

Appendix 3. Identified resilience assets and associated interview quotes

Strong local civic engagement and effective volunteerism

- MS 5 “If you do something wrong, they are certainly there to correct us. I guess the best example of it, we do have a committee, the Caledon Environment Advisory Committee. So they’ve, basically, in every project that the Town, Caledon is taking, they will review it, and they will provide comments, support us or correct us. We have also been partnering with the Countryside Alliance on different initiatives.”
- IN1 “Life would not be so great here if we didn’t have this huge core of volunteers that supported Council and staff on doing things.”
- EG1 “The strengths are again all those organizations that bring all the people together, and help them to have a stronger voice about what’s going on.”
- EG2 “Over the last 20 years, a group of people are there to protect and volunteer to preserve its ecological and environmental assets.”
- SS “Probably, there are a lot of advocacy, groups, environmental groups, people passionate about the community. So I think the community itself is a main strength, the people.”
- PL4 “Since 1970, greater awareness in society causes legislation, which is all part of awareness, has made us pay more attention to the balance between nature and people.”

Participatory planning and solid citizen-municipality relationship

- MS3 “Well, they [residents] get very involved in growth planning. And pushing Council to control growth.”
- EG 2 “I think that one of the strengths is the fact the relationship between the municipal government, whether it’s politicians or staff, and citizenry. It’s a pretty solid relationship.”
- EG 4 “The whole tri-nodal process, the whole Master planning process, that all came out of CEAC [Caledon Environmental Advisory Committee].”
- EG5 “He [Councillor] just won the election. I must say they are willing to working with community, to a large extent.”

Low-impact urban development as an opportunity

- MS 1 “I used the word ‘low-impact’ in the sense that because people say you can’t do anything, you know, and I think we need to get beyond that.”
- MS 3 “So we have a lot of areas protected, we have a lot of requirements for developers doing development. Where we need to sort of take the next step is low-impact development...I think one of the great opportunities is that we are starting from scratch. We have the opportunity to do things right, not to have repeat mistakes...Given the amount of technology that exists now, and the amount of attention paid to the environment, I think we have the opportunity to create a community that is based on good foundation of sustainability in growth management practices.”
- MS 5 “To make Caledon resilient and sustainable is to protect our natural landscapes through sustainable rural/agricultural uses and balanced urban growth centres based on low impact design principles”
- PL 3 “Low-impact development is the way we have to start thinking...You know what, we can bring the population in. Let’s think about how it fits into the nature around it, make it fit for what we need.”
- PL5 “I think, the strength in society, is that if you can have people to work and live within a ten and fifteen-minute range from home is a very strong, strong thing in our society today

where people enjoy where they live and work. So I think again planning, planning has to do with a big part of that.”

- IN 2 “It’s almost a battle between long-time residents and developers. And I don’t think it has to be that way...Maybe the European models or other models where they managed to get some growth without destroying things”

Diversified agriculture

- PL2 “There are some goat farms starting up too, I think we can expect to see a growing diversity in livestock.”
- MS1 “But you know, allowing more value-added on the farm, right? Looking at, you know, other areas where recreation can be supported with additional facilities.”
- PL 4 “And they [Downy farm] also sell fresh turkeys, as you can see there, fresh turkeys, ducks in the winter time... There is a building in the back where they [Downy Farm] make their own wine, fruit wines which they sell.”
- EG2 “They [several Caledon residents] have really big, big plans to really make this a multi-purpose venture where they grow vegetables, they will have a CSA [Community Support Agriculture] but they really see it as a way to try work for youth to teach about the connections and environmental issues and local food security. So that’s a really cool thing. That’s a huge asset to have those kind of people who are so motivated and self-directed”

Provincial conservation policies

- IN 3 “An asset is defined legislation that is environment-focused, lifestyle-focused, which I think the Oak Ridges Moraine, Niagara Escarpment Commission and Greenbelt Plan.”
- EG 4 “And they got the Niagara Escarpment Plan, the Oak Ridges Moraine Plan, and we got the Greenbelt Plan. So there is a large swap of Caledon that is pretty well protected.”
- PL5 “I think really it’s the policies of the government and the Official Plans uphold their policies, then I think that the ability of maintaining farming lifestyle can live in Caledon.”

Municipal Environmental Leadership

- MS 3 “Council sees fit to maintain a fairly large Planning Department here for the size of the municipality. And so, they put a lot of resource into growth management.”
- PL2 “We have some pretty stringent environmental policies and we have taken major steps forward. We have an Environmental Progress Officer who monitors and reports on our successes.”
- MS 4 “Engaged citizens and environmental leadership, I see them as assets. In the [Environmental Progress Action Plan], there is a whole section in the first part of the Plan on community’s achievements and Town’s achievements”.

Note: Identity codes of interviewees

EG=Environmental Groups' Leaders; LPD=Local Property Developer; MS= Municipal Staff;

PL=Politicians; IN=Individuals; SS=Social Services