

No one moves to Caledon for higher densities

At a recent Caledon Council meeting, where planning progress on the Mayfield West development in our south end was reviewed, it was refreshing to hear my Regional councillor wonder aloud about the logic of government policy that seeks to press ever higher housing densities onto rural community developments that edge the Greater Toronto Area (GTA), as he had yet to meet someone who planned to move to Caledon to live in high-density dwellings,

Jane Jacobs may have got it right for an existing conurbation like Toronto, but a hard-nosed reduced-footprint strategy for our now-precious byways, villages and bucolic landscapes is nonsensical. If the price of rapid population growth is the disappearance of a sense of place and the past as happened within one generation in nearby Vaughan, what hope is there for social cohesion down the road?

Over 40 years living next door, I saw a lot of poor decision-making around the preservation of social continuity. I now fear that much of what is socially and historically meaningful hereabouts will be lost in ?Brampton North,? under the pressure of tough provincial policies mandating increasing density.

Ian Keith Anderson,
Cedar Mills