

## Weatherill, Tannis

---

**Subject:** FW: Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor

**From:** [jklaassen](#)  
**Sent:** October 31, 2017 4:13 PM  
**To:** Mayor & Councillors <[Mayor&Councillors@markham.ca](mailto:Mayor&Councillors@markham.ca)>  
**Subject:** Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor

Hello,

As long-time Thornhill residents and homeowners (since May 1989), we are deeply concerned over the development of Markham that has taken place in the past 10+ years. Development, with the loss of farmland and green space, continues at an alarming rate with the urban, concrete 'jungle' spreading in all directions (including skyward).

Markham has been progressive however in a number of environmental areas, such as recycling. The Mayor and Council have an opportunity to also be leaders in protecting the important Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor from development. The corridor is not only critical to wildlife but also provides important wetland habitat and other groundwater related benefits. It acts as a buffer zone to existing and/or proposed new development in adjacent areas. As stewards of the land, we owe it to ourselves and future generations to protect this corridor. Once this land or other green spaces are developed, they can never be returned to nature. The corridor's future will be decided by your decisions and we trust that you will act responsibly to ensure it WILL be protected.

Regards,

Joan and Gary Klaassen

Sent from Windows Mail



**Weatherill, Tannis**

---

**Subject:** FW: Ecological corridor

**From:** Bernice Royce

**Date:** October 31, 2017 at 4:19:28 PM EDT

**To:** [Mayor&Councillors@markham.ca](mailto:Mayor&Councillors@markham.ca)

**Subject:** Ecological corridor

With respect I and my family am urging you to make possible by passing the appropriate bills the proposed ecological corridor in Markham.

Markham council has earned a reputation for forward thinking on these type of issues and this is probably one of the biggest you have had to deal with

I will not waste your time writing about the wildlife, environment and climate change as I am sure you have many depositions coming to you that I hope you will accept

Thank you for what I hope will be a positive outcome for the community

Regards

Bernice Royce

Sent from my iPhone



**Weatherill, Tannis**

---

**Subject:** FW: I support the protection of the Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor.

-----Original Message-----

From: Leslie

Sent: October 31, 2017 5:31 PM

To: Mayor & Councillors

Subject: I support the protection of the Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor.

We need to do what we can, when we can, where we can to help protect nature and help keep the natural balance. Politicians have had the buzz topic of Global Warming for too long without having to think of what the consequences their decisions have.

If global warming/climate change are important to you, then take this one small step and show other municipalities it can be done. Let's do something for the greater good.

Leslie Paul

Sent from my iPad

[Visit our Website]<<http://www.markham.ca/>>

Connect with us:

[Follow us on Twitter]<<https://twitter.com/cityofmarkham>> [Like us on Facebook]

<<http://www.facebook.com/cityofmarkham>> [Follow us on Instagram]

<<http://www.instagram.com/cityofmarkham>> [View our Flickr Photos]

<<https://www3.markham.ca/flickr>> [Follow us on LinkedIn] <<https://www.linkedin.com/company/city-of-markham>> [Watch us on YouTube] <<http://www.youtube.com/cityofmarkham>> [Sign-Up for our eNews]

<<http://www.markham.ca/enews>> [Download our Mobile App]

<<http://www.markham.ca/wps/portal/Markham/MunicipalGovernment/HowCanWeHelp/MobileApp>>

[Markham Celebrates Canada

150]<<http://www.markham.ca/wps/portal/Markham/RecreationCulture/Canada150>>

This e-mail contains information that may be privileged and/or confidential. If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, distribution, copying or any other use of this e-mail or the information contained herein or attached hereto is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify this sender immediately and delete this e-mail without reading, printing, copying or forwarding it to anyone. Thank you for your co-operation.

**Weatherill, Tannis**

---

**Subject:** FW: Support for Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor

----- Forwarded message -----

**From: Rhiannon Lane**

**Date:** Wed, Nov 1, 2017 at 5:15 PM

**Subject:** Support for Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor

**To:** [Mayor&Councillors@markham.ca](mailto:Mayor&Councillors@markham.ca)

Dear Mayor Scarpitti and Councillors

I am writing today to express my support for the Bruce-Berczy ecological corridor. As the City of Markham grows, the pockets of safe habitat for wildlife are getting smaller and smaller. It is inevitable that as their habitats are compressed that more instances of human/wildlife conflict will result. Already we are seeing record numbers of wild animals in the City - geese, rabbits, skunks, raccoons and coyotes. All of these animals are naturally fearful of humans but increased development has required them to adapt to us and to contact with humans more and more.

