

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – FEBRUARY 1, 2011

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### COMMUNICATIONS

#### Distributed January 21, 2011

- C1. Ms. Shernett Martin, Vaughan African Canadian Association., dated January 4, 2011.  
*(Refer to 8a) Presentations and Deputations)*
- C2. Ms. Joy Levy, Hospice Thornhill., dated January 17, 2011.  
*(Refer to 8b) Presentations and Deputations)*

#### Received at the February 1, 2011 Committee of the Whole Meeting

- C3. Ms. Josie Fedele, Information Package.  
*(Refer to Items 4, 5, 6, 7)*
- C4. Ms. Tina Catalano, dated February 1, 2011.  
*(Refer to Items 4, 5, 6, 7)*
- C5. Councillor Racco, Information Package.  
*(Refer to Item 21)*
- C6. Ms. Joy Levy, Hospice Thornhill, Information Package.  
*(Refer to 8b) Presentations and Deputations)*
- C7. Ms. Shernett Martin, Vaughan African Canadian Association., presentation entitled, "Caribana™ North".  
*(Refer to 8a) Presentations and Deputations)*

Please note there may be further Communications.

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## COMMUNICATION

CW - February 1 / 2011ITEM # - Deputation 2)**Subject:** FW: Deputation February 1st, 2011**Attachments:** Caribana North infor for council.doc; THE UNITED NATIONS MARKS 2011 AS THE.doc**From:** Vaughan African Canadian Association [mailto:vaca@rogers.com]**Sent:** Tuesday, January 04, 2011 9:35 AM**To:** Abrams, Jeffrey**Subject:** Deputation February 1st, 2011

Good morning Jeffrey:

Happy New Year!

The Vaughan African Canadian Association, BELKA Enrichment Centre, Scotia bank Caribana, JFCCO, and the Ontario Black History Society are working in partnership on an inaugural event that will be a cultural attraction in Vaughan.

This year, the Caribana Festival is seeking to plan events in York Region that will promote the Caribana parade and introduce residents to the music, dance, foods and culture of the Islands. The event, called "Caribana North" already has the support of the city of Richmond Hill and is garnering support from the city of Markham.

As a not for profit organization in Vaughan serving residents, in particular the African-Caribbean community, we were contacted to partner with the above organizations to plan events in the city of Vaughan during July and August, 2011 around the "Caribana" theme.

As such, on behalf of our group, I would like to ask if I could be granted five minutes to address the committee of the whole on February 1st to ask council for their support in bringing this event to Vaughan. I would also like to ask council to once again recognize February as African heritage month/Black history month and recognize that 2011 is the International year for People of African Descent as declared by the United Nations.

I am attaching two documents that may be helpful for the committee to have prior to my deputation. The first attachment provides an overview of the Caribana North Festival and the second attachment is an article from the United Nations regarding the declaration.

Thank you for your time.

I can be reached at 416 843-2507 or at [vaca@rogers.com](mailto:vaca@rogers.com)Sincerely,  
Shernett Martin

Shernett Martin  
Executive Director  
Vaughan African Canadian Association  
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Dennis Keshniro  
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"Together, building and sustaining our community through innovative programs and services"



CARIBANA™ ARTS GROUP

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## **A PROPOSAL TO THE REGION OF YORK & ITS LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES**

*THE CARIBANA NORTH FESTIVAL A 5-YEAR PROPOSAL TO ACTION: TO COMMENCE A FESTIVAL IN THE YEAR 2011 & TO CONTINUE ANNUALLY.*

### **A PREFACING STATEMENT BY THE CARIBANA ARTS GROUP**

WE BELIEVE THAT THE CARIBANA NORTH FESTIVAL SHALL BE A MOST SUITABLE VEHICLE, THAT WILL AMPLY PROVIDE ONTARIO WITH AN OPPORTUNITY THAT SHALL SERVE AS THE STIMULOUS PROVIDER TO ASSIST IN THE PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT OF THE REGION'S HUGE UNTAPPED RESOURCES-POTENTIAL AND ACT AS THE ECONOMIC CAPACITY-GENERATOR, AS WELL AS THE CATALYST THAT WILL PROPEL THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK AND ITS SATELLITE MUNICIPALITIES, INTO THE EXCITING NEW REALM OF THE 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY: AND FURTHER, WE BELIEVE, THAT THIS FESTIVAL ACTIVITY WILL BECOME, THE CENTRAL ECONOMIC GENERATOR IN ONTARIO FOR ALL OF CANADA AS IT INCORPORATES IN IT APPROACH, A PROVEN METHODOLOGY:

BY using the CAG'S: [ABC] Formulated Methodology  
IN

ATTRACTING BUILDING & CEMENTING: Communities

THIS METHOD EMBODIES THE KEY PRINCIPLES, THAT SHALL UNDERSCORE THE REGION'S PROSPECTS TO LEAVE AN INDELIBLE IMPRINT OF CARIBANA'S SIGNATURE CHARACTERISTIC OF BEING A WELL-STEPPED EMBLEM IN THE PROVINCIAL DEVELOPMENTAL FABRIC OF ONTARIO, AS THE PROVINCE'S NEWEST AND MOST DYNAMIC ECONOMIC HUB: AND AS WELL, TO SERVE AS THE MAGNETIC AXIS FOR GENERATING & MAXIMIZING THE FUTURE ECONOMIC PROSPERITY OF THE ENTIRE REGION.

