

Subject: Request for Permission to Have Chickens on a Rural Residential Property

Justin Hackett  
B1360 Simcoe Street  
Beaverton, ON L0K 1A0

March 28, 2024

Township of Brock Council  
1 Cameron Street  
Cannington, ON L0E 1E0

Dear members of Council,

I am writing to express my desire to have chickens on my property, located at B1360 Simcoe Street in Beaverton. While I understand that my property is currently not zoned for such an activity, I respectfully request your consideration in granting an exception to this regulation.

The decision to keep backyard chickens stems from a commitment to sustainable living and self-sufficiency. As a conscientious member of our community, I am keenly aware of the benefits that come with responsibly raising poultry. Not only does it afford me the opportunity to provide fresh, organic eggs for my family, but it also allows me to engage in environmentally friendly practices such as composting and natural pest control.

Furthermore, keeping chickens would provide valuable educational opportunities for my family including our two young children. It presents a unique chance to learn about animal husbandry, the cycle of life, and the importance of caring for living creatures. These lessons in compassion and responsibility are ones that I wish to instill.

I understand and respect the need for zoning regulations to maintain the integrity of our community. However, I believe that with proper care and consideration, the presence of a small number of chickens on our land would not be disruptive. Our 1-acre property is bordered by the Beaver River to the north and fields to the south. The eastern half of our property is a small, wooded area and our neighbours to the west share another small, wooded area on our border with them. This is largely a farming area of Beaverton with neighbours of ours keeping horses, cattle, sheep, etc. Our neighbours to the south and east, with whom we share a fence-less property line, keep horses and are zoned for chicken-keeping.

I am willing to adhere to any guidelines or restrictions that Council deems necessary to ensure the well-being of both the animals and my neighbours. A few ideas I have for your consideration:

- The chickens would be confined to an appropriately sized coop and secure, adjoining covered run; they would not be free-ranging birds. The covered run would eliminate the chances of mixing with wild birds, thus protecting the chickens from predators and from possible avian flu exposure.

- The coop and run would be set back a significant distance from the street (50 metres) and from our neighbours' houses (50 metres and 120 metres respectively). The distance from our dwelling would be 25 metres. [Please see image on page 6 for reference]
- I would not keep more than 12 birds at a given time.
- To reduce unnecessary noise, I would not have any roosters onsite. Hens are would not be heard in adjacent properties.
- Eggs would be for my own family's consumption. Under no circumstances would I be selling eggs.

In support of my request, I have garnered the backing of my neighbours who have expressed their support for the idea. Their names are included on the following page, along with their contact information should you wish to verify their consent.

I would be more than willing to discuss this matter further or provide any additional information that may be required to facilitate a decision. I am confident in Council's thoughtful consideration.

Thank you for taking the time to review my request. I eagerly await your response.