The City of Markham is so highly regarded by other municipalities for it's forward thinking, and this is another opportunity for us to lead by example. It is so important that wildlife have a corridor to move across the City safely, away from cars and people. Please support this vital natural resource for our City today and for the future.

Thank you  
Rhiannon



5

## Weatherill, Tannis

---

**Subject:** FW: Request to address council regarding ecological corridors in Markham Bruce Berzcy and Due Diligence

**Attachments:** Securing and Restoring Markham's Ecological Corridors and NHS = Due Diligence Nov 2 2017 FRW Input.pdf; OMNRF Estimating Ecosystem Services in Southern Ontario Spatial Informat....pdf

---

**From:** Jim Robb[  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 5, 2017 9:17 AM  
**To:** Bavington, Kitty <[kbavington@markham.ca](mailto:kbavington@markham.ca)>  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Request to address council regarding ecological corridors in Markham Bruce Berzcy and Due Diligence

Dear Markham Clerk:

Attached please find a submission to Markham Council.

FRW would like to make a presentation to Council regarding Markham's NHS and ecological corridors with reference to the Berzcy Bruce subwatersheds ASAP.

Sincerely,

Jim Robb  
for FRW

---

**From:** Jim Robb  
**Sent:** November-02-17 6:58 AM  
**To:** 'fscarpitti@markham.ca'; 'rraman@markham.ca'; 'jheath@markham.ca'; 'narmstrong@markham.ca'; 'vburke@markham.ca'; 'dhamilton@markham.ca'; 'acollucci@markham.ca'; 'alan.ho@markham.ca'; 'krea@markham.ca'; 'joeli@markham.ca'; 'ccampbell@markham.ca'; 'jjones@markham.ca'; 'lkanapathi@markham.ca'; 'achiu@markham.ca'; 'dsc@markham.ca'; 'mbezerra@markham.ca'; 'mbezerra@markham.ca'; 'regionalclerk@york.ca'; 'environmentalservices@york.ca'; 'graham.seaman@gmail.com'; 'mplaunt@markham.ca'  
**Cc:** [eshapero@environmentaldefence.ca](mailto:eshapero@environmentaldefence.ca); Ontario Headwaters Institute; 'Lilli Duoba'; 'Kevin OConnor'; 'Turchet Jessica'; 'Tupper Wheatly'; 'Watershed Planning (MOECC)'; 'minister.mnrf@ontario.ca'; 'jason.travers@ontario.ca'; 'mnwaterpolicy@ontario.ca'; 'raymond.cho@pc.ola.org'; [anneb@ontarionature.org](mailto:anneb@ontarionature.org); 'Joyce Chou'; 'Tim Gray'; Caroline Schultz; 'Gloria Boxen'; 'Gloria Reszler'; 'Nida Rashid'; 'Hashveenah Manoharan'; 'robbjames7@gmail.com'  
**Subject:** Protection and restoration of larger, not smaller, NHS and ecological corridors in Markham is necessary for Due Diligence

**Re: Securing and Restoring Markham's Ecological Corridors and Natural Heritage System = Due Diligence**

**Dear Mayor Scarpitti, Councillors and Staff:**

At home and abroad, human suffering and costs are soaring from record-breaking storms, floods and wildfires, while remedial actions lag far behind. According to Canada's Environmental Commissioner, we are not meeting our commitments to reduce carbon pollution, combat climate change, and restore natural systems to improve watershed, ecosystem and human health.

Based on their ability to protect and improve human health and well-being, and combat pollution, climate change, flooding, and loss of species, a 2009 Ontario Report (attached) calculated the following ecological benefits for these land uses:

Near Urban Wetlands	\$161,420 per year per hectare (1 hectare = 1.4 football fields in size)
Near Urban Forests	\$ 14,777 per year per hectare
Cash Crop Farmlands	\$ 291 per year per hectare

As these figures reveal, increasing forest and wetland cover, within an enlarged natural heritage system (NHS) in Markham, will save \$Billions by reducing runoff, pollution, flooding, and species loss, and protecting human health and well being.

In terms of urban expansion and climate change, science-based reports by the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) warn that:

*"meeting water quality targets will become an increasingly distant goal"*

*" E. coli bacteria levels significantly exceed provincial standards"*

*"middle tributaries would be subject to major hydrological impacts"*

*"Over 500 flood vulnerable areas within Markham would be expected to be inundated during the Regional Storm and a number of roads and homes are predicted to flood in flows as low as the 2-year flood event."*

A 2014 Report for the Credit Valley Conservation Authority (Stormwater Management in Ontario: Legal Issues in a Changing Climate) states:

***".. since all orders of government can be sued for negligence ..... each order of government has a strong incentive to consider its existing procedures and systems in light of new information, including information about climate change".***

Markham has a clear responsibility to protect, expand and restore its Natural Heritage System as a "due diligence" necessity for mitigating the growing liabilities associated with growth and climate change. Larger natural heritage systems and ecological corridors are necessary to respect science, laws and riparian rights, and avoid costly damage to public health and safety, and downstream homes, properties and infrastructure.