The CARIBANA NORTH FESTIVAL has now arrived in the Regional Municipality of York with a bang: The FESTIVAL is destined by its merit to

institute the bringing together of a unique blend of the ECONOMIC and the CULTURAL-relational elements into this regional nexus; that will have a major developmental impact upon the region and to communities in the area: Caribana has similarly, very vividly demonstrated this aptitude in the past, in the BRINGING INTO BEING OF THE CARIBANA-TORONTO relationship that has so effectively energized and propelled that City's SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC fortunes into an ANNUAL multi-million dollar (\$438 million) generator of ECONOMIC activity:



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And this proposed Caribana North undertaking is likewise predicting to serve equally as well, in the propulsion and the signification of the YORK REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY into a new-found role as the NEXT most vitally dynamic ECONOMIC HUB of the Province, in this Northern-most area of the GTA and for all of central Ontario:

The projected Socio-Economic Benefits being touted by this plan, can be anticipated to be ably fueled by the combined CARIBANA elements of culture and business: Two dynamic Elements acting in consort as prime TOURISM Enhancers, CAPITAL INVESTMENT instigator, BUSINESS & INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT Energizer and CULTURAL DIVERSITY contributor; and as well, INTERNATIONAL-CULTURAL "Attraction" par excellence: Designed to vault the region Firmly into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

By Winston W. LaRose  
Vice Chair

WWL/2010



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215 Spadina Avenue, Suite 400, Toronto, ON M5T 2C7

December 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2010

Dear Shernett Martin, Executive Director, Vaughan African Canadian Association

Thank you for your attending our information meeting and for sharing your ideas and input into regarding the Caribana North Festival.

In addition the Committee would like to obtain your full support in securing relevant permissions and facilities from the city of Vaughan and other institutions as well as agencies in the area, in order to facilitate the implementation of this very historic project:

The CAG's successful Caribana North Festival Committee is now at the stage in its planning where it requires moving with reasonable haste to put in place a range of funding and structural elements that are fundamental to the development of this considerable undertaking.

Over the course of the past eighteen months of laying the groundwork for this important event, we have successfully engaged in a series of discussions and negotiations with the HILLCREST MALL in Richmond Hill among others, and have obtained some general agreements about our mutual engagement in this project. We anticipate that further along the way in the development of the Marketing and promotional strategies, that the process and related efforts shall involve engaging the active collaboration and participation of Vaughan Mills and other city facilities that will engage youths, families and communities to participate fully in the events planned for Caribana North.

The Team plans in the course of the respective discussions, to obtain permission and to gain the involvement from each of them, that will facilitate the relevant use of their respective premises: and as well, particular facilities that will allow the Project to conduct a range of Festival-related Caribana-Type entertainment activities that will serve to advance the promotional and marketing activities - this, process we expect to commence in the very early Spring of 2011, so that enough time is allowed, in which to put all of the supporting structures in place for our mutually beneficial cooperation and participation.

Yours Truly,  
*Winston La Rose*  
Vice Chair



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The events being proposed by the Caribana North Committee, are intended to be done primarily, to attract a significant number of the expected influx of Visitor/Tourists, who regularly arrive from within Canada and from elsewhere for the Downtown Toronto Caribana, into the York Regional Area; and the visitor/tourists we expect to encourage and to persuade to do their respective shopping and visiting to the regional commercial Centres, hotels and recreational facilities situated in the Region; and as well, it is intended to use these occasions to maximize the promotional and marketing opportunities, in order to obtain the Optimum in opportunities for the "Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts" and of course, for the local Businesses and the proposed Caribana Festival in Richmond Hill.

Our conservative estimates project and reasonably anticipate that there will be an arrival of a significant influx of visitors to this area, of perhaps one quarter of a million persons; most of whom will be coming into the town of Richmond Hill on the day of the parade itself; and the CAG further views with much confidence the real prospect, that the event shall be attracting many of the tourists who will be coming primarily for the main Caribana Festival Downtown; and from locations out of this region as well as from out of the country: Tourists and visitors who, most definitely will be looking for additional activities and spending opportunities to pursue during their week-end or week-long stay in the Toronto area.

