STOP THE SPRAWL! TAKE ACTION TOOKLKIT

QUICK ACTIONS

Add your name, sign a petition, call your local representives.

THIS TOOLKIT INCLUDES:

GOING BIG

How to plan a community event or rally, organize a lobby day, and work with the media.

MAKE IT PERSONAL

Participate in committee, write an impactful letter, meet with your local representative.

HELPFUL LINKS

Interested in learning more about community organizing?



QUICK ACTIONS

••

ADD YOUR NAME

SEND IN A PETITION

MAKE A CALL



Add your name in support of our motion call to stop harmful sprawl:

https://www.jessicabell mpp.ca/motion29



Sign, share and send us a petition to protect the **Greenbelt and Repeal** Bill 23.

Printable version on next slide.

Call Premier Doug Ford, **Minister of Municipal** Affairs and Housing **Steve Clark and your** local MPP.

Protect the Greenbelt and repeal Bill 23

TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ONTARIO:

Whereas Bill 23 will remove protected land from the Greenbelt, allowing wealthy developers to profit by bulldozing over 7,000 acres of farmland;

Whereas greenspaces and farmland are what we rely on to grow our food, support natural habitats, prevent flooding, and mitigate future climate disasters;

Whereas Ontario loses 319.6 acres of farmland daily to development;

Whereas the Government's Housing Affordability Task Force found there are plenty of places to build homes without destroying the Greenbelt, showcasing that Bill 23 was never about housing but about making the rich richer;

Whereas power of conservation authorities will be taken away, weakening environmental protections, and preventing future development;

We the undersigned petition the Legislative Assembly of Ontario to: immediately repeal Bill 23, stop all plans to further remove protected land from the Greenbelt and protect existing farmland in the province.

Signature	Name (please print)	Address	Email	Phone Number
		46	6	



When complete mail to: 719 Bloor St. W Unit 103 Toronto, ON M6G1L5



WHO DO I CALL?



DOUG FORD

Premier Constituency: 416-745-2859 Premier's Office: 416-325-1941 or TTY 1-800-387-5559



STEVE CLARK

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Constituency: 613-342-9522 Ministry: 416-585-7000



YOUR MPP

Find yours here: <u>https://www.ola.org/en/members</u>



HERE'S A SCRIPT:



Hello, My name is [Your Name], and I am a concerned citizen from [Your City/Town/riding].

I'm calling to urge you to support MPP Jessica Bell's Motion 29.

Ontario needs to build 1.5 million homes to address the housing needs of current and future Ontarians. Building more homes in existing neighborhoods is more sustainable than urban sprawl. It protects farmland, promotes sustainable transportation, and allows for more efficient provision of services.

I believe Ontario should work with municipalities to increase density in areas already zoned for development, instead of expanding municipal boundaries. By supporting Motion 29, we can build more affordable homes where people want to live while protecting farmland.

Do the right thing for the people of Ontario. Support Motion 29.

Goodbye.





MAKE IT PERSONAL

PARTICIPATE IN COMMITEE

Consider speaking at a committee hearing or submitting written comments on legislation that matters to you.

Learn more here: <u>www.ola.org/en/get-involved/participate-</u> **committees**

WRITE AN EFFECTIVE LETTER

MPPs receive 100s of emails and letters a day. You can make yours stand out by:

- Keeping your email or letter short and to the point.
- Get to your ask fast and make it clear.
- Request a response.
- writing to the Premier or a Minister.
- experiences.
- Be respectful.

Sample on next slide.

MEET YOUR MPP

This is especially effective if you have a Conservative MPP. Finds yours here: <u>www.ola.org/en/members</u>

• Address your email or letter to one person. CC your MPP if Personalize your email or letter by adding your own voice and



SAMPLE LETTER TO YOUR MPP

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my concerns regarding [the specific issue or topic you wish to address]. As your constituent and an engaged member of our community, am asking you to [proposed action or solution].

Start by providing a brief introduction that establishes your connection to the issue. [For example, if you're a renter, mention briefly how sprawl won't help you find a home in your neighbourhood.] Next, clearly articulate the issue you wish to address and explain why it is significant or relevant to the community or constituency. [Use 1 or 2 facts, and/or a personal experience to support your position].

In light of the above, I kindly request that you [state the specific action or change you are advocating for]. It is my belief that by [proposed action or change], we can [potential benefits or positive impact].

I am asking you to consider the perspectives and concerns of your constituents who may be affected by this issue. Our voices matter.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I would appreciate a reply.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

Remember to personalize the letter by adding your own voice and experiences. Sign the letter with your full name, and consider including your contact information to facilitate further communication.





GOING BIG



PLAN AN ACTION

Actions are a good way to raise awareness and demonstrate support for an issue. They can also help people feel they are part of a bigger movement and inspire them to also take action. The goal of protesting isn't just to yell and hold up signs, it's to inspire change and influence your community.

- Rally
 - Activists Handbook
- Roundtables and Town Halls Organizing a Community Roundtable
- Peaceful protests
 - Organizing a Protest, Walkout or Boycott
- Plan a lobby day • See next slide!



• Organizer's Guide to Protests and Political Change

LOBBY DAYS

Planning a lobby day at Queen's Park in Ontario involves organizing your efforts, scheduling meetings with politicians, and preparing your advocacy materials. Here are some steps to help you plan a successful lobby day:

- 1. Determine the specific goals and objectives of your lobby day.
- 2. Build a coalition: Reach out to like-minded organizations, activists, and individuals.
- 3. Identify the politicians, government officials, or committees that have influence over the issues you wish to address.
- 4. Schedule meetings.
- 5. Prepare your materials. Develop concise and persuasive materials.
- 6. Prepare key messages and talking points.
- 7. Engage with the press media.
- 8. Consider hosting a reception at Queen's Park.
- 9. Follow up: After your lobby day, send thank-you notes or emails to the politicians and their staff who met with you. Remind them of any commitments they made or any follow-up actions they promised. Maintain ongoing communication with the politicians and continue to advocate for your cause.

MEDIA ADVISORY

How to write a media advisory and media advisory template. <u>Link.</u>

MEDIA PREP

CONTACT MEDIA

How to contact journalists and build your media list. Link.

PRESS RELEASE

How to write a press release and press release template. Link.

SPREAD THE WORD

How to get people to RSVP and attend your event. <u>Link.</u>



SOCIAL MEDIA

How to use social media to help spread the word about your campaign. <u>Link.</u>

LOOKING FOR MORE TIPS & RESOURCES?

BE INCLUSIVE

<u>Antiracism tools</u> <u>Accessibility tools.</u> <u>Allyship.</u>

STAYING SAFE

Take care and prevent activist burnout. <u>Link.</u>

CONTACT US

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