

# Hey Neighbour!

**Rural residents** have always taken great pride in being neighbourly. They tend to look out for their neighbours' interests and try to "lend a helping hand" whenever needed.

When they consider severing a lot or adding a building that might negatively impact a neighbour, they typically discuss it with those who could be affected. Indeed, our building by-laws have height restrictions as a way of ensuring nearby residents are not unduly harmed.

## **All that seems to be changing in Grey Highlands.**

**AIM PowerGen and other wind developers' insistence** that lease holders NOT tell neighbours of their decision to allow thirty-five storey (385 foot) industrial wind turbines to be erected on their property has destroyed this treasured rural tradition and is deeply dividing our community.

**Lease holders either don't know or don't care** that nearby property values will plummet (by 30-50%), that noise and flicker will pollute previously enjoyed vistas or that wind turbines cause health risks for both humans and animals.

Lease holders have bought the developers' one-sided sell job hook, line and sinker, then agreed to be gagged from telling the people who will be directly affected without having any say in the decision. How neighbourly.

**Lease holders think wind power is free.** It's not. It's incredibly expensive. Nor does it help the planet. But knowing this requires an understanding of the hard information about the shortcomings of wind power – proven around the world to be unreliable, inefficient, extremely costly and increasing greenhouse gas levels (because of the need for back-up generation facilities).

**The anger and frustration rising** in Grey Highlands and the divisions in our community are as much about the loss of "neighbours being neighbours" as the willingness of a few to disadvantage others for the sake of a "few easy dollars". Is this the rural way?

**If you care as much as we do**, then we need your support to continue this fight – for our homes, our way of life and our community. Ignore the spin and learn about the science of wind energy. Go to [www.gwag.ca](http://www.gwag.ca) Get involved before it's too late.

**A public service message paid for by citizens who seek to preserve the quality of living in Grey Highlands.**