# AN OPEN LETTER TO ONTARIANS

# BILL 23, MORE HOMES BUILT FASTER ACT

## TAKING YOUR RIGHTS AWAY - RIGHT BEFORE YOUR EYES

October 25, 2022 a day that will go down in provincial history as the day when Municipal and Environmental Planning Died in Ontario

If the Ford Government is allowed to push through the significant changes to various Provincial Regulations to support their developer friends there are many impacts you should consider:

### What You Will Lose

- Your democratic rights, this Bill will override decades old provincial policies associated with community and development planning and environmental protections. Ontario was once a leader in environmental planning and regulations - No more.
- The right to participate in your City/Town's development process and decisions affecting you, your neighbourhood, local farmland or natural areas.
- The right to comment on residential development right next door. Three residential units/lot will be allowed as of right no planning approvals required.
- Coordinated regional planning functions protecting natural features and planning future regional roads, sewer and water infrastructure for Simcoe, Durham, Halton, Peel, Niagara, Waterloo and York to plan safe and healthy communities.
- The right to park space near your home.
- Local Conservation Authorities voice in the planning and development process to help protect important natural features and create safe and healthy communities. Conservation Authorities watershed approach to planning is recognized internationally as the most effective way to plan communities.
- The right to a clean environment. More wetlands will be lost to add to the 75-85% of wetlands already lost in Ontario over the past 200 years. Wetlands regulate stream flows and temperature, help reduce flooding and support natural processes that support biodiversity.
- The rights of Indigenous Peoples to be properly consulted on government policies and programs that affect their traditional and unceded lands.

### What You Will Gain

- Uncoordinated and piecemeal planning by over 400 municipalities.
- Fewer and more expensive homes built in a more environmentally destructive way. The right to sit in traffic as unplanned communities expand without proper planning.
- Nothing you will have no ability to have input to decisions made by others that may directly or indirectly impact your day to day life. You will have no rights to appeal your neighbours two additional residential units or other planning decisions.
- The right to pay more for your home as the proposed changes will not reduce the cost of housing. You will also get the privilege to pay more property taxes to maintain basic municipal services as the province hands over millions of dollars to developers through reduced development fees.
- The right to drive long distances to be in and appreciate nature.
- The right to be put in harms way due to climate change including increased flooding, rising temperatures and drought.
- The right to watch our natural features and farmland be destroyed and paved over.
- Nothing this just exemplifies the lip service paid to Indigenous Peoples by government "Notwithstanding" their commitments to reconciliation.

DO NOT ALLOW THE FORD GOVERNMENT TO TAKE AWAY OUR DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS AND PRECIOUS NATURAL RESOURCES THAT SUSTAIN US