

I am Everett Baker, my wife and I live at 218 Old Main Street.

We originally purchased our property apx. 20 years ago as investment for our retirement.

When hearing about the Tertiary Plan to designate a large area to the North of Old Main Street as Heritage Land it came as a complete surprise. I had no idea anyone could make a decision about someone else's private property without any prior notice or consultations. I was shocked. The area staked out as future Heritage land includes approximately half of our property. I have looked after the yard for years, taking out dead and sick trees. When we bought the property there were some pine trees that were still healthy and well. When I noticed some of the pine trees were dying I asked an arborist about my concerns and followed his advice to cut out the deadwood.

Each year it seemed there were more and more dying pines. We too are **conscientious of protecting the environment - yet most of the Scots Pines have died or are dying.** We started reading on-line. In fact, **Scots Pines are documented as detrimental to neighbouring native trees.** In an article written by the Ontario Invasive Plants Council I read that many imported Scots Pine **were planted in the 1950s and 1980's because they were one of the most sought-after Christmas trees at that time.** They are fast growing with a short live span producing many seeds that spread and develop into aggressively growing seedlings which compete with native wildflowers, grasses as well as native oak, maple and pine species. **The Scots Pine has invasive characteristics and provide a home for some insect pests (also imported) and diseases which spread to valued native tree species.**

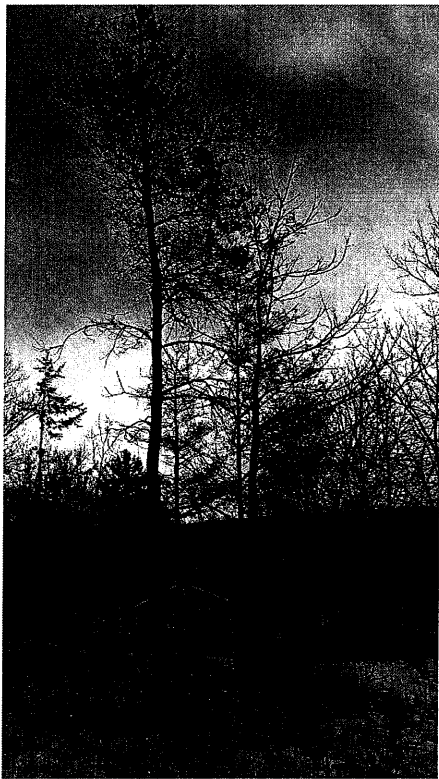
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Deceased Scot Pine at 218 Old Main



Dying Scot Pines at [REDACTED]



Diseased Scot Pine, dying from
bottom up at 218 Old Main



Disease encroaching on Oak

There are a couple of large Oak trees on and just outside our fence line, large Oaks but they have not nearly reached their 400 years expected life span. Also, there are 3 young oaks about 6 to 10 feet tall, on our property. **Five years ago, those Oak trees were healthy and well. Today the large Oaks are showing an unusual large amount of deadwood in them, and 2 of the 3 young Oaks are totally dead.**



Maturing Oak with dead center branch
on fence of 218, [REDACTED]



Dead young Oaks at 218 Old Main

We question allocation of an area with diseased imported trees, that spread disease and insects to native Oaks and Maples as future Heritage lands.

We love living on Old Main Street. It is a very unique location in Newmarket with small-town charm close to big-city amenities. **At this time in our lives, however, maintaining our rather large property is becoming difficult. We would love to see meaningful development** with new building typologies, interspersed with a select number of native feature trees, *and (my wife wants to)* **be able to buy back into a new home of our choice and remain residents of this very special neighbourhood in Newmarket.** We, like so many others, appreciate being **close to the Davis Drive corridor, walking distance to public transportation, being able to get around with minimum use of a car, close to the Tom Taylor Trail for the opportunity to go for long walks enjoying the natural environment.**

We strongly urge the Town to consider the afore-mentioned and **include the issues** raised here today by many of our neighbours living on the street with the same concerns when making their decision about what to allow for development of Old Main.

We appreciate the opportunity to have input into the process. We love the Town of Newmarket and the top-quality services and programs which provide a quality of life second to none and **greatly appreciate the Mayor, Town Council and the Planning Staff for all the work you are doing on our behalf.**