

June 20, 2022

At the May 25 Oxford County meeting Council passed my Motion:

Whereas the majority of land in Oxford County is in the agricultural reserve; and,  
Whereas that land is set aside and protected for agricultural production; and,  
Whereas the development of that land for agricultural production can be compromised by Minimum Distance Setbacks (MDS);  
Therefore be it resolved that staff bring a report on potential MDS changes that would reduce the burden on agricultural properties, but not on non-agricultural properties in the agricultural reserve, and;  
That this report consider both potential changes that are within the power of the municipal governments to enact, and changes that would require the province to enact or allow. We will now have to see what Council (or more realistically at this point, the next Council) is willing to do with that report.

Our schools are important and the TVDSB should work with our communities. Our Zorra Local School Committee passed a resolution that specifically requests “communication and notification on an ongoing basis from all relevant School Boards of any areas of study considering possible consolidation, closure, additions, or new builds, and also requests annual planning reports from all relevant School Boards for all schools and possibly related/affected/affecting schools and compare municipal growth forecasts and school board(s) growth forecasts identifying any discrepancies” and the TVDSB passed a resolution at it’s October 4th 2021 board meeting committing to do the same. But they’re not.

So, at the June 15 Zorra meeting, Council passed a resolution restating that and sending a letter to the TVDSB to remind them what they committed to and requesting a renewed commitment from the TVDSB. We also stated that “the Township of Zorra will not consider, but will actively oppose, possible closures or consolidations;  
AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to the TVDSB Board, Oxford County Council, Oxford MPP, and the Minister of Education.”

I was very disappointed to see the actions of some individuals in some Oxford communities with respect to Pride month. A Pride flag is just that: a symbol of someone’s pride. Why would anyone need to take, destroy, or deface that? If you feel threatened by that flag that is your issue, not the person who put up the flag. Everyone belongs in our community, we need everyone to do their part. Especially now, we need more love, not less.

As always, please feel free to contact me on any issue:

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