Based on science, Environment Canada recommends the protection or restoration of more than 50% forest and wetland cover per watershed to protect ecological integrity and watershed health. According to the TRCA's 2013 Report Card, the Rouge Watershed has only 13% forest and wetland cover. Markham cannot afford to ignore science, public policy and liability by reducing the size of its ecological corridors and future natural heritage system.

Markham should work with all levels of government to establish methods, incentives and funding for acquiring and restoring larger ecological corridors and implementing the following first priority of the Rouge Watershed Plan:

*"Establish an expanded natural heritage system that provides multiple benefits, including biodiversity and habitats, water balance maintenance and restoration, opportunities for nature-based recreation, improved quality of life, and greater resilience to urban growth and climate change."*

**Markham should withstand developer and land-owner push-back and secure more NHS lands and ecological corridors, not less. Markham should explore all options, including:**

- Partnering with Canada, Ontario, Toronto and TRCA to acquire more mid-reach and headwater lands with revenues from: carbon trading and pricing and programs to mitigate the impacts of climate change; programs to improve watershed health and Great Lakes Water Quality; and programs to improve the ecological integrity of Rouge National Park;
- Working with the Federal Government and other entities to acquire and restore additional ecological lands through tax incentives such as Canada's ecological gifts program;
- Ensuring that developers and land-owners fully accept their responsibility for avoiding downstream impacts through land dedications and financial assurance contracts which involve watershed and ecosystem protection, restoration, mitigation and monitoring.

Markham takes pride in its planning and community standards. To continue its leadership and avoid public liabilities, Markham must secure and restore a larger, not smaller, natural system.

The decisions you make will affect the future health of our children, communities and planet. Will your decisions lead to a healthier future, or increasing human suffering and economic losses from dangerous climate change and declining watershed and human health?

Sincerely,



General Manager  
Friends of the Rouge Watershed (FRW)



November 2, 2017

**Re: Securing and Restoring Markham's Natural Heritage System = Due Diligence**

**Dear Mayor Scarpitti, Councillors and Staff:**

At home and abroad, human suffering and costs are soaring from record-breaking storms, floods and wildfires, while remedial actions lag far behind. According to Canada's Environmental Commissioner, we are not meeting our commitments to reduce carbon pollution, combat climate change, and restore natural systems to improve watershed, ecosystem and human health.

Based on their ability to protect and improve human health and well-being, and combat pollution, climate change, flooding, and loss of species, a 2009 Ontario Report calculated the following ecological benefits for these land uses:

Near Urban Wetlands	\$161,420 per year per hectare (1 hectare = 1.4 football fields in size)
Near Urban Forests	\$ 14,777 per year per hectare
Cash Crop Farmlands	\$ 291 per year per hectare

As these figures reveal, increasing forest and wetland cover, within an enlarged natural heritage system (NHS) in Markham, will save \$Billions by reducing runoff, pollution, flooding, and species loss, and protecting human health and well being.

In terms of urban expansion and climate change, science-based reports by the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) warn that:

*"meeting water quality targets will become an increasingly distant goal"*

*" E. coli bacteria levels significantly exceed provincial standards"*

*"middle tributaries would be subject to major hydrological impacts"*

*"Over 500 flood vulnerable areas within Markham would be expected to be inundated during the Regional Storm and a number of roads and homes are predicted to flood in flows as low as the 2-year flood event."*

A 2014 Report for the Credit Valley Conservation Authority (Stormwater Management in Ontario: Legal Issues in a Changing Climate) states:

***".. since all orders of government can be sued for negligence ..... each order of government has a strong incentive to consider its existing procedures and systems in light of new information, including information about climate change".***

Markham has a clear responsibility to protect, expand and restore its Natural Heritage System as a "due diligence" necessity for mitigating the growing liabilities associated with growth and climate change. Larger natural heritage systems and ecological corridors are necessary to respect science, laws and riparian rights, and avoid costly damage to public health and safety, and downstream homes, properties and infrastructure.

