As an avid RVer I have an interest in the matter before the Planning Committee to amend Stoney Creek By-law No. 3692-92 regarding RV parking on private property.

Stoney Creek has been unique in this matter forever and in my opinion this is not a bad thing. Regulation was considered by the Saltfleet Council when I was Township Engineer in the early 60's and was left as is.

It was again considered at least once by the Stoney Creek Council in the early 80's when I was Mayor and again left as is.

The argument has always been that some people find it offensive to see RV's including watercraft and snowmobiles parked on their neighbours property. Not everyone has the same problem and in fact where I live there are 5 RVs, including my own, within our nearest 7 lots and several more are within my line of vision in the neighbourhood. In my location the lots are comparatively large ranging from 60' frontage to 3 acres in size and we are somewhat isolated down by the Lake. We have all lived here for 30 years or more and I have never known of a complaint or dispute regarding this matter.

There are further problems in distinguishing an RV from a commercial or domestic vehicle when the owner holidays in one on the weekend and takes the same vehicle to work and back on weekdays. Similarly how do you regulate a situation where a self employed artisan parks his work vehicle on his driveway but also drives it to a work site when necessary and also uses it for recreation when desired.

The Plan attached to the published notice appears to cover the entire Stoney Creek Industrial area. Surely you don't propose to prohibit RV parking in that area as well.

The amendment that staff has prepared seems to be reasonable and fair enough but doesn't reflect the reality of living in Stoney Creek where even the Fifty Point Marina and Campground is part of our lifestyle. Boats, seadoos, skidoos, RVs, bike paths, and pedestrian areas are all part of the lifestyle here. I can remember when we even had a petting farm in Confederation Park right next door.

As well, an exception to the proposed new rule is that from May 1st till October 31 the parking prohibition will not be enforced. That is fine but that period doesn't coincide with the normal return cycle of Snowbirds.
beginning on April 1st (Income Tax time) and running until November 30th (Departure time).

In summation I repeat that there is nothing wrong with Stoney Creek being unique, particularly with respect to such a minor item as parking on one's own driveway that in my experience has caused relatively little problem, if any, over the almost 60 years that I have lived here.

Bill Sears
Stoney Creek