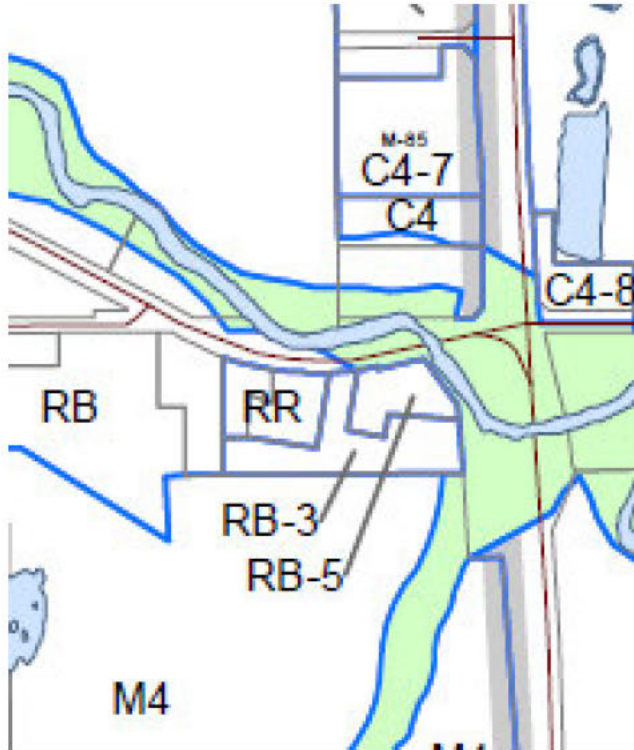
Sincerely,



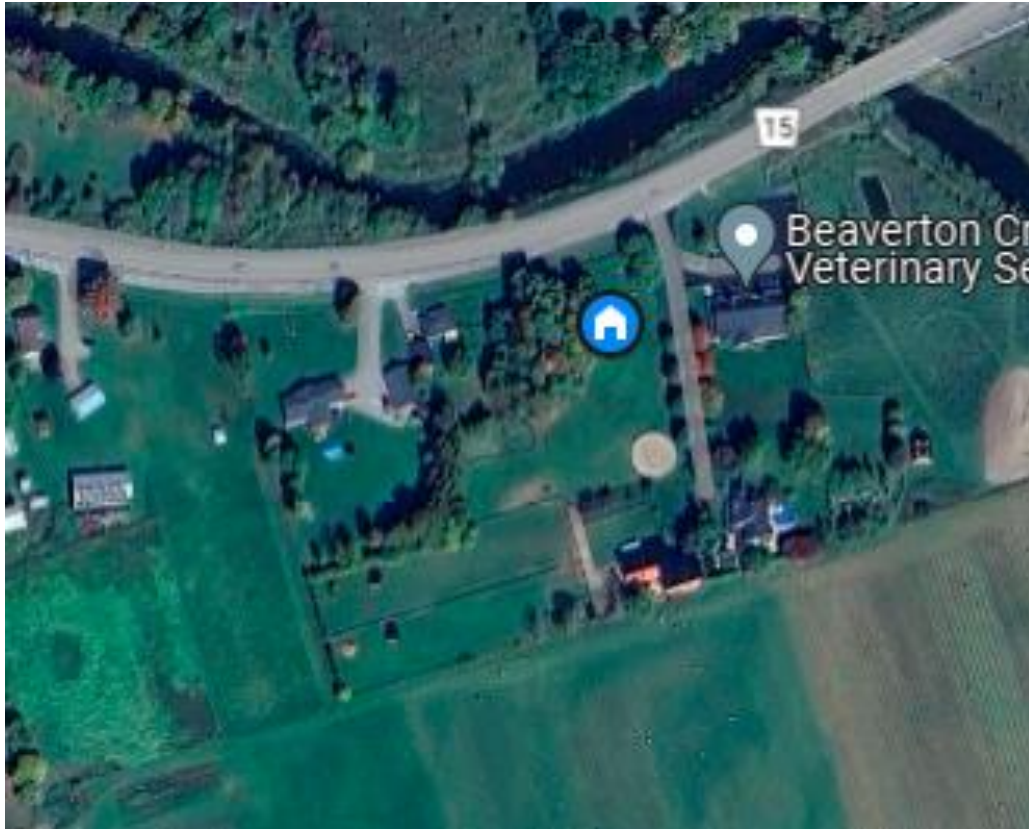
Justin Hackett

Neighbours in support of proposed

- Todd and Karrie Hill  
B1350 Simcoe ST, Beaverton  
[REDACTED]
- Richard and Dale Doner  
B1380 Simcoe ST, Beaverton  
[REDACTED]



Current zoning map of area. B1360 Simcoe ST listed as “RR” or “Rural Residential.”



Satellite image of area showing Beaver River to the north.



Zoomed satellite image of property. B1360 Simcoe St is roughly within the white square. House and neighbouring houses represented by blue circles. Distance from proposed coop to neighbouring houses and street represented by red lines.