (cm)	36.8	39.9	32.3	26.7	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.4	33.5	28.2																																																																																																																																																																																																																								
Date (yyyy/dd)	1966/23	1965/25	1964/10	1939/10	1976/07	1938/01	1938/01	1938/01	1938/01	1962/25	1940/30	1944/11																																																																																																																																																																																																																								
Extreme Daily Precipitation (mm)	58.7	55.9	41.7	55.8	92.7	53.8	118.5	80.8	108.0	121.4	86.1	40.9																																																																																																																																																																																																																								
Date (yyyy/dd)	1946/09	1965/25	1942/16	1992/11	1944/31	2000/13	1980/28	1970/30	1948/18	1954/15	1962/10	1962/06																																																																																																																																																																																																																								
Extreme Snow Depth (cm)	67	48	30	13	0	0	0	0	0	13	18	36																																																																																																																																																																																																																								
Date (yyyy/dd)	1999/15	2008/13	2008/09	1975/04	1955/01	1955/01	1955/01	1955/01	1955/01	1969/22	2002/18	2008/24																																																																																																																																																																																																																								

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>3. Gypsy Moth: a) https://www.exoticpests.gc.ca/es-details/insect/9506 and b) https://tidcf.nrcan.gc.ca/en/insects/factsheet/9506)</p> <p>4. Cankerworm: https://cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/publications?id=11655</p> <p>5. Climate Change Primer: https://www.oakville.ca/assets/general%20-%20environment/FinalOnlinePrimer.pdf</p> <p>6. Lake Levels: http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2018/01/22/forecastgreat-lakes-levels-rising/109719528/ . In recent months many sources have noted the discrepancy between the horror of low lake levels widely lamented in 2012/2014 and the current horror of high lake levels. Weather and climate are cyclical. Past events are documented; future events are no more than guesses based on flawed climate models.</p> <p>7. Rise in Lake Level; New York sues International Joint Commission: https://www.courthousenews.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/NY_IJC_LakeOntarioFlooding-COMPLAINT.pdf</p> <p>8. West Nile Virus: IPAC – Infection Prevention and Control Canada, https://ipac-canada.org/westnile-virus-resources.php</p> <p>9. Climate Models for the layman: Curry, J. 2017. https://www.thegwpf.org/content/uploads/2017/02/Curry-2017.pdf</p> <p>10. Climate models, Christy, J. 2019: https://www.thegwpf.com/putting-climate-change-claims-to-the-test/</p> <p>11. Misuse of RCP8.5 and links therein: https://rogerpielkejr.com/2020/01/27/quick-links-to-myrecent-rcp8-5-series-of-articles/#comments</p> <p>12. McKittrick and Christy (2020) “Pervasive warming bias in CMIP6 tropospheric layers” Earth and Space Science.</p> <p>13. Mitchell et al. (2020) “The vertical profile of recent tropical temperature trends: Persistent model biases in the context of internal variability” Environmental Research Letters.</p> <p>14. Curry, J. August 25, 2020: https://judithcurry.com/2020/08/25/new-confirmation-thatclimate-models-overstate-atmospheric-warming/ Dr. Judith Curry, former Chair of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Georgia Tech, draws the following disconcerting conclusions from the McKittrick and Mitchell papers listed above: “I get it that modeling the climate is incredibly difficult, and no one faults the scientific community for finding it a tough problem to solve. But we are all living with the consequences of climate modelers stubbornly using generation after generation of models that exhibit too much surface and tropospheric warming, in addition to running grossly exaggerated forcing scenarios (e.g. RCP8.5). Back in 2005 in the first report of the then-new US Climate Change Science Program, Karl et al. pointed to the exaggerated warming in the tropical troposphere as a “potentially serious inconsistency.” But rather than fixing it since then, modelers have made it worse. Mitchell et al. note that in addition to the wrong warming trends themselves, the biases have broader implications because “atmospheric circulation trends depend on latitudinal temperature gradients.” In other words when the models get the tropical troposphere wrong, it drives potential errors in many other features of the model atmosphere. Even if the original problem was confined to excess warming in the tropical mid-troposphere, it has now expanded into a more pervasive warm bias throughout the global troposphere. If the discrepancies in the troposphere were evenly split across models between excess warming and cooling we could chalk it up to noise and uncertainty. But that is not the case: it’s all excess warming. CMIP5 models warmed too much over the sea surface and too much in the tropical troposphere. Now the CMIP6 models warm too much throughout the global lower- and mid-troposphere. That’s bias, not uncertainty, and until the modeling community finds a way to fix it, the economics and policy making communities are justified in assuming future warming projections are overstated, potentially by a great deal depending on the model.” [my bold].