#### FRW Patrons

Lois James, "Save the Rouge" founding member and Order of Canada Recipient

Paul Harpley, "Save the Rouge" founding member and Artist

Bobbi Hunter, founding Greenpeace Executive Member

Hon. David Peterson, former Ontario Premier

Hon. Gerry Phillips, former MPP Scarborough Agincourt

Hon. Alvin Curling, former MPP Scarborough Rouge River

Derek Lee, former MP Scarborough Rouge River

Rathika Sitsabaiesan, former MP Scarborough Rouge River

Joyce Trimmer, former Mayor of Scarborough, posthumous



Based on science, Environment Canada recommends the protection or restoration of more than 50% forest and wetland cover per watershed to protect ecological integrity and watershed health. According to the TRCA's 2013 Report Card, the Rouge Watershed has only 13% forest and wetland cover. Markham cannot afford to ignore science, public policy and liability by reducing the size of its ecological corridors and future natural heritage system.

Markham should work with all levels of government to establish methods, incentives and funding for acquiring and restoring larger ecological corridors and implementing the following first priority of the Rouge Watershed Plan:

*"Establish an expanded natural heritage system that provides multiple benefits, including biodiversity and habitats, water balance maintenance and restoration, opportunities for nature-based recreation, improved quality of life, and greater resilience to urban growth and climate change."*

**Markham should withstand developer and land-owner push-back and secure more NHS lands and ecological corridors, not less.** Markham should explore all options, including:

- Partnering with Canada, Ontario, Toronto and TRCA to acquire more mid-reach and headwater lands with revenues from: carbon trading and pricing and programs to mitigate the impacts of climate change; programs to improve watershed health and Great Lakes Water Quality; and programs to improve the ecological integrity of Rouge National Park;
- Working with the Federal Government and other entities to acquire and restore additional ecological lands through tax incentives such as Canada's ecological gifts program;
- Ensuring that developers and land-owners fully accept their responsibility for avoiding downstream impacts through land dedications and financial assurance contracts which involve watershed and ecosystem protection, restoration, mitigation and monitoring.

Markham takes pride in its planning and community standards. To continue its leadership and avoid public liabilities, Markham must secure and restore a larger, not smaller, natural system.

The decisions you make will affect the future health of our children, communities and planet. Will your decisions lead to a healthier future, or increasing human suffering and economic losses from dangerous climate change and declining watershed and human health?

Sincerely,



General Manager (647-891-9550)  
Friends of the Rouge Watershed (FRW)

# Estimating Ecosystem Services in Southern Ontario

Spatial Informatics Group, Austin Troy & Ken Bagstad (2009) Commissioned by the Southern Region Planning Unit of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR)

Table 3: Per-hectare ecosystem service value estimates cross-tabulated by land cover and service type

CATEGORY	Recreation	Aesthetic/amenity	Other cultural	Pollination & dispersal	Habitat refugia/biodiversity	Atmospheric regulation	Soil retention/erosion control	Water quality/nutrient & waste regulation	Water supply/regulation	Disturbance avoidance	TOTAL
<b>Agriculture</b>											
Agriculture	\$137		\$97	\$28		\$31					\$291
Grassland/Pasture/Hayfield	\$53		\$134	\$19	\$95	\$19	\$4	\$25		\$5	\$353
<b>Forest</b>											
Forest: Non-urban	\$270		\$240		\$2,428	\$992		\$513			\$4,443
Forest: Urban	\$14,903		\$249	\$7,536		\$992		\$513	\$1,649		\$25,843
Forest: Suburban	\$11,373		\$249			\$992		\$513	\$1,649		\$14,777
Forest: Adjacent to stream	\$559				\$133	\$992	\$779	\$621	\$1,320	\$148	\$4,552
Forest: Hedgerow			\$7	\$25		\$992					\$1,023
<b>Urban herbaceous</b>											
Urban herbaceous greenspace		\$43,539	\$249								\$43,788
<b>Open water</b>											
Open water: River	\$8,655		\$25		\$10			\$33,906	\$12,957		\$55,553
Open water: Urban/suburban river	\$172,691	\$242						\$45,768	\$17,690		\$236,392
Open water: Inland lake	\$3,820	\$593	\$25					\$612			\$5,050
Open water: Great Lake nearshore	\$554	\$240									\$795
Open water: Estuary/tidal bay	\$451	\$1,289			\$13			\$54	\$45		\$1,852
<b>Wetlands</b>											
Wetlands: Non-urban, non-coastal	\$3,551	\$6,446	\$2,286		\$75	\$14		\$2,779			\$15,171
Wetlands: Urban/suburban	\$9,861	\$129				\$14		\$3,168	\$48,929	\$99,318	\$161,420
Wetlands: Great Lakes coastal	\$590	\$2,527	\$8,970			\$14		\$2,660			\$14,761
<b>Beach</b>											
Beach: general	\$72,892	\$1,386								\$15,330	\$89,608
Beach: Near structures	\$96,635	\$2,773								\$30,660	\$130,068
Beach: Not near structures	\$49,150										\$49,150

