Stuart & Fern Martin 151 Hawkesville Road St. Jacobs Ontario N0B 2N0

November 20, 2023

Mayor Sandy Shantz Woolwich Township 24 Church Street West Elmira, Ontario, N3B 2Z6

Dear Mayor Shantz,

I am writing regarding our **property at 52 Hawkesville Road** which is 24 acres immediately to the west of the Calvary United Church lands and immediately south of the Gilles-Frede lands.

Our family has owned these 24 acres for the past 60 plus years.

Stuart Wartin

For many years now we have known that the lands would soon be used to provide homes for families. As farmers we recognize that land is required to be taken out of agricultural production in order to provide housing for our growing community, land is required to provide for needs of large employers in St. Jacobs such as Home Hardware, and land is required to build churches. The good thing is that crop yields have increased 3-fold over the last decades and so we are fortunate to continue to be able to provide the crops which are needed along with housing and jobs.

The Township of Woolwich supported including our 24 acres of land inside the countryside line many years ago. When the Province of Ontario made the decision this past April to move forward to bring our 24 acres into the St. Jacobs settlement area now it made good sense to us. I do believe the land surrounding Calvary United Church to the west and to the north are best organized and planned at one time.

This past summer we moved to sell to the local Schlegel family whom we believe will make a positive neighbourhood with the land. Schlegel's began working immediately to get studies and reports underway. Being in the business of farming, we replaced the land with the purchase of farmlands to the north.

This latest uncertainty which has been caused by the province's October announcement is causing us significant difficulty. We fail to see the purpose of turning back on the provincial decision from April as it really is a decision that respects the Township's already laid out plans as well to use this land to provide housing. Moving ahead now allows that the best coordinated plans can be made for all lands in the areas west and north of Calvary United Church which we believe serves a very worthwhile planning purpose.

We understand that the province has now asked for the guidance of Woolwich. We therefore request that our 24 acres of land continue to be included now within the buildable area for St. Jacobs so that there is certainty and that we may all continue to move forward with the decisions which have been made.

Yours Truly,

Stuart Martin