</p> <p>15. What’s the worst case? Emissions/concentration scenarios; and references therein... https://judithcurry.com/2019/03/28/whats-the-worst-case-emissions-concentration-scenarios/</p>	<p>Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>16. Hon. Catherine McKenna, 2019. https://www.cityfloodmap.com/2019/06/canadas-minister-ofenvironment-and.html.</p> <p>17. Robert J. Muir, P. Eng. https://www.cityfloodmap.com/2020/07/can-we-use-daily-rainfallmodels-to.html (former Stormwater Manager, Town of Markham).</p> <p>Recent Evaluation of Computer Models in Climate Change (Canada’s Climate Modeling Community gets a Special Mention): Ross McKittrick@RossMcKittrick Aug 24 2/4 “we note here for the record that from 1998 to 2014, the CMIP5 models warm, on average 4 to 5 times faster than the observations, and in one model the warming is 10 times larger than the observations.”</p> <hr/> <p>Regional Official Plan Review – Technical Questionnaire</p> <p>Halton is reviewing its Regional Official Plan, which guides land use decisions to ensure new development meets the needs of current and future residents. To ensure we are aligned with Provincial policies and help inform how and where our community grows, we are asking for your feedback on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Heritage <input type="checkbox"/> Rural and Agricultural System <input type="checkbox"/> Climate Change <input type="checkbox"/> North Aldershot Planning Area <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Growth Management Strategy: Regional Urban Structure Get involved and have your say! <p>Your input is valuable.</p> <p>You can share your thoughts on the topics listed above via this survey until September 28, 2020.</p> <p>If you have any questions or require the survey in an alternate format, please email ropr@halton.ca or contact Halton Region by calling 311.</p> <p>Please use as much space as you require and only answer those questions which you would like to respond to. Thank you for taking the time to provide your feedback.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Name: Christopher Marmont 2. Email: 3. Please visit www.halton.ca/ropr to sign up for ROPR email notifications to ensure you remain up to date and involved. 4. Phone: 5. Mailing Address: 6. Municipality of interest? Enter all that apply. (Burlington, Halton Hills, Milton Oakville) <p>Climate Change</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have you felt the impacts of climate change on your community? What impacts are of most concern to you in the next 20 years? <p>NO. For all practical purposes, the weather is not noticeably different today than it was when I was growing up. The adverse impacts that I fear most are related to misguided government policies to address a non-existent or minor problem. Environmental degradation is far more strongly influenced by human activities on the ground than by climate. On a global scale, the LAI (leaf area index) measured by satellites reveals that increased CO2 has resulted in the world becoming 15% greener over the last 30 years. This is one positive feature of ‘climate change’ – the biosphere becoming more productive as the world continues its warming trend since the eighteenth century’s ‘Little Ice Age’. Other benefits include a longer growing season, and an ongoing rising trend in daily minimum temperatures. (Introduction raises concerns about future floods and fires. For more information on this topic, please see pages 12-15 of the Climate Change Discussion Paper.</p> <p>Your statements in section 3.1.3 a. are simply not true. Environment Canada’s IDF Engineering data reveal NO TREND in precipitation (see summary by Muir, Muir- McKenna). While the climate has warmed slightly, this is mostly due to the increasing trend of daily minimum temperatures, which in turn are partly</p>	<p>Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>due to the UHI (urban heat island effect). The number of days per year exceeding 30°C at Toronto Pearson Airport show no trend (increase or decrease).</p> <p>Emotional and mental health effects have nothing to do with a changing climate. They are, quite naturally, the result of trauma experienced by victims of floods, ice storms or strong winds, i.e. normal weather, with fear ramped up by an ill-educated, largely scientifically illiterate, media.</p> <p>Section 3.1.3.b. has it backwards: You state, “Severe weather conditions such as windstorms and flash floods caused and/or amplified by climate change are increasingly putting pressure on the built environment and existing municipal infrastructure.” But it is inadequate older infrastructure coupled with ongoing paving over the landscape upstream that is exacerbating the run-off from rainfalls that are no stronger than before.</p> <p>Section 3.1.3.c. There is no evidence that the ice storm of 2013 had anything to do with global warming. Do you think that natural warming, such as has happened frequently in the past has not had similar effects? An Environment Canada study concluded that there is no reason to expect more ice storms as a result of global warming. Refs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hon. Catherine McKenna, 2019. https://www.cityfloodmap.com/2019/06/canadasminister-of-environment-and.html. 2. Robert Muir, P. Eng. https://www.cityfloodmap.com/2020/07/can-we-use-daily-rainfallmodels-to.html (former Stormwater Manager, Town of Markham). 