

Samples of Members Letters Against MZO on 65 Ward Street

March 25, 2023

premier@ontario.ca

Paul.Calandra@pc.ola.org

minister.mah@ontario.ca

David.Piccini@pc.ola.org

Dear Premier and Ministers,

The Minister of Long Term Care has requested that the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing issue a Minister's Zoning order for the historic hospital site, 65 Ward Street. I am a resident of Port Hope who has grave concerns about this build by Southbridge. I'm sure you are aware of the heritage designation of this hospital, and of aspects of its important history.

Last February, following a concerted effort by townspeople, our council rejected the seven storey proposed zoning amendment for reasons including safety, traffic, heritage and the aesthetic cohesion of the streetscape. The impact such a massive tower would have on the surrounding residences is unimaginable.

While I strongly support Long Term Care facilities and services in our town, the 65 Ward Street location is inappropriate for something of this size. Southbridge always maintained the 65 Ward Street lot size was significantly smaller than required, even for their original plan of a three storey facility. There will be little room for anything but parking, already insufficient for their needs.

I urge you to deny the request for the proposed MZO for this property. Southbridge is a welcome partner in this town, and I hope that will explore potential development of larger lands, which have been suggested for a land swap. They are encouraged to consider working with the Municipality to find a site more suitable to their needs.

March 23, 2023

Premier Doug Ford,
Minister Paul Calandra,
Minister Steve Clark,
Minister David Piccini
Cc Mayor Olena Hankivsky

Dear Premier and Ministers,

I am writing about the community where I live and work, Port Hope, Ontario. Port Hope is a thriving rural community on the shore of Lake Ontario, only 100 km east of Toronto. It is a creative and forward-thinking community that embraces tourism, agriculture, built and natural heritage, economic development, and growth.

Although small, Port Hope is more than a spot on the map. It is a destination community that is economically sound and viable. Tourists flock to the community to visit a unique, livable, and beautiful place. The rolling hills of Northumberland, the vibrant farms, barn trails and river walks marry beautifully with its artistic pursuits and heritage architecture. The image of this community is fundamental to its economic well-being.

I was saddened to hear that the Minister of Long Term Care has requested that the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing issue a Minister's Zoning order for the historic hospital site, 65 Ward Street. This location is designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act and is an integral part of the heart and soul of Port Hope. The buildings on this property are emblematic of health care in Ontario. They portray a significant piece of Port Hope's history, and indeed are Port Hope's original hospital and first public hospital.

Establishing a public hospital in 1911 was a vast undertaking. The story of these buildings is the story of a community with spirit, drive and determination. The former hospital buildings at 65 Ward St. treated more than 200 WW1 soldiers and served as a significant recuperative centre for soldiers and veterans during and after the war. The original hospital became a nursing school that trained ambitious women from across the province, giving them skills crucial to the war effort and well beyond to practice in the medical field. The story of the Port Hope Hospital is one of sacrifice and a commitment to see things through. The fight to build it was worth the reward. Our sense of well-being is tied very closely to these notable buildings, these visible symbols give the citizens of Port Hope a sense of security in a quickly changing world. Built heritage physically connects us to our past, who we are, and where we come from.

Port Hope can grow without destroying the things people love. We have room for a Long-Term Care facility in other parts of Port Hope more suited by landscape and geography to caring for Seniors. Please do not allow this piece of our landscape to vanish. **I ask that your government NOT ISSUE a Minister's Zoning Order on this property.**

March 24, 2023

premier@ontario.ca

Paul.Calandra@pc.ola.org

minister.mah@ontario.ca

David.Piccini@pc.ola.org

Dear Premier and Ministers,

I understand the Minister of Long Term Care has requested that the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing issue a Minister's Zoning order for the historic hospital site, 65 Ward Street.

This location is designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act and is an integral part of the heart and soul of Port Hope. The buildings on this property are emblematic of health care in Ontario. They portray a significant piece of Port Hope's history, and indeed are Port Hope's original hospital and first public hospital.

Establishing a public hospital in 1911 was a vast undertaking. The story of these buildings is the story of a community with spirit, drive and determination. The former hospital buildings at 65 Ward St. treated more than 200 WW1 soldiers and served as a significant recuperative centre for soldiers and veterans during and after the war. The original hospital became a nursing school that trained ambitious women from across the province, giving them skills crucial to the war effort and well beyond to practice in the medical field. The story of the Port Hope Hospital is one of sacrifice and a commitment to see things through. The fight to build it was worth the reward.

Port Hope can grow without destroying the things people love. We have room for a Long-Term Care facility in other parts of Port Hope more suited by landscape and geography to caring for Seniors. **Please do not allow this piece of our landscape to vanish. I ask that your government NOT ISSUE a Minister's Zoning Order on this property.**