



Dennis Dick

Thank you for this opportunity to respond

I believe an Official Plan can be finalized within one year providing Council takes on a new approach to heritage community development. From my perspective, the biggest difference between the old O.P. and what the new one should consider is, how to preserve local heritage character. The use of secondary plans is important and should still be used, as well as Heritage Designations, however, to truly save our established neighbourhoods, Council and staff need an in depth study of the heritage character of the unique areas within our towns. Considering the provincial mandate in "Places to Grow" legislation for intensification and infill, development will change the character of our neighbourhoods if we do not integrate a new approach. The term "cultural heritage landscapes", is a new approach to defining the heritage character of an area and can be a new tool to use against the infilling of large lots.

When Randwood was rezoned to a commercial application, the most important proviso that the Council of the day demanded was that any building on the property be restricted to three storeys, so that it would not become the dominant feature. This proviso must be adhered to, otherwise the whole bylaw should be rescinded.

The existing buildings are well blended into the existing treescapes and a new building should do likewise

Public accessibility to Council debates in a larger public forum should be encouraged, however, strict etiquette from the public must be demanded by the chairperson. The loss of decorum should not be tolerated.

No expansion of Niagara-on-the-Lake urban boundaries into agricultural land should be contemplated.

Dennis Dick