**Weatherill, Tannis**

---

**Subject:** FW: Environmental protection over more development

**From:** Robert

**Sent:** Monday, November 06, 2017 7:55 PM

**To:** Bavington, Kitty

**Subject:** Environmental protection over more development

I want to voice my opposition to proposed development of any part of Berczy Creek, or any development that cuts into ANY more green space. This proposed development and much of the new development in Markham is at odds with nature. It seems every spot with a little vegetation is being transformed into a (very ugly) condo or housing complex. The only people who need any new development are the developers, and they have already had their boom. There is not enough being done by the city to protect the neighbourhoods that already exist (like approving five year construction of single dwelling houses on residential streets), so at the very least, the city has a responsibility to protect what little wildlife still lingers. I don't like where Markham is going...maybe it needs to slow down.

Robert VandenBrink



**Weatherill, Tannis**

---

**Subject:** FW: Preservation of the Bruce-Berczy Corridor

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Gail Lavery**

Date: Mon, Nov 6, 2017 at 10:17 PM

Subject: Preservation of the Bruce-Berczy Corridor

To: [Mayor&Councillors@markham.ca](mailto:Mayor&Councillors@markham.ca)

Cc: [Kbavinton@markham.ca](mailto:Kbavinton@markham.ca)

Dear Mayor Scarpitti and Members of Council,

I am writing to express my concern regarding the preservation of the Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor. I understand that the conceptual master plan for the City of Markham's Future Urban Area has been endorsed, with the exception of the aforementioned Ecological Corridor. It is of the utmost importance that this east-west connection be preserved, thereby allowing wildlife to move across it, without facing the hazards associated with cars and humans. I believe that Markham has identified only one opportunity to connect the natural heritage system across the Rouge sub-watersheds. This is through a corridor located north of Elgin Mills Road, connecting the Little Rouge Creek, Robinson Creek, Bruce Creek and Berczy Creek. It is vital that strategically located wildlife corridors be protected, enabling animals to move freely for feeding, breeding and migration.

The World Wildlife Federation recently reported that Canada's wildlife "has suffered a steep decline in the past 40 years." This is truly disappointing and distressing information.

I have been a Markham resident for over 23 years, and I'm proud to call this city home. I believe Markham to be at the forefront of tackling environmental issues. As reported by the David Suzuki Foundation in 2016, Markham was officially declared the first Canadian municipality to become a 'Monarch-Friendly City'. We are, and can continue, setting an example as the gold standard for the abundance of environmental issues facing our future. Having worked with some of the stellar folks at Markham., e.g., Valerie Burke, Jack Heath and Nory Takata to name a few, I say with confidence that Markham has caring, compassionate and knowledgeable staff.

I implore you to please take the steps needed to protect the Bruce-Berczy Ecological corridor. Each of you must have younger generations of family and I imagine you would wish for them to be able to enjoy the beautiful wildlife here in Markham for decades to come.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Sincerely,  
Gail Lavery

**Subject:**

FW: Bruce-Berczy Wildlife Corridor

Markham Council,

I strongly support the implementation of an ecological corridor across the Rouge sub- watersheds to preserve and protect plants and animals. According to a WWF report that states Canada's wildlife has suffered a steep decline in the past 40 years, proves that we MUST do more. Our precious natural heritage is in danger of urbanization. Establishing this wildlife corridor would also help in reducing green house gas emissions and would serve as a positive action against climate change, while protecting the health and wellness benefits to humans.

I do sincerely hope that the Markham council will make the right decision on this important issue.

Nancy Allan,

Concerned citizen regarding preservation of wildlife and natural spaces.

Nov 3, 2017.

**Subject:**

FW: Preservation of the Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor

Dear Mayor Scarpitti and Members of Council,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Board of Directors of Settlers Park Residents Association, regarding the preservation of the Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor.

It is our understanding that the conceptual master plan for the City of Markham's Future Urban Area has been endorsed, with the exception of the aforementioned Ecological Corridor. It is of the utmost importance that this east-west connection be preserved, thereby allowing wildlife to move across it, without facing the hazards associated with cars and humans. Markham has identified only one opportunity to connect the natural heritage system across the Rouge sub-watersheds, through a corridor located north of Elgin Mills Road, connecting the Little Rouge Creek, Robinson Creek, Bruce Creek and Berczy Creek.

Wildlife corridors must be protected as they connect core habitats and support the long term survival and sustainability of plant diversity and wildlife. At the larger scale, connected natural heritage systems create a more robust and resilient system to address the unforeseen impacts associated with our changing climate, unpredictable weather patterns and insect and pest infestations.

