



Hamilton

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## Press Release

### For Immediate Release

## Rogers Cell Phone Tower, Fiddlers Green and Hwy. #403

**ANCASTER, ON. – February 25, 2008**

As a result of numerous complaints/concerns regarding the cell phone tower under construction by Rogers Communication on provincially owned lands at the Hwy #403 on ramp from Fiddlers Green Road in Ancaster, the following comments should address the most frequently asked questions from residents in the area.

- Cell towers are Federally regulated and not subject to local regulations
- Effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008, the Federal guidelines put forth by Industry Canada have changed now requiring public consultation with citizens directly affected by the installation of cell towers.
- Lands within the Ministry of Transportation road allowance, where this tower is being constructed, are exempt from height restrictions in the Zoning By-law.
- The tower was not built in accordance with the site plan approved by staff in September 2007 (i.e. mono pole was approved - not a lattice tower).
- The issue was not brought to Council because cell towers are not regulated under local Zoning By-laws.
- Site plan approval and issuance of building permits are delegated to staff and are not subject to public consultation.
- A resolution was passed this morning (Feb. 25) asking the Medical Officer of Health to report on the health effects of cell towers.
- Today (Feb 25) the City of Hamilton has revoked the building permit and have asked Roger's to comply with the approved site plan.

"I think Rogers Communication has done a poor job at this location, by not following the approved site plan or consulting with the neighbourhood on their intentions. Since they have let the community down, they should look for a new location outside of the residential area – for example the industrial park. I understand cell phones are an essential part of today's society and we need the necessary technology to make them work, just put them in the appropriate location." says Councillor Lloyd Ferguson.

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