

Christopher Clayton  
McKellar Ontario P2A 0B5  
February 1, 2024

my reference 604.3 LSEC POLICY OBJECTION

McKellar Township Committee Member  
Lake Stewardship and Environmental Committee of McKellar Township

The "Policy Statement" page 4, states "The Township of McKellar recommends the preservation, renewal and replacement of the tree canopy in the whole of McKellar Township." and further states "This policy applies to all properties and development, on public and private lands, in the Township of McKellar."

I understand this to mean all open fields and spaces should be renewed with tree canopy. I raise the concern that existing farm fields and open spaces would not be allowed to remain open in the future. Because the farms existed before this by-law, they would be grandfathered in and allowed to stay as fields. However properties such as mine were farm fields before construction of our home and we wish it to remain open space. Now wildlife such as song birds, countless insects and amphibians enjoy the wildflowers now growing here. Related wildlife such as rabbits, foxes and deer benefit as well. Finally there are natural open spaces where the rock and thin soils don't permit tree growth.

I propose the "Policy Statement" be revised to state "The Township of McKellar recommends the preservation, renewal and replacement of the tree canopy except natural open spaces and any upland culturally modified prior to 1950CE.

Making this addition I believe will allay any fears property owners of farms or open spaces that they may be require to renew the tree canopy.

Respectfully submitted  
Christopher Clayton BSc, BLA