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## **Burlington petition against escarpment highway goes to Queen's Park**

**Burlington, Ont.—May 8, 2011**—Members of Burlington Council will be at Queen's Park May 9 to support a petition from more than 3,000 people opposed to building a highway across a rural stretch of the Niagara Escarpment.

Burlington MPP Joyce Savoline and Halton MPP Ted Chudleigh will present a petition against a proposed transportation corridor from Niagara to the GTA to the [Legislative Assembly of Ontario](#). Mayor Rick Goldring, Ward 3 Councillor John Taylor and Ward 6 Councillor Blair Lancaster will travel to Toronto to support the petition, and will be joined by Lowville resident Janie Moore who collected signatures from homes and businesses throughout Burlington.

"This is not just about Burlington, this is about Halton Region and beyond," Moore said. "The rural area of Burlington is Halton's playground, and contains the Bruce Trail, which is used by hikers from around the world. The area is a destination for cyclists, rock climbers, photographers, equestrians and wildlife enthusiasts. It contains historic farms and cemeteries dating back to the 1800s."

In October 2010, the province modified Halton Region's official plan, the document that maps out what growth can happen and where, placing a [proposed transportation corridor](#) across escarpment lands in rural Burlington. In response, Councillors Taylor and Lancaster hosted a public meeting in December 2010 with more than 800 people attending.

Following the meeting, the city joined with a [coalition of seven citizen groups](#) to oppose the proposed escarpment highway. In February 2011, the province announced that the proposed route would no longer appear on the region's official plan.

### **Mayor Rick Goldring**

"I am pleased to be here with my colleagues, Councillors Taylor and Lancaster, who have successfully worked with the community to ensure this world biosphere reserve is protected for generations to come. We can celebrate our success as a community while realizing that more work is to be done to ensure our escarpment lands are protected."

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**Councillor Blair Lancaster**

“This is an important message we are sending today to the provincial government. The people of Burlington are serious about protecting this escarpment land, and will work with government to make sure it happens.”

**Councillor John Taylor**

“The city will continue to partner with citizens and community groups to protect the Niagara Escarpment. Burlington is committed to protect the escarpment lands, the rural countryside, prime agricultural land and the Greenbelt from urban development.”

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