



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

Jennifer O'Connell

Member of Parliament
Pickering—Uxbridge

Dear Alexis Edghill Whalen,

Thank you so much for that beautifully written letter. It was a pleasure to read, as it must have been for the Prime Minister and my Parliamentary colleagues. I'm proud to have supported Land over Landings, and opposed the construction of an airport on the federal lands throughout my time as an elected official. I look forward to continuing to promote the Lands as a historic site, as well as to help build upon the rich traditions of the area.

Along with my regional Liberal colleagues, I believe strongly that the region and the GTA would benefit from the protection of this land for natural and agricultural uses. I have shared this position with colleagues on both sides of the aisle, as well as Dr. Gary Polonsky, the appointed advisor who will be reporting on his research regarding the validity of an airport on the federal lands.

While the previous government's announcement regarding the transfer from Transport Canada of 5,200 acres of farmland and natural habitat to Parks Canada was welcome, the shadow of an airport development still loomed. It is important we remove any question in the coming months and years.

We can preserve these Lands as "permanent sources of fresh food and water" in close collaboration with each other. I look forward to working with you in the near future. Thank you.

Regards,

Jennifer O'Connell

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