

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UXBRIDGE

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-

DATE: March 3rd, 2014

MOVED BY: *Dw Northeast*

SECONDED BY: 

WHEREAS the Federal Lands consist of approximately 18,600 acres, and the announcement by the Federal Government on June 11, 2013, indicated that approximately 8,700 acres would be retained for future airport and approximately 5,000 acres would be transferred to Parks Canada for the creation of the Rouge National Urban Park;

WHEREAS there are 4,900 acres of "remaining lands" (i.e., the lands that are not included in the new airport site and are not part of the transfer to the Rouge) and the June 11 announcement referenced that these lands would be used for "economic development";

WHEREAS a previous Federal Government classified the Moraine portion of these "remaining lands", which includes all of the Federal Lands in Uxbridge, as protected Federal Green Space lands; that the vast majority of all the "remaining lands" fall within areas designated by the Province of Ontario as Greenbelt and/or Oak Ridges Moraine; that these "remaining lands" are largely comprised of prime agricultural land and are part of a food-and-farming sector that is critical to the Region and is its largest employer; that they border on and support agricultural and environmental lands in the Rouge Park; and that they contain the only possible area corridor linking Lake Ontario, the Rouge Park, and the West Dufferins Creek to the Moraine;

WHEREAS the Federal Government has announced that it will replace Airport Zoning Regulations (AZRs), which currently apply to the entire 18,600-acre Federal land holding, with AZRs reflecting the 8,700-acre site;

WHEREAS the 8,700-acre site identified as needed for future airport is approximately double the size of Pearson Airport and is far more than enough to accommodate the most major of airports; and that the protection provided by previous Federal Green Space undertakings and by Provincial Moraine and Greenbelt policies is consistent with airport zoning regulations and compatible with possible future airport development on the adjacent airport site;

WHEREAS the Federal Government has now indicated that these "remaining lands" will never be needed for an airport, but has yet to develop a plan for these lands that is

consistent with previous Federal undertakings and Provincial Greenbelt and Moraine policies and also supportive of the food-and-farming sector in Durham and in the Greater Golden Horseshoe – the second largest such sector in North America;

WHEREAS Uxbridge Council supports an open and transparent process offering an opportunity to analyze and share information, and appropriate opportunities for public review and input into decision-making;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Federal Government establish an open and transparent process with opportunities for Uxbridge Council to share, analyze, and comment on relevant documents as well as participate in decision-making on the use of the Federal Lands, including the proposed Pickering airport;

THAT on lands falling outside the airport site, the Federal Government respect previous Federal Green Space undertakings and Provincial Moraine and Greenbelt policies and, in consultation with the public, develop a Plan for these lands that, in addition to respecting these undertakings and policies, also addresses and is supportive of agricultural priorities, as well as being consistent with possible future development on the airport site;

AND THAT the Federal Government clarify whether the entire airport site is needed for airport purposes or whether other uses might be introduced and if so what they would be;

AND THAT the Federal Government, before making any final decisions on a planned airport;

- a) Prepare/update and make public for review and comment on a business case for it;
- b) Conduct a comprehensive Federal Environmental assessment, with appropriate opportunities for public review and input, and with intervener funding in the process

And that a copy of this motion be sent to the Right Honourable Stephen Harper, P.C. M.P., Honourable Lisa Raitt, Federal Minister of Transport, the Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Glen R. Murray, MPP, Minister of Transportation, the Honourable Linda Jeffrey, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Chris Alexander, MP, Corneliu Chisu, MP, Joe Dickson, MPP, the Honourable Tracy MacChalres, MPP, Roger Anderson, Regional Chair and CEO, Region of Durham, Mayor Frank Scarpitti, Town of Markham, Mayor Steve Parish, Town of Ajax, the Honourable Erin O'Toole, MP, the Honourable John O'Toole, MPP and AMO.



MAYOR