

Your Federal Leaders Have All the Power

Mayor Rob Burton - Friday, August 09, 2013

In response to public concerns, Oakville Town Council first passed a cell tower protocol by-law in 2011 (and updated it in 2012) opposing new cell towers within 200 meters of homes even though the federal government told the residents and Council they would ignore it, and ignoring it is just what the federal government has done since and is still doing now.

The Prime Minister and his Cabinet, especially the Minister of Industry, and the Members of Parliament, such as Oakville MP Terence Young, are the only ones who can change the rules for cell tower placement. Under Canada's Constitution, the federal government has *exclusive* authority over cell tower placements.

We got our hopes up for local control on May 19, 2011, **when Oakville MP Terence Young told the media he will get municipalities more control over cell towers with a "regulation or private members bill"**. (You can click the quote to read more from the news story from the day: ["Young wants municipalities to have greater control over where cell towers are placed through regulation or by private members bill when he returns to Parliament. "I believe people should feel safe in their neighbourhood. This is a national issue and isn't going to go away and is going to get bigger," he added."](#))

Council and I continue to hope MP Young will introduce his regulation or his bill as he promised.

Until things change, the [Ontario Municipal Act \(click to read\)](#) dictates what Mayors and Councils oversee. Other things are looked after by the federal and/or the provincial government.

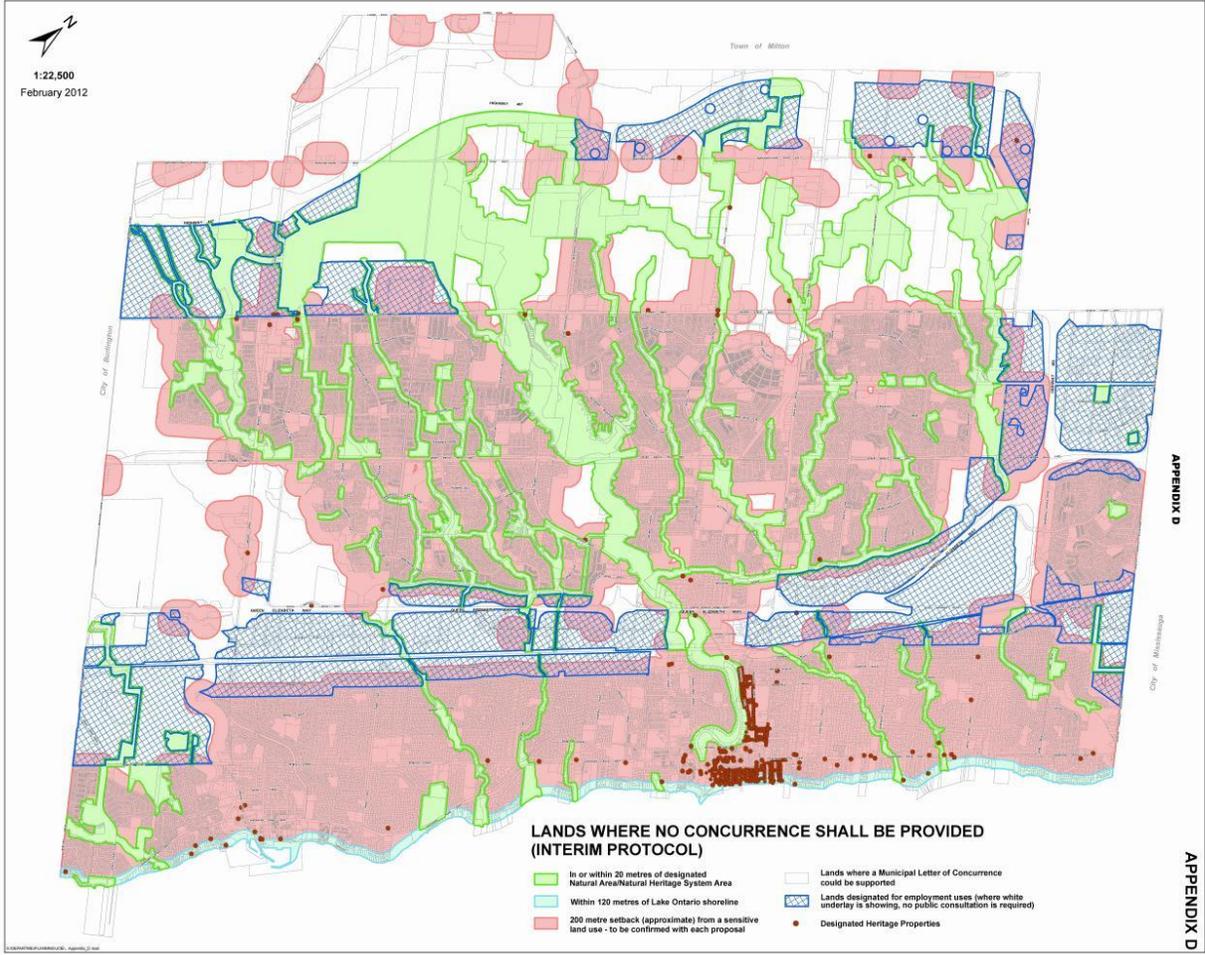
Bottom Line: if the Prime Minister and his Cabinet of Ministers never hear from citizens who are concerned about cell towers, nothing will ever change. (*Oakville Council - see above - already told them!*)

So what is it about this federal government that keeps people from feeling they can take their federal issues to the Prime Minister and his Cabinet and MPs?

Non-concurrence map

Here is a map of Oakville showing the cell tower non-concurrence zones (pink area) as a result of the 200 meter setback. Only areas that are white or white under blue cross hatching are areas where Oakville will consider cell tower concurrence. (You can click on the map image to view the map in larger format).

1:22,500
February 2012



APPENDIX D

APPENDIX D