We take great pride in this City and its efforts to champion critical environmental issues. As reported by the David Suzuki Foundation in 2016, Markham was officially declared the first Canadian municipality to become a 'Monarch-Friendly City'. We are, and can continue, setting an example as the gold standard for tackling the abundance of environmental issues facing our future.

We implore you to please take the steps needed to protect the Bruce-Berczy Ecological corridor so that we can all enjoy the beautiful wildlife here in Markham for decades to come.

Thank you for your consideration.

Erica Pinto  
Communications Officer, SPRA  
On behalf of the Board of Directors

**Subject:** FW: Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor

Mayor and Councillors,

I am sending this email to express my concern that that this important wildlife corridor will not be maintained as originally planned, due to further urbanisation of surrounding lands. Without maintenance of this corridor wildlife will be lost and the environment will be less enjoyable for residents. When we know so much can be lost without taking all necessary precautions to protect the environment, I am at a loss as to why the entire corridor is not being maintained. Surely there is a way forward to develop the lands and maintain the necessary infrastructure to ensure that wildlife thrives!

Sincerely,

Esther Attard, BSc, DVM

Sent from my iPad

**Subject:** FW: Markham's Future Urban Area - Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor

**Subject:** Re: Markham's Future Urban Area - Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor

This is in reference and feedback to the following.

- Markham's Future FUA - Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor
- Conceptual Master Plan for the Future Urban Area

As both a citizen of Markham and a member of the Markham Environmental Advisory Committee, I strongly support the implementation of the ecological corridor connecting the green spaces west of Warden to green spaces east of Warden Avenue - between Elgin Mills and 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue. This is to allow wildlife to move freely, without danger, across Warden Avenue in this area. While supporting this, I am also urging that Markham urban planning should also take the opportunity to allocate paths for pedestrian and cycling traffic. My recommendation is to implement a sufficiently wide subterranean access under the motor vehicular road traffic of Warden Avenue.

Further, for future urbanization planned for spaces south of Elgin Mills, between Woodbine and Highway 48, the opportunity should also be taken to implement sub terrain access for wildlife, human pedestrian and cycling activities between the green spaces north of Elgin to connect to spaces (green or otherwise) south of Elgin Mills.

Let this be a pre-requisite requirement for private entities to move forward with urban developments. And let it be incorporated into Markham's urban planning/policy for these areas in Markham. This way public and private entities can co-operate to make this happen.

Regards,  
Kevin

Kevin Boon



**Subject:**

FW:

**Subject:**

Dear Mr. Mayor and Members of Council,

November 13, 2017

My name is Veesman Senthilnathan and I am with Ian Karanja and we are students at Milliken Mills High School in Markham and we are writing to express our concerns about the potential development of the Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor. We think that there are a lot of negative effects on these corridors as it is and we do not want to put more pressure on these sensitive biodiverse areas that are so important for species of plants and animals that remain in Markham. As it is, these corridors have been under the rapidly increasing pressure of urbanization for hundreds of years, but as we plow over important farmland and natural areas, these corridors become a last refuge for our remaining and threatened species. One of the most important negative effects on corridors are the long and narrow shape. This is causing it to have boundaries in degraded areas. Species have the tendency to behave differently because of these diminishing and artificial boundaries, edges of habitat fragments, creating habitat patches which are corridors. There is a high ratio of edge to these areas that might be a harm to species using the corridor. Because of these edge effects, species are experiencing corridors as habitat sinks or even ecological traps. We therefore need to expand these corridors to allow for less fragmentation and more opportunity for ecological sustainability.

To conclude, We hope this brief letter serves to express our urgent concern over the needed protection of one the few remaining ecologically important areas of greater Markham. Please take your time and make a decision that is not just short term thinking. This is a Markham that we want to be healthy for the future of our own kids.

Sincerely,

Veesman Senthilnathan and Ian Karanja  
Students at Milliken Mills H.S.  
Markham, Ontario  
L3R 9S5

**Subject:** FW: Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor - Let's not lose it!

**Subject:** Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor - Let's not lose it!

Dear Mayor Scarpitti, Ms Bavington, and Markham Council Members,

Hi, I'm Shamar Brown and I go to Milliken Mills High School. I am a member of the T.E.A.M. Program. As a member of the T.E.A.M. Program, we volunteer with a lot of different organizations such as Ontario Streams, 10,000 Trees, and Friends of the Rouge Watershed. The mission is to protect the water and ecology in Markham.

