



**ESCARPMENT
CORRIDOR ALLIANCE
PRESENTS**

ADVERTORIAL

**TOP 8
REASONS**

**FOR ESTABLISHING AN ECOLOGICAL CORRIDOR
ACROSS SOUTH GEORGIAN BAY
WHY THIS MATTERS NOW.**

1 500 Square km – the ECA envisions an eco-corridor winding its way along the escarpment from Creemore to Georgian Peaks, from Castle Glen through Kolapore and Duncan, and across the Beaver Valley. This corridor would connect existing parks, conservation areas, crown lands, county forests, private lands as well as other ecologically sensitive areas.

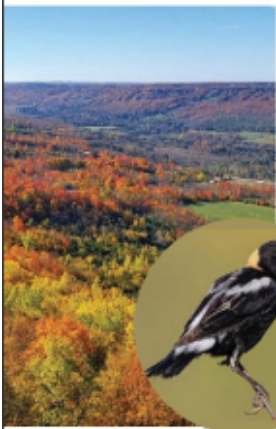


2 Corridors Are HOT – top scientists and policy makers around the world are in absolute agreement – without ecological connectivity, our biodiversity crisis cannot be stopped. And this connectivity can only happen by stitching together isolated



'islands of nature' to create functional ecological corridors. The ECA is adopting Parks Canada's Ecological Corridor principles, and will be seeking financial support from the Federal Ecological Corridors program.

3 Four Prime Kilometers – above all, we need to protect the brow of our escarpment. Saving the Castle Glen and Talisman properties from mega-development are priorities. The proposed Castle Glen development (1,600 homes, golf courses, hotels and retail commercial space) would destroy almost three kilometers of prime escarpment land. The Talisman development would destroy the nearly 1km section along the escarpment brow.



4 Countless Species at Risk Through field studies with experts, the ECA's natural heritage work is focused on saving our precious ecosystems. To date,

we are already tracking over 16 threatened and endangered species in the Castle Glen area, and would like to expand this surveillance region. **Did you know?** The escarpment is located at the headwaters to some of the last remaining viable cold water fisheries in Georgian Bay, and to the feeding of clean, cold water into the critical intact wetlands along the shores of Nottawasaga (Georgian) Bay.

5 Unrelenting Development Pressure – While Castle Glen and Talisman represent highly visible areas of opposition, the ECA is not an anti-development organization. We are trying

to influence a better outcome in an inevitable development boom.

Did you know: The Town of Blue Mountain was the second fastest-growing municipality in Canada in the last census, there are currently 8,500 development applications in consideration.



+3,000 RESPONDENTS

88% of respondents concerned, very concerned or extremely concerned about how sprawl and development are impacting our region.

6 88% – Our Escarpment Community Survey was completed by over 3,000 respondents, making it among the most robust surveys ever done in the region. 88% of respondents were concerned, very concerned or extremely concerned about how sprawl and development are impacting our region.

7 Just How Protected is The Niagara Escarpment? – Several major systemic issues keep us awake at night at the ECA:

- The Niagara Escarpment, just like Ontario's Greenbelt which houses it, is protected by an "Act" – a piece of paper that can be changed at any time.
- The role and effectiveness of the Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC) in overseeing the protection of the escarpment has long been questioned, and was the subject of a scathing 2022 Auditor General report.
- Our Niagara Escarpment UNESCO Biosphere Reserve designation doesn't offer any real protection against inappropriate development.



8 Not A Solution to Our Housing Crisis – the ECA fully supports the need to address our many housing challenges, in particular with respect to attainable housing. However, we don't believe in false trade-offs between housing and the environment.

Make no mistake, recreational developments like Talisman and Castle Glen, with expensive seasonal and second homes, are not the solution to our housing crisis.



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The ECA was formed with a goal of creating a protected corridor across the escarpment of South Georgian Bay.

The ECA Needs You – please reach out if you want to, volunteer, donate, or ask questions. We welcome all those who believe "my escarpment is a green escarpment".

Please contact Executive Director, Jarvis Strong, for more information at info.myescarpment@gmail.com | www.myescarpment.ca