

I am writing in response to the proposal for moraine land development. I cannot believe this is even being considered. Is no one paying attention? The science is well documented and accepted that we have degraded our environment to the point where we must stop or the price of affordable housing will be the very least of our problems.

To be brief, I direct council's attention to their own York Region Draft Climate Change Action Plan. I quote:

York Region has already experienced effects of climate change with higher average temperatures, increased extreme heat and rainfall and more extreme weather events.³ As a result of this warming, York Region has experienced the following impacts: › Blacklegged ticks that can spread Lyme Disease are increasing in York Region as a result of warmer temperatures⁴ › Extended season for road maintenance as a result of less predictable patterns for snow and ice storms › Heat island effect in areas of increased urbanization › Flooding as a result of extreme rain events (as in the spring of 2019 when 52mm of rain fell in 12 hours) › Power outages and tree loss as a result of ice storms (as in December 2013) › Need to increase capacity of wastewater infrastructure to adapt to more extreme weather events These and other impacts are expected to increase with further warming of ...

It should not need to be stated that development of the moraine will exacerbate all of these problems and cost more money and general misery than otherwise. Of special note should be the certainty of extreme flooding. With the moraine compromised to help soak it up, and clean it up, the consequences will be severe.

Consideration to develop the moraine undermines the York Region Action Plan seeking to mitigate the true and underappreciated damage promised by climate change. I direct council to the section in the Plan under "Land use planning":

*Decisions in this area have enormous impact on how new and existing communities will manage climate change impacts. **York Region Official Plan is already taking action to ensure more complete communities are built, which offer a wealth of benefits for climate change mitigation and adaptation. These include reduced reliance on automobiles, applying low impact design approaches, incorporating trees and green spaces and fostering a stronger sense of community.***

Stick to the Action Plan. If we do not adapt to the climate we have created, we are doomed. Adapting cannot include moraine development. That way lays disaster.

Afraid,

Mrs. Shannon Josselyn