

**To:** Mayor David Bailey and Members of Brant County Council

**Date:** April 26, 2026

**Subject:** Formal Opposition to the Proposed Boundary Adjustment and Transfer of Airport Lands

Dear Mayor Bailey and Council,

I am writing to formally express my strong opposition to the proposed transfer of the Brantford Municipal Airport lands from the County of Brant to the City of Brantford. As a stakeholder invested in the economic health of our County, I am deeply concerned that this jurisdictional shift—now directed toward provincial mediation—will have long-term negative consequences for our local business community.

The County of Brant has spent years cultivating a unique economic identity centred on a balance between agricultural preservation and strategic industrial growth. This proposed land transfer threatens that balance in several key ways:

- **Erosion of the Property Tax Base:** The removal of such a significant land asset from the County's jurisdiction directly reduces our future municipal tax base. This creates a high risk of future tax increases for existing businesses to offset resulting revenue shortfalls for essential County services and infrastructure.
- **Loss of Local Planning Control:** Businesses within the County rely on its zoning and development standards. Transferring this land to the City would subject surrounding employment lands to a different set of priorities, potentially leading to urban encroachment incompatible with the County's current business ecosystem.
- **Economic Uncertainty:** The lack of consultation and the sudden nature of this request create an unstable environment for investment. Businesses depend on predictability, and jurisdictional disputes of this magnitude signal risk to both current and prospective investors.
- **Agricultural Integrity:** Many businesses in Brant are directly or indirectly tied to the County's \$100-million-plus agricultural sector. Losing control over the airport lands sets a concerning precedent for future boundary adjustments that could further fragment prime agricultural land.

In addition to these broader concerns, I respectfully ask Council to consider implementing a **grandfathering provision** as part of any negotiated outcome. Such a provision would allow existing businesses—like ours—to continue servicing any lands affected by the transfer, despite a change in municipal boundaries. This approach would help ensure continuity, minimize disruption, and support small businesses that have been operating in good faith within the region.

I urge Council to maintain its firm stance against this transfer during the upcoming facilitated negotiations, while also considering practical measures that protect the viability of existing local businesses. Thank you for your continued dedication to protecting the interests of Brant County's residents and business community.

Respectfully,

Danny Teves  
Grand River Cab Inc

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