## PROPOSAL: CARIBANA NORTH FESTIVAL

### A General Program Outline

The general program structure as designed by the Caribana Committee represents three primary streams and other ancillary areas of Festival activities that are intended to be pursued as objectives, with much enthusiasm and with diligent vigour:

And these are as follows:

### PROJECT DESIGN STREAMS

The Proposal requires that the Project shall be comprised of a number of the different elements that are typically fundamental to the Caribana Festival, as it was originally conceived, constituted and conducted annually in the City of Toronto, as follows:

- A) The Caribana North Street Parade is planned to be conducted along Yonge Street in Richmond Hill: we modestly anticipate a participation of some 200,000 - 250,000 revelers along the Parade route.
- B) CULTURAL ACITVITIES: A range of Caribana Program Events and Activities are being scheduled to take place inside and around the Performing Arts Centre: and it is our expectation, that this aspect of the project, shall require about 5 days of direct activity-engagement in the Centre; However, in addition to the reserved time of five cultural-performance days indicated, the programs shall require extended opportunity to continue a month-long series of related events that will be spread out throughout the Town of Richmond Hill, the RHCPA and the adjacent regional municipalities.  
The principal aspect of the project plan calls for the presentation of a Visual Arts Display and exhibition of Craft-Work sand Paintings that will depict the historical experiences of the Africans in the Old and the New Worlds; and it is expected that this program shall continue over the extended period of time.



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- C) Promotional and Marketing Activities are an integral part of the preparation for the Caribana North Festival and much of it is expected to be devoted to the reporting and broadcast of the implemented activities: Plans are very much in progress to allow for these processes to be conducted regularly throughout a period to run from April-May 2011 to the Festival event occurrence-time
- D) Vending and other such Commercial Activities are being planned and streamlined for the Richmond Hill downtown and other areas

**THE FEATURED ELEMENTS**

**THE CARIBANA PARADE**

The Caribana Parade is typically the Highlight Event of the entire Caribana Festival Activities: This, the first ever Caribana Parade to be conducted in Richmond Hill, is being scheduled to take place on Saturday August 6<sup>th</sup> 2011, one week following the conclusion of the Caribana Parade to be held in Downtown Toronto. The Caribana Arts Group [CAG] is proposing to conduct a road-march parade along Yonge St. in Richmond Hill that shall be inclusive and reflective of all of the spectacle and drama of the main Caribana Parade Event.

It is proposed and expected that the Parade shall commence at the Hillcrest Mall and shall wend its way along Yonge Street and then to terminate at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts and its immediate environs.

We at the CAG have expressed the belief, that a good start time for the event, shall be about 11:00am on that Saturday with a completion time projected for approximately 6:00pm on that evening. It is also planned to have 12 – 14 Masquerade Bands in the Parade, including one or more Junior Bands and these will be accompanied by an assemblage of floats containing Steel bands and Juke Boxes etc/ carried on Flat-Bed Trucks or other relevant transport facilities, as are required. It is being anticipated also, that the parade may attract as many as 250,000 revelers.





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**CARIBANA NORTH: YORK REGION /RICHMOND HILL 2011**

In its Proposal and Budget submission to the municipality of York Region, the CAG outlined the particular needs, in resources that will be required for the Road March-Parade event: Among those things required, such items as the inclusion of: Police & Traffic services for crowd controls, Police Monitoring for traffic safety and redirection; Transportation & Transit Facilities, Permission required to close and to use Yonge Street, and as well, the Permission to vend along the Parade route.

**PROMOTION, MARKETING & ADVERTISING ACTIVITIES**

The Caribana North Team would like also, to alert your organization to some important material facts about the operations of the CARIBANA FESTIVAL over the time of its existence: Historically, the main vehicles that have been utilized in promoting the Festival and its related activities, have typically been the presentation of a Media Launch Event conducted in the early spring then to be followed a few months later with an Official Project Launch Event.

The current plans as designed, proposes that following the media launch, there shall be the staging of a the Official CARIBANA Festival Project Launch; And, this will be expected to be conducted at a centrally prominent square in Richmond Hill; in such a space and at such a time, where the event will be a major spectacle that will have prominent exposure and the vantage opportunity to be able to attract and accommodate a considerable presence of spectators from all aspects of the community. Essentially, the Official Launch Event will contain snippets of the primary elements of the main Carnival activities. There shall be Steel bands performers, Masqueraders and as well, significant Vending opportunities created. Additional promotional and marketing opportunities will be managed through the local and national newspapers and as well, through General Media Advertising.

The CAG CARIBANA NORTH Committee has already submitted a requirement for support and assistance from the Town of Richmond Hill and from the RHCPA and will be requiring and soliciting the support of the Richmond Hill BIA for their various Caribana Events and activities as follows:



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**CARIBANA NORTH: YORK REGION /RICHMOND HILL 2011**

**BENEFITS POTENTIAL TO BE DERIVED FROM VENDING, COMMERCIAL AND OTHER RELATED ACTIVITIES [RECREATIONAL]**

The Caribana Festivities typically attract a wide range of vendors and it does so in great numbers associated with related increase in vibrant and dynamic commercial and retailing activities. It is anticipated and projected that there will be a massive influx of tourists from the surrounding regions, from out of town and from outside the country; and it is expected that this shall create and present enormous opportunities for the sale of a wide range and diversity of Food products (Caribbean & other Foods), Crafts & Artifacts/Mementos, Clothing and Festival Paraphernalia as well as nightclubbing and a range of recreational activities and opportunities. We at the CAG, envision the possibilities for a successful itinerant vendor market-place that will develop in and near the vicinity surrounding the Performing Arts Centre