3. http://www.cityfloodmap.com/2016/01/toronto-climate-change-extreme-rainfall.html <p>Section 3.1.3.d. Farmers are always up against the weather, which varies from year to year. Globally, we continue to see record crops reported, for example: http://www.fao.org/worldfoodsituation/csdb/en/. Alarmism about the end of coffee, was countered this week by reports of a bumper crop in Brazil, causing major problems in finding storage space. When dealing with climate, you must not think short term.</p> <p>Section 3.1.3.e. The cost of severe weather-related events has nothing to do with the weather event in question – it has everything to do with the value of the property impacted. Had the 2013 storm occurred a few kilometers north of Toronto in a rural area, damage would have been much less; had it occurred further south, over Lake Ontario, damage might have been negligible.</p> <p>2. How do you think the Regional Official Plan can help Halton respond to climate change? What mitigation and adaptation actions would you like to see embedded in the Regional Official Plan?</p> <p>2. The plan will have absolutely no effect on climate change.</p> <p>For more information on this topic, please see pages 16-21 of the Climate Change Discussion Paper.</p> <p>Section 3.2.1. “Halton Regional Council passed a resolution to declare a climate change emergency during its September 11, 2019 meeting.” The Resolution provided no rationale for the declaration other than that other municipalities have done the same. (Sheep and lemmings come to mind). As noted, Oakville has also passed a Declaration of Climate Emergency and did provide several examples of climate-related problems. However, a quick check of NRCan’s website would have informed Council that the incursion of various pests are the result of human activities and are unrelated to climatic conditions.</p> <p>Section 3.2.2. states, “The ROP is a statutory document that is required by the Provincial legislation...” This is most unfortunate. It would be nice if Halton Region were able to provide evidence to the Province such as that which I have provided in this questionnaire and covering letter. I believe that Halton Region should push back on Provincial mandates that are unsupported by scientific evidence, and spend my tax dollars in more practical areas.</p> <p>The Earth’s climate system is extremely complex and has many drivers; CO2 is just one. There is lots of evidence that increased temperatures (through natural cycles) result in the release of more CO2. Current</p>	<p>Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>and projected increases in CO2 may contribute to a small amount of global warming but CO2 is not dangerous; it is essential for plant growth and is still well below optimum levels for plants. While trying to cut back on many real pollutants, there is not a lot to be gained by spending money to reduce CO2 emissions.</p> <p>Section 4.1.1. states, "Section 2 of the <i>Planning Act</i> requires planning authorities to have regard to "the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions and adaptation to a changing climate." Again this is only a sensible thing to do if CO2 is changing the climate (and there is no convincing evidence that it is. But even if is, is it dangerous? Max Roser of <i>Ourworldindata.com</i> estimates that if the world's transportation fleet goes 100% electric we will reduce greenhouse gasses by a mere 11.9%. This would likely have severe adverse environmental consequences and divert money from far more useful projects.</p> <p>3. Halton's population is forecast to grow to one million people and accommodate 470,000 jobs by 2041. What do you think about policies to plan for climate change through more compact urban form and complete communities? In your opinion, are we growing in the right direction? For more information on this topic, please see pages 21-25 of the Climate Change Discussion Paper.</p> <p>Densification ...ummm.</p> <p>4. What do you think the Region should do to help you reduce your greenhouse gas emissions? For example, if you typically commute by car to work or school every day, what would make you consider taking transit, biking or walking? For more information on this topic, please see page 21-27 of the Climate Change Discussion Paper. I bike or walk whenever possible, but it is not practical when the weather is bad, therefore public transit will always need to plan for maximum ridership, no matter how much many of us claim to walk or bike. I have installed acoustic windows inside my existing windows in order to cut down traffic noise. This also appears to have some effect in reducing heat loss through the windows. Some form of rebate could be considered to encourage this type of retrofitting, but I doubt that it is economically practical – the cost comes nowhere close to offsetting my hydro bills, but I have a better quality of life. New builds could mandate higher R values for windows, but when using only double pane windows, the heat loss is still very large. Acoustic windows are very important to allow residents to sleep better, as this has a significant effect on health in general and the immune system in particular. Better sleep should manifest itself in lower medical costs.</p> <p>5. Do you think the Region should encourage and support local renewable energy sources? If so, what should be considered? NO. Windmills and solar farms are a blight on the landscape, kill large numbers of birds and bats; windmills appear to have adverse health effects. They both have the effect of destabilizing the electrical grid and require back-up / standby from conventional sources. So we effectively have a duplicate system of energy production. 