

January 8, 2024

Planning and Environment Committee  
City of London  
300 Dufferin Avenue  
London, Ontario  
[pec@london.ca](mailto:pec@london.ca)

RE: Green Development Standards

Dear Councillors:

I am a London resident and taxpayer who strongly supports the City of London adopting the Canadian Standards Association Bird-Friendly Building Design Standard (CSA A460:19). Please include CSA A460 in the Green Development Standards.

Every year, about 1 billion birds die from window collisions in North America. The Bird-Friendly Building Design Standard would help reduce bird mortality, demonstrating not only London's leadership in environmentally sustainable design, but also its dedication to our feathered friends as a Bird-Friendly City with the highest score in the certification program.

I heard the sickening "thud" of a bird hitting our bedroom window in the summer of 2021. On the ground, I found a motionless, black, yellow and white bird: an American Goldfinch. I felt horrible knowing I could have prevented this senseless death by simply installing inexpensive decals on the window. We applied Feather Friendly® markers and have not heard another dreaded "thud".

Thousands and thousands of birds still continue to die each day from window collisions even though it is illegal for building windows to kill birds under Federal Migratory Bird Regulations and the provincial Environmental Protection Act. Their deaths negatively affect both our physical and mental health. Birds control insect populations, pollinate plants, disperse seeds and bring joy. They are vital to our lives, our future.

I ask that the City of London adopt and implement the Canadian Standards Association Bird-Friendly Building Design Standard (CSA A460:19). Please, do not delay.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter.

Sincerely,  
Rebecca St. Pierre