Dear Mayor Weber,

I have read the report filed by council in the minutes.

I was asked by my community members to send an email asking that my concerns be recorded.

Many points have been made regarding the argument for the municipality to take some actions regarding the Gypsy moth infestation.

I feel a number of points have not been made that the council may want to consider. Some of these may be conjecture but I am sure if you take your time to reflect on them you will find the risk analysis correct.

Fire - in a weakened state the canopy is more susceptible to fire caused by human negligence and lightning strike. The amount of combustible material present after the feeding and breeding of the moth is significant. Climate change has made fire a clear and present danger. The canopy is a part of this community as our homes are integrated into that ecosystem.

Physiological Reactions - The Gypsy Moth caterpillar causes allergic reactions in the form of a rash. Similarly the bodies and the dust that they eventually turn into cause breathing difficulties. Respiratory allergens are especially dangerous for the young and old alike.

Tourism - Port Franks is a popular vacation spot. Many small business owners are operating in the area currently as vacation rentals. They have maintained and upgraded their residences improving the quality and appearance of our neighbourhood. By refusing to take a strong position against an invasive species that affects quality of life and creates a very real blight you are turning your back on those bringing money and tourism to our town. You will be turning your back on visitors to our town who we are responsible for protecting while they are with us.

Fixed income - Some of our constituents are on a fixed income and have not budgeted for the protection of the canopy. All the trees must be sprayed in order for us to break the Gypsy Moth's cycle. If we allow the most vulnerable of us to be left behind we all suffer.

I hope that these points will help you make a decision regarding aerial spraying and acknowledge that this project can only be successful if our entire community was sprayed.

Sincerely,

Stephen Paul Fulton.