This year we have teamed up with GM Canada (General Motors), Earth Force U.S., and EcoSpark in hopes to bring more focus to climate change. We are very concerned with the possibility of a development being built on the Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor. During our stream assessment with EcoSpark in Unionville on October 27, we analyzed the number and types of benthic macro-invertebrates in Bruce's Creek. Due to a low number counted, we discovered that the stream is not very healthy. I have included our tally below:

Scientific Name	Common Name	Species Count
<i>Oligochaeta</i>	Aquatic Earth Worms	6
<i>Hirudinea</i>	Leeches	1
<i>Isopoda</i>	Sow Bugs	3
<i>Amphipoda</i>	Scuds	10
<i>Decapoda</i>	Crayfish	2
<i>Trombidiformes- hydracarina</i>	Mites	1
<i>Ephemeroptera</i>	Mayflies	7
<i>Plecoptera</i>	Stoneflies	1
<i>Hemiptera</i>	True Bugs	2
<i>Trichoptera</i>	Caddisflies	39

<i>Coleoptera</i>	Beetles	5
<i>Chironomidae</i>	Midges	16
<i>Tipulidae</i>	Crane Flies	1
<i>Mis. Diptera</i>	Misc. True Flies	8

Any development in the Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor will effect the water quality downstream. Pollution from the construction will seep into the groundwater and tarnish the quality of the waterways. Many aquatic species rely on clean water for habitat and breeding. Development will also effect native species of plants and trees. Plant diversity is also a necessary part of a healthy ecosystem. Wildlife also depend on this natural area so that they can live without interference from humans and other influences of urban life (such as cars, traffic). Where will they go if all this is taken away?

I hope the right decision is made to protect this ecological corridor. There are fewer natural environments left in the city due to development. As I volunteer regularly with my class to keep these areas healthy (ex. tree planting, stream assessment, trash pick up, etc.), I would be very upset as I would like to enjoy these areas for many years to come and to show my kids some of the projects that I was apart of.

Sincerely,

Shamar Brown  
T.E.A.M. student

**Subject:** FW: Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor- Letter of Concern

**Subject:** Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor- Letter of Concern

*Dear Mayor Scarpitti and Members of Council;*

*11/13/2017*

*My name is Thuvarakan Jeyasanthan and I am a resident of Markham and a student of Milliken Mills High School. I'm currently enrolled in the T.E.A.M. Program, and we are part of a new partnership between General Motors Canada, EcoSpark and EarthForce. We are working together to research and protect environmentally sensitive areas of Markham like these and recently we conducted a stream study on Bruces Creek in Unionville and we are worried about the projects you guys are potentially about develop as a result of our research.*

*Bruce's Creek has been a part of the ecological fabric of Markham for thousands of years. At its headwaters it is as close to pristine as we can get in the 21st century. Our research indicates that downstream in Unionville this creek is still in fairly good shape. Our Stream Assessment conducted with our partner Ecospark on October 27, 2017 showed us that this creek is still reasonably healthy despite the constant pressures of urbanization as it flows through Markham. We were pleasantly surprised when we discovered a Stonefly larvae in our sample as we know that this species is an indicator of a healthy stream. I feel however that to protect this stream further we must have the foresight to plan protection of the important ecological corridor through which the streams flow. That means that we must not develop the Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor and instead we should expand and enhance this sensitive biodiverse historical environment.*

*Sincerely,  
Thuvarakan Jeyasanthan*

*Milliken Mills High School SHSM Environment Student*

**Subject:**

FW: Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor Letter of Concern

**Subject:** Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor Letter of Concern

Dear Mayor Scarpitti and Councillors,

My name is Vinusha Vijayarajan and I am a Grade 12 student from Milliken Mills High School, and I am concerned with Markham's disappearing environment. The problem that is happening is that many water systems and wildlife corridors are disappearing from Markham since many urban areas are developing in Markham. Though it is a good thing that Markham is growing, the environment is getting destroyed in the process, so I believe that the Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor should be preserved. I believe that Markham's environment should be preserved because a large part of Markham's environment has already disappeared due to urbanization, and as someone who has lived in Markham for 15 years, I have seen this change happen. Our environment is disappearing quickly so we need to do our best to preserve it, or we will not have clean water or trees for oxygen for the future.

Please make a decision that will benefit the environment in the future.

Sincerely,

Vinusha Vijayarajan

Student of Milliken Mills High School  
Unionville, ON.  
L3R 9S5

**Subject:**

FW: In support of Enhanced Protection of the Bruce Berczy Corridor

**Subject:** In support of Enhanced Protection of the Bruce Berczy Corridor

To the Honourable Mayor Scarpitti and **\*Members of Council (\*I did not have their email addresses - please forward to them)**

On November 3, 2017 I attended the Toronto Botanical Garden's **2nd Annual Ravine Symposium**. The focus of the symposium was to illustrate the challenges of managing "natural" areas that have been severely degraded by over-urbanization. Development pressures result in the reduction of native tree cover, introduction of invasive plant species, arbitrary redirection of water flow resulting in erosion and huge expenses.

