

RECEIVED VIA EMAIL

: Kim Harris <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Sunday, June 28, 2020 6:52 PM

To: Sharon McCormick <[REDACTED]>; Rob Sampson <[REDACTED]>; Sarah Merrifield <[REDACTED]>

Cc: Diana Dolmer <[REDACTED]>

Subject: note to council

Greetings Council and Friends,

RE: Planning Amendments for the Attainable Housing Project

Our names are Diana Dolmer and Kim Harris. We are residents of Clarksburg, members of CANN (Climate Action Now Network of TOBM), and committed environmentalists.

As you wade into the pressing issues of our town, we want to cheer you all on, in your efforts to make our corner of the world a better place to live. We also want to beat the climate crisis drum as you consider whether or not to make amendments to the Master Plan. Although Covid-19 has proven to be a major distraction in our lives, climate crisis has not disappeared. It continues to melt polar ice caps, and raise the water levels of our oceans, lakes and rivers. We have witnessed first hand, the ravages of climate change right in our own backyard: bigger and more damaging storms; rising water levels; and extreme weather. Our children's and grandchildren's future is in jeopardy.

Between the years of 2011 and 2016, the Statistics Canada Censuses tell us that the population of Town of the Blue Mountains grew, and continues to grow today. Therefore we should not adhere to planning guidelines that no longer address the present climate crisis. If building height increases a building's sustainability let's go higher. If we don't we will only need to build more housing at a later date, which means more sprawl, more lost trees, less green space, and more decimation of the scenery we love so much (and that attracts over 2 million people annually to our region).

Of course, there will be huge disagreements. Within CANN, our members often have differing opinions about density and building height. It is no easy feat to get consensus. But climate crisis must be met with actions that reduce carbon outputs. It's as simple as that. More trees. Fewer cars. Smaller homes. Density. More sustainable building materials. Passive energy programs.

Let's do it right the first time. Let's not build attainable housing that doesn't meet future needs. Let's build a building that makes Town of the Blue Mountains the **Green** Town of the Blue Mountains. We can be leaders in this movement toward attainable AND sustainable buildings in Canada and the world. It could be the gateway to the town that people are looking for!

Warmest regards,
Diana Dolmer and Kim Harris
CANN
Clarksburg