'Biofuels' is a comforting sounding term used predominantly to cover the burning of wood. It has no net energy benefit and is extremely detrimental to the environment. Ethanol production also has no benefit. It is a waste of arable land and often involves clearing of land. Since it has a lower energy density than regular gasoline you need to buy more ethanol mixed fuel to go the same distance as you would using gasoline.</p> <p>6. Can you provide examples of opportunities to address climate change as it relates to agriculture that you would like to see in Halton? For more information on this topic, please see pages 29-30 of the Climate Change Discussion Paper.</p>	<p>Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>7. According to the Provincial Policy Statement, planning authorities are required to consider the potential impacts of climate change in increasing risks associated with natural hazards (e.g., fires and floods). How can Regional Official Plan policies be enhanced to address climate change impacts on natural hazards?</p> <p>There is no evidence that floods will increase as a result of climate change. Given that no trends in rainfall are evident in Environment Canada's Engineering IDF data, any change in flooding will be the result of deficiencies in our built environment. Engineers are now keenly aware of this and proper planning of new builds needs to be especially aware of subtle natural drainage swales when planning new developments. Most flooding occurs in areas of flat topography, as well as along natural drainages and flood plains, see:</p> <p>https://www.slideshare.net/RobertMuir3/toronto-overland-flow-and-basement-flooding. For more information on this topic, please see pages 30-32 of the Climate Change Discussion Paper.</p> <p>8. Are there additional measures the Regional Official Plan should include to improve air quality? For more information on this topic, please see page 32 of the Climate Change Discussion Paper.</p> <hr/> <p>Regional Official Plan Review - General Questionnaire Halton is reviewing its Regional Official Plan, which guides land use decisions to ensure new development meets the needs of current and future residents. To ensure we are aligned with Provincial policies and help inform how and where our community grows, we are asking for your feedback on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Natural Heritage <input type="checkbox"/> Rural and Agricultural System <input type="checkbox"/> Climate Change <input type="checkbox"/> North Aldershot Planning Area <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated Growth Management Strategy: Regional Urban Structure <p>Get involved and have your say! Your input is valuable. You can share your thoughts on the topics listed above via this survey until September 28, 2020. If you have any questions or require the survey in an alternate format, please email ropr@halton.ca or contact Halton Region by calling 311. Please use as much space as you require. Thank you for taking the time to provide your feedback.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Name: Christopher Marmont 2. Email: 3. Please visit www.halton.ca/ropr to sign up for ROPR email notifications to ensure you remain up to date and involved. 4. Phone: 5. Mailing Address: 6. Municipality of interest? Enter all that apply. (Burlington, Halton Hills, Milton Oakville) Oakville <p>Natural Heritage</p> <p>7. The current Regional Official Plan aims to protect approximately 50% of the total area of Halton for Natural Heritage. Is this an appropriate goal to maintain? Are there other ways to measure how effective we are at protecting the environment?</p> <p>This sounds arbitrary. Is there a reason for this number?</p>	<p>Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>8. Are there other policies or actions Halton can include in the Regional Official Plan Review to protect and enhance the Natural Heritage System?</p> <p>If you enhance the Natural Heritage System, will it still be a 'Natural' Heritage System?</p> <p>Rural and Agricultural System</p> <p>9. Should Halton adopt a flexible approach in allowing agriculture-related uses and on-farm diversified use businesses in the agricultural area to support the economic vitality of farms and farmers?</p> <p>This sounds like two different issues. Farmers are smart people and most have a good idea of how to protect their land, since they depend on it.</p> <p>10. Should agriculture-related uses and on-farm diversified use businesses be limited in size and scale in order to protect the agricultural land base?</p> <p>Not my field of knowledge, but here's a 'man-in-the-street' response to your opinion poll question: If farmers cannot get a fair price for their agricultural labours they may resort to 'diversified' businesses which may not accrue to the benefit of agricultural land.</p> <p>11. Regarding the matters discussed here, do you have other suggestions that could help strengthen the vitality and resiliency of the agricultural sector?</p> <p>Climate Change</p> <p>12. What do you think is the biggest climate change challenge for Halton to address through land-use planning in the next 20 years?