



April 25, 2022

Hon. Steve Clark, Minister
Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing
17th Floor, 777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Minister Clark,

Bruce County Council strongly objects to the province having adopted Bill 109, and having it come into effect, less than halfway through the consultation period that the province provided for the bill through the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) platform.

This Bill is described as a first step toward implementing recommendations of the Housing Affordability Task Force, an urban and industry-led group, which completed its work within a 2-month period. Despite noting broad consultation with 140 organizations and individuals, the task force did not outline a broad call for feedback to support its work.

The broad call for feedback, on the actual changes proposed by the government, was provided through the ERO Posting.

Bruce County appreciates the call for timely and decisive action outlined in the Affordability Task Force Report, and the concern that consultation and decision-making processes often extend beyond the statutory timeframes outlined in the Act.

The remedy, however, is not for the government to make decisions mid-way through the consultation period that the government itself has provided.

We are concerned that this action may have broken trust between the Province and Municipalities who are the first line for implementation of the legislation.

We are disappointed by the action taken by the province. We recommend the province review the comments it receives and reconsider or amend the legislation, and commit itself to meaningful engagement in future proposals.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janice Jackson".

Janice Jackson,

Warden

cc: Premier of Ontario

Bruce County Lower Tier Municipalities