



TOWN OF
HALTON HILLS
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REPORT

TO: Mayor Lawlor and Members of Council

FROM: Jeff Markowiak, Director of Development Review

DATE: April 10, 2025

REPORT NO.: PD-2025-022

SUBJECT: Request to waive a Consent application fee for 12815 Fifth Line (Esquesing)

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report PD-2025-022, dated April 10, 2025, regarding a “Request to waive a Consent application fee for 12815 Fifth Line (Esquesing)”, be received;

AND FURTHER THAT Council select one of the following two options regarding the disposition of this matter:

A. That Council waive the Consent application fee of \$5,180.00 for 12815 Fifth Line, Town of Halton Hills (Esquesing), owned by Gordan Djuricic & Danica Djuricic;

OR

B. That the request for a waiver of the Consent application fee for 12815 Fifth Line, Town of Halton Hills (Esquesing), owned by Gordan Djuricic & Danica Djuricic be refused;

AND FURTHER THAT, if Council chooses Option “A”, the Consent application fee of \$5,180.00 be refunded and an offsetting transfer of \$5,180.00 be made from the Tax Rate Stabilization reserve to the operating budget.

KEY POINTS:

The following are key points for consideration with respect to this report:

- A Consent application was submitted in 2024 for 12815 Fifth Line seeking to sever a portion of the lot in order to convey it to the adjacent Bruce Trail

Conservancy's Maple Ridge Nature Reserve for the purposes of protecting the lands as part of the Bruce Trail conservation corridor.

- The Bruce Trail Conservancy is requesting that the Consent application fee of \$5,180.00 be waived. As per the Town's Fee By-law (provision 3 (c) of the Planning & Development section), planning application fees may be appealed to Council.
- In the fee waiver request letter submitted with the application the Bruce Trail Conservancy has noted that they are a charitable organization, that they advance the objectives of 'healthy and active communities' and that the costs to secure the trail will almost exceed the land costs.
- The required application fee has already been paid by the Bruce Trail Conservancy so the application could be processed; therefore, should Council waive the fee it would be provided as a refund.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:

On December 13, 2024, the Town received a Consent application from the Owners of 12815 Fifth Line seeking to sever a \pm 8.4 hectare piece of land (Parcel B on the severance sketch attached as SCEHDULE 1) in order to convey it to the adjacent Bruce Trail Conservancy's Maple Ridge Nature Reserve (Parcel C) for the purposes of protecting the lands as part of the Bruce Trail conservation corridor.

In order for the application to be processed immediately the Bruce Trail paid the required \$5,180.00 Consent application fee. However, as part of the application the Bruce Trail Conservancy submitted a letter (see SCHEDULE 2 – BRUCE TRAIL LETTER) requesting a waiver of the Consent Application fee, citing that they are a charitable organization, that they advance the objectives of 'healthy and active communities' and that the costs to secure the trail will almost exceed the land costs. As per the Town's Fee By-law (provision 3(c) of the Planning & Development section), planning application fees may be appealed to Council.

If Council chooses to waive the application fee, it would be funded from the Tax Rate Stabilization reserve and a refund would be provided to the Bruce Trail Conservancy given they already paid the \$5,180.00 fee. If Council chooses to refuse the request, no refund will be provided to the Bruce Trail Conservancy.

The Consent has since been approved by the Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment & Consent Official and the Bruce Trail Conservancy is working to clear the conditions of approval in order to legally convey the parcel.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This report is administrative in nature and does not have an impact on the Town's Strategic Plan.

RELATIONSHIP TO CLIMATE CHANGE:

This report is administrative in nature and does not directly impact or address climate change and the Town's Net Zero target.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:

Public Engagement was not needed as this report is administrative in nature.

INTERNAL CONSULTATION:

Planning staff has consulted with Corporate Services in the preparation of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

This report has an immediate financial impact and requires a funding source.

Should Council choose Option A to waive the Consent application fee, the \$5,180.00 will be refunded to the applicant and an offsetting transfer will be funded from the Town's Tax Rate Stabilization (TRS) reserve. This process ensures that there is no impact on the operating budget.

The balance of the TRS reserve is monitored by the Finance department and will be reported to Council through the Reserve Funds Status report.

Reviewed and approved by,

John Linhardt, Commissioner of Planning & Development

Chris Mills, Chief Administrative Officer