</p> <p>Avoidance of virtue-signaling, ineffective, costly 'green' initiatives that have been proven rife with unintended consequences, are commonly destructive to the environment, and destabilize the electric grid. Avoid, or at least push-back, on edicts from higher levels of government when the scientific data are as uncertain as they are in climate science. There is an assumption that climate will continue to warm and the effects are only negative. These are both false assumptions. Policy needs to be prepared for colder as well as warmer weather, and be prepared for extreme weather that is no worse than historical weather. Our 'climate' problems – such as flooding - are the result of urban development, not of any change in the severity, duration or frequency of storms. I will provide references in a separate document.</p> <p>13. What do you think the Region should do to help you reduce your carbon emissions? For example, if you typically commute by car to work or school every day, what would make you consider taking transit, biking or walking?</p> <p>Carbon emissions are not pollution. CO2 is essential for plant growth. It is well known that CO2 rises AFTER temperature rises. There is no evidence for the attribution of extreme weather to rising global temperatures. In climate circles there is ongoing debate on how much increased CO2 is due to human activity and how much is attributable to natural processes; and even whether it is a problem. Therefore, Halton Region should focus not on CO2 emissions, but on energy efficiency while maintaining reliability and affordability. I walk or bike to work when the weather is suitable, otherwise I drive or take transit.</p>	<p>Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>North Aldershot</p> <p>14. Given the environmental and other provincial policy constraints, what are appropriate future land uses that should be permitted in the North Aldershot Planning Area? Not my field</p> <p>15. Are there any additional considerations or trends that Halton Region should review in terms of the North Aldershot Review component of the Regional Official Plan Review? Not my field</p> <p>Regional Urban Structure (Integrated Growth Management Strategy)</p> <p>16. Which areas of the community, such as Major Transit Station Areas, Urban Growth Centres, corridors and other potential strategic growth areas, should be the primary focus for new houses and apartments? Why?</p> <p>17. As the Region plans to accommodate new growth, should it focus on intensification of existing built up areas or on expansion into agricultural and natural areas? What is an appropriate balance?</p> <p>The health effects of intensification, and development along transit corridors need to be addressed. Pollution and noise from traffic are well known to negatively affect respiratory function and sleep (and hence our immune systems). Areas of dense population bring social problems and – as the Covid-19 pandemic has demonstrated – higher risk of disease ‘hot-spots’.</p> <p>18. How can the Regional Official Plan support a variety of mobility options to ensure integration of transportation and land use planning in growth areas?</p> <p>Electric vehicles bring only marginal gains in CO2 emissions. Reducing ‘pollution’ here is offset by pollution elsewhere owing the ‘carbon footprint’ of mining, processing, manufacture, shipping and recycling (if feasible) – commonly in countries that have lower environmental standards than ours. Providing more public transit is difficult unless you ban private cars; it operates well below capacity except at peak times and in bad weather. Shared transit in a pandemic is a problem, whether it is train, bus or taxicab!</p> <p>19. Are there opportunities for the Regional Official Plan to strengthen policies for ensuring adequate parks and open spaces near growth areas?</p> <p>I am not a policy wonk. However, Oakville’s trails, playing fields and parks are very good. All new development should incorporate amenities such as these, and I see that these are already incorporated in new housing areas north of Dundas Street. Maybe there is opportunity to increase links between some trails, and even squeeze in some pathways through older parts of town (mostly south of QEW) to make a fuller network.</p> <p>20. How can the Regional Official Plan support employment growth and economic activity in Halton Region?</p> <p>Tricky! Again, not within my expertise, but I would think that you need to attract industry – and hence growth - which to a large degree is counter to efforts to protect heritage areas, etc. District energy schemes could be built into new developments where practical and economic. Much harder to retrofit these.</p>	<p>Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>21. Halton's Employment Areas are protected for employment uses such as manufacturing, warehousing, and offices. How should the Region balance protecting these Employment Areas with potential conversions to allow residential uses or a broader mix of uses?</p> <p>22. The introduction of new sensitive land uses within or adjacent to Employment Areas could disrupt employment lands being used for a full range of business and/or industrial purposes. Are there other land use compatibility considerations that are important when considering where employment conversions should take place to protect existing and planned industry?</p> <p>23. Having appropriate separation distances between employment uses and sensitive land uses (residential, etc.) is important for ensuring land use compatibility. What should be considered when determining an appropriate separation distance?</p> <p>Public health. See answer to question 17 above re pollution and noise.