

January 30, 2012

Ms. Tracy Kibble  
Editor, Georgina Advocate

Dear Ms. Kibble:

The good news is that our local political leaders can stop Metrus' proposal to build a 1,073 home subdivision on a provincially significant wetland in the North Gwillimbury Forest ("Alliance vows to save wetlands" – January 26)

While the Town approved the Maple Leaf Estates mobile home park development in 1984, this project cannot proceed since it does not have Section 28 permits pursuant to the *Conservation Authorities Act*. The Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority can deny Metrus these permits since approximately 80% of the proposed development site was designated as a provincially significant wetland by the Ministry of Natural Resources in 2003.

Moreover, Metrus does not want to proceed with a low-end, low-profit mobile home park. On the contrary, it wants to build a conventional higher-end, higher-profit subdivision. But it has absolutely no approvals from the Town for this type of development. Furthermore, it is Government of Ontario policy that the Town must not grant approvals for housing projects on provincially significant wetlands.

In addition to being Mayor of Georgina, Rob Grossi is also a board member of the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority. We hope that Mayor Grossi will lead the campaign to stop Maple Leaf Estates and save the North Gwillimbury Forest for the people of Georgina.

Yours truly,

Jack Gibbons  
Chair, North Gwillimbury Forest Alliance