

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Town Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** April 24- Line Fences Changes  
**Date:** April 3, 2023 8:53:30 PM

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Clerk Giles,

I am requesting an opportunity to address council/ committee with regard to the report suggesting cessation of Line Fence Act adjudication by the town Of the blue Mountains.

I will be asking council to consider an alternative to the recommendation of the Report on the following basis.

- 1) The Line Fences Act is a long established and generally accepted tool for adjudication of fence matters as covered by the act,
- 2) The Line Fences Act provides a community based process to deal with a local issue.
- 3) The adjudication of Fence Viewers offers mediation and common sense resolution of issues at reasonable cost compared to the adversarial and expensive alternative of the courts in the absence of Line Fence act services
- 4) Fence viewers can deal with a matter within a short time frame as compared to the courts, which can be important to the normal farm practices of the party or parties involved.
- 5) Agriculture is designated as a desired land use by the Official plan Of the TBM in a large percent of the towns area . While livestock agriculture has reduced in recent years the future may hold a resurgence of livestock rearing and the associated Line Fence Issues. This tool would likely be very difficult to bring back.
- 6) The Fence Viewers Adjudication is not used frequently but it is a fair and effective and familiar tool if required .
- 6) I concede that the Line fences Act may be an abused tool within secondary plan areas of TBM and an alternative may be preferable.

I would ask Council to consider the following alternatives

1. IN the Secondary Plan areas of the town, follow the recommendation within the report. In all other areas retain the Line Fences act as a tool for resolution of Line Fence issues.
2. OR Defer the matter pending a Recommendation to council from the soon to be appointed Ag Advisory Committee.

Regards

Duncan McKinlay

[REDACTED]

Ravenna ON

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