</p> <p>24. Do you have any comments related to the proposed draft mapping available on the summary pages or in the Discussion Papers? The proposed draft maps for the Regional Natural Heritage System, Rural and Agricultural System and Major Transit Station Area Boundaries are located on the pages identified in the relevant Discussion Paper:</p> <p>Proposed Regional Natural Heritage System Refinements (p. 28-37) Proposed Natural Heritage and Agricultural Mapping (p. 17-27) Proposed Rural and Agricultural System (p. 37) Proposed Major Transit Station Area Boundaries (p. 105-116)</p> <p>25. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a number of short-term effects on the locations in which we work, study, shop, and play. Are there any long-term implications for land use planning or growth management that should be considered through this phase of the Regional Official Plan Review?</p> <p>See my answer to Question 17.</p> <p>26. Do you have any other comments or information that Halton Region should consider at this time?</p> <p>See also my answer to Question 12.</p> <p>Applying a 'climate lens' to regional planning is driven by ideology, not by facts. There is a sentimental, touchy-feely mindset that envisages a return to perceived gentler, preindustrial, more idyllic times. People living in those times were poorer, had lower life expectancy, limited or no power or transportation, experienced famine and plague. Our current standard of living is due to the products of the industrial revolution. Crop yields continue to outstrip population growth.</p> <p>Applying a 'climate lens' to regional planning is a waste of money and human resources. Halton Region should devote its money (taxpayers' money) to sensible engineering solutions to deal with inevitable growth, while maintaining its public's well-being, and minimizing adverse natural environmental effects. Forget climate. There will always be bad weather – we have seen this in Hurricane Hazel, in the occasional rare tornado, and in local downpours, so we should know what building standards are required to withstand these exceptional events. As for droughts, there is little evidence that these will become worse in the future, but again, development needs to incorporate water conservation measures.</p>	<p>Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>Oakville has devoted a lot of time, resources and personnel in producing a Climate Change Primer, Strategy and Implementation documents. Halton does not need to duplicate these except, perhaps to identify areas where development might exacerbate flooding. Sadly there were many errors in Oakville's Climate Change Primer, and these contributed to the rationale for more work in the form of the Strategy and Implementation.</p> <p>Much of the fear about climate change is about future conditions and extreme weather events. The climate science community is slowly coming to the realization that these predictions are based on flawed computer models. Covid-19 has brought to a vast audience the limitations of computer models that used data with no quality assurance or control, and the often destructive results of implementing policies based on those flawed models. This same problem has been obvious to many in the field of climate change for many years.</p> <p>Oakville's Climate Change Strategy-Technical Report assumed that the Climate scenario A2 was the most likely to apply to future conditions (page 15). This was a worst-case scenario that was replaced in 2013 by the IPCC's RCP 8.5, which, over the past year, has been increasingly regarded as implausible. The worst of the latest models is the Canadian model, which overestimates the rate of observed global warming seven-fold.</p> <p>In short, Halton Region should focus its Official Plan on sound engineering principles rather than impossible-to-verify future climatic conditions derived from flawed computer models.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Chris Marmont.</p>	<p>Comments are acknowledged. Please see above for a detailed response.</p>
12.	Cootes to Escarpment EcoPark System	<p>September 29, 2020 Attention: Halton Region ROPR Team Re: Halton Region Official Plan Review – Phase 2 Papers and Consultation</p> <p>Following five years of collaborative research, nine public agency and not-for-profit partners, including Halton Region, established the Cootes to Escarpment EcoPark System as a voluntary park system in 2013. This unique, voluntary collaboration is seeking to address the effects of habitat fragmentation, invasive species, climate change, water quality impairment, and others through additional land securement, ecological restoration, invasive species remediation, recovery of species at risk, and promoting sustainable recreational uses, education, research, and private land stewardship.</p> <p>The EcoPark System has implemented its landscape-level and people-focused approach with success, resulting in investments to date of over \$8,000,000 toward the goals of the program, including securement of an additional 100 ha of protected land, extensive planning, public engagement, research, stewardship, and other results.</p> <p>Current members of the Ecopark System Include: <i>City of Hamilton, Conservation Halton, Hamilton, Conservation Authority, McMaster University, Bruce Trail Conservancy, City of Burlington, Royal Botanical Gardens, Halton Region, and Hamilton Naturalists Club.