**Between 2005 and 2013, two heavy rainstorms cost the GTA 1.5 billion dollars in insured property damage.**

Why would the TBG be hosting a ravine Symposium?

The Toronto Botanical Garden is located in North Toronto beside on a ravine and tributary of the East Don River. This is an area developed in the early 1900's - an era of rapid growth for the city - when knowledge of "ecosystem services" was limited at best. Fast forward to October 1954; Hurricane Hazel swept through the GTA resulting in 125 million dollars worth of damages.

The August 2005 storm - which swept through the GTA including Thornhill - also flooded the banks of Wilket Creek (now under TBG management) ripping out pedestrian bridges, destroying pathways, gardens and undermining slopes leading up to large established homes.

Mayor Scarpitti and Councillors, we live in a time where we have a wealth of information about, and much greater awareness of, the delicate balance that exists between the developed and the natural worlds.

global wildlife populations are down and up to 75% of insects have vanished - all due to habitat destruction. Healthy natural systems, such as wetlands, purify our water.

Tree covers and forests cool our neighbourhoods and waterways. They produce oxygen and play an important part in the water cycle and are critical in reducing damage during extreme flooding

Before you make the same mistake that the City of Toronto did 100 years ago, please consider the wonderful city that Markham could be in 25, 50 even 100 or more years from now...IF you make the RIGHT decisions - for the environment AND for the quality of life of the people in Markham, York Region and beyond.

Listen carefully to the environmentalists & the scientists who understand this delicate balance.

**Please maximize the buffer zones to protect the Bruce Berczy Corridor.**

Markham has the opportunity to learn from others' past follies...if it so chooses.

Sincerely

Jane McCulloch

**Subject:**

FW: New submission from Rea Contact Form

**Name**

Barry MacKay

**Comment**

Re the Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor. Markham is my home town and I have lived here for most of 74 years, thus have seen many changes. I will try to attend today's meeting on this issue, but I do want to go on record right now as saying I strongly support maintaining the corridor and protecting it from development. I am a life-long professional naturalist and as such I realize that neither in time permitted, nor even a letter, can one provide all the valid reasons why it is in the better interest of ourselves, future generations and economic development to stop the massive decline in species diversity that flows from unchecked "development" at the expense of naturally evolved ecosystems. I can tell you that the losses I've seen because of my ability to find and identify a wide range of wildlife species has been profound. We can always excuse one minor loss here or there but the accumulative effect of our interest in short-term gain is coming at an enormous cost. Here is something we can do, here and now, and I strongly urge you to take a stand to protect the corridor.

**Subject:**

FW: Protection of the Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor (the Markham's Future Urban Area DSC Meeting Today Nov 13)

**Subject:** Protection of the Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor (the Markham's Future Urban Area DSC Meeting Today Nov 13)

Hi

I am a long time Markham resident (20+ years), and an active member of the community and with the City of Markham for many many years including:

Markham Environmental Advisory committee (>10 years and multiple Chairs)

Markham Centre Advisory Committee (>5 years, current Chair)

Environmental Advisory Committee

Multi-use Pathway Working Group (since inception)

MEP Working group (since inception)

Adopt-a-Park (many years)

and volunteering at events....

So as you can see, I care about and am very proud to have played (& continue to play) on Markham's Development - especially with respect to the Environment.

I am concerned that the Conceptual Plan for Future Urban Development in Markham being tabled today has the potential to sacrifice some of the environmental principles needed to ensure a healthy sustainable natural ecosystem that is in place today.

I strongly urge the city to protect the Bruce-Berczy Ecological Corridor, not only for the benefit of wildlife, but as a means for the citizens of Markham to connect to nature by including cycling and pedestrian pathways through this area.

This perspective is endorsed within Markham's Greenprint - which looks forward - bridging today with 2050 goals.

Thanks for your attention, and congratulations on being a part of making Markham the amazing sustainable place to live that it is and is becoming.

Philip Ling, P.Eng.



**Subject:**

FW: Bruce-Bercy Ecological Corridor Markham's Future Urban Area

---

**From:** RAGUNATHAN MAHESU [**Subject:** Bruce-Bercy Ecological Corridor Markham's Future Urban Area

Hello,

We need preserve our ecological corridor and expand as our ecological system plays a vital role in all our lives starting from agriculture to our existence.

Thank you