</i></p> <p>The overall EcoPark System area is a complex landscape of protected lands, open space, urban development, and other uses, between the western end of Lake Ontario (Cootes Paradise Marsh) and the</p>	<p>As indicated in correspondence, Section 7.4 of the Natural Heritage Discussion paper recognizes that there are currently no policies in the ROP that recognize the Cootes to Escarpment EcoPark System partnership, support its vision, or implement the Management Plans. While Management Plans have been established for public lands, the Region recognizes the need to consider these when making decisions on land use or infrastructure proposals as required by the Greenbelt Plan 2017. These may be applicable where there are development proposals within or adjacent to the Natural Heritage System. In those cases, impact assessments and mitigation recommendations would be proposed in the Heritage Areas of the Cootes to Escarpment EcoPark System.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>Niagara Escarpment. The protected lands, totaling nearly 2,000 ha, consists of six core natural areas referred to as "Heritage Lands", named to reflect the natural and cultural components of each area.</p> <p>As noted in Section 2.5 North Aldershot Discussion Paper and Section 7.1 and 7.4 of the Natural Heritage Discussion Paper, a Management Plan has been developed for each EcoPark System Heritage Land area. These are non-binding compilations of natural and cultural heritage information, planning ideas for restoration and for recreational uses, that addresses only the lands owned by partner agencies. The EcoPark System Management Committee supports Halton Region in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considering the role these Heritage Area Management Plans play in cases of impact analyses and mitigation recommendations (for example as part of Environmental Impact Assessments). • Working with the responsible public agency to undertake or support management within the Natural Heritage Lands themselves to mitigate the inevitable increased use associated with development. • Including policies to encourage recognition and support continued collaboration with partners and landowners. <p>We are available to discuss the Cootes to Escarpment EcoPark System in more detail if desired. We will continue to monitor the progress of the Halton Region ROPR and comment further, as appropriate.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration,</p> <p>Dr. David Galbraith Chair, Cootes to Escarpment EcoPark System Management Committee and Head of Science, Royal Botanical Gardens</p> <p>Rob Peachey Vice Chair, Cootes to Escarpment EcoPark System Management Committee and Senior Planner, City of Burlington</p>	
13.	Country Heritage Park	<p>Please find attached a letter seeking clarification and understanding on the Region's proposed changes to the zoning aspects of Country Heritage Park (known as Country Heritage Agricultural Society) whereby we would be engulfed in natural heritage designation, essentially rendering our operations null and void.</p> <p>Your assistance on this matter would be greatly appreciated.</p> <p>Jamie Reaume C.E.O.</p> <p>Country Heritage Park 8560 Tremaine Road Milton ON, L9T 2X3 Ph: 905-878-8151 / 888-307-3276 www.countryheritagepark.com</p> <hr/> <p>September 28, 2020 Halton Region c/o Anna DeMarchi-Meyers Agricultural Liaison Officer</p>	<p>Regional staff met with Jamie Reaume from Country Heritage Park to discuss his concerns with the draft revised RNHS mapping affecting Country Heritage Park. The RNHS designation on the property is not changing. It continues to be designated Escarpment Protection Area within the Niagara Escarpment Plan and as such is a component of Halton's RNHS designation. There are no mapped Key Features on the property, only adjacent features to the south. Under ROPA 38, the lands are shown as "Regional Natural Heritage System" on Map 1 and "Prime Agricultural Areas in NHS Enhancements/Linkages/Buffers" on Map 1G. The draft refined RNHS mapping shown on the online viewer labels the lands as, "Proposed Draft NHS System Components (Buffers/Enhancement/Linkages)", so Mr. Reaume was concerned that there were changes to the designation. We walked through the mapping layers with him and reassured him that we are not proposing any changes to the RNHS designation on the park property.</p> <p>Mr. Reaume is working with the NEC and Town of Milton on updating the NEPOSS Master Plan for Country Heritage Park and is thinking long-term about the types of additional agricultural uses and diversified uses that would benefit the viability of the park. Regional staff</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p>1151 Bronte Road Oakville, Ontario L6M 3L1</p> <p>Dear Ms. DeMarchi-Meyers,</p> <p>Imagine my surprise and shock following a recent meeting involving officials from planning and yourself about developments for the proposed Regional Official Plan – and finding Country Heritage Park moved out of its proper zoning, which would be similar to the trailer park across from us over the 401 (north), and suddenly finding ourselves in the Proposed Draft Natural Heritage Systems component, essentially eliminating everything that we are able to do due to a failure to communicate. I am not sure how this happened, nor why, but I can assume that our proximity to Kelso Conservation Authority perhaps swayed individuals to think of our unique little location as a bigger part of Kelso – when that is clearly not the case. My request to you would be for your assistance to address this matter since I have a feeling that Country Heritage Park will fall through the cracks and be left to interpretation of others. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.</p> <p>Sincerely Jamie Reaume CEO, CHP</p>	<p>discussed how through ROPR any new agricultural-related and diversified uses added to the ROP would apply to his site and that we are available to assist him with the discussions he’s having with the NEC and Town on the new Master Plan. Further, we clarified that any uses permitted under the NEPOSS Master Plan for the park will be permitted within the RNHS designation. Future development on the site may trigger an EIA, but there are exemptions for agricultural uses, and he understood that. He noted that he didn’t need any further follow-up and thanked us for meeting with him and providing the clarity he was looking for to continue with the NEPOSS master planning process. I will send him the EIA Guideline website link for his information.</p> <p>Policy Directions RAS-1 and NH-6 outline proposed mapping and land designations and overlays. RAS-1 recommends the designation of prime agricultural areas, rural lands, and key natural heritage features with the remaining NHS as an overlay. The online mapping viewer available through the Region’s website provides information on current mapping and proposed draft mapping across Halton. Landowners can refer to this online mapping tool for information regarding their property. Policy Direction RAS-2 would also be of interest for this particular property as it focuses on land use permissions. RAS-2 recommends updating the policies of the Regional Official Plan to broaden permissions and allow for more opportunities for agriculture-related uses and on-farm diversified uses as outlined in Provincial policies, plans, and guidelines.</p>
14.	TransCanada Pipelines Limited	<p>September 29, 2020 Mr. Dan Tovey, Manager, Policy Planning Halton Region 1151 Bronte Road Oakville, ON L6M 3L1 Via email: ropr@halton.ca Dear Mr. Tovey: RE: Regional Official Plan Review Our File No. PAR 44121</p> <p>We are the planning consultants for TransCanada PipeLines Limited (TCPL), an affiliate of TC Energy Corporation (TC Energy). This letter is in response to notification of the Region’s Official Plan review.</p> <p>TCPL has high pressure natural gas pipelines crossing the Region, including within North Aldershot in the City of Burlington. TCPL’s pipelines and related facilities are subject to the jurisdiction of the Canada Energy Regulator (CER) – formerly the National Energy Board (“NEB”) which has a number of requirements regulating development in proximity to its pipelines.</p> <p>TCPL’s pipelines are defined as Infrastructure in the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS). Section 1.6.8.1 of the PPS states that <i>planning authorities shall plan for and protect corridors and rights-of-way for</i></p>	<p>Regional staff thank TransCanada Pipelines Limited for their submission provided as part of the Regional Official Plan Review. Since comments provided do not directly pertain to the policy directions proposed by Regional staff, comments will be further examined in Phase 3 of the ROPR as Regional Staff comprehensively update the Regional Official Plan. There may be further opportunities to consult on this matter.</p>

No.	Source	Submission	Response
		<p><i>infrastructure, including transportation, transit and electricity generation facilities and transmission systems to meet current and projected needs.</i> The Growth Plan (2019) also references the importance of protecting and maintaining planned infrastructure to support growth in Ontario.</p> <p>Policy 139.5(1) in the current Regional Official Plan requires local Official Plans and Zoning By-laws to include mapping and policies to protect the Parkway Belt Transportation and Utility Corridors from incompatible uses.</p> <p>We request an additional policy be considered for inclusion in the Region’s updated Official Plan under Part IV: Energy & Utilities to reflect current CER regulations as well as a mapping reference. We offer the following wording for your consideration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. “TransCanada PipeLines Limited (“TCPL”) operates high pressure natural gas pipelines within its right-of-way crossing the Region and is identified on Schedule ___ to this Plan. 2. “TCPL is regulated by the Canada Energy Regulator (CER) which has a number of requirements regulating development in proximity to its pipelines, including approval for activities within 30 metres of the pipeline centreline. 3. New development can result in increasing the population density in the area that may result in TCPL being required to replace its pipeline(s) to comply with CSA Code Z662. Therefore, the Region shall require early consultation with TCPL or its designated representative for any development proposals within 200 metres of its pipelines. 4. TCPL’s pipeline right-of-way should be used for passive open/green space or part of a linear park system. (Note: Additional policies related to Open Space land use designations should include references to TCPL’s pipeline rights-of-way and restrictions on uses). 5. No permanent building or structure shall be located within 7 metres of the limit of the pipeline right-of-way or within 12 metres from the centreline of the pipeline, whichever is greater. Accessory structures shall have a minimum setback of at least 3 metres from the limit of the right-of-way. <p>As noted, we would request the updated Official Plan show TCPL’s updated facilities on its infrastructure schedules. We can provide GIS shape files to the Region to assist with this mapping. A confidentiality agreement will need to be entered into prior to releasing the files. Please let us know if you would be interested in this option.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.</p> <p>Sincerely, Darlene Quilty, Planning Co-ordinator on behalf of TransCanada PipeLines Limited cc. Dana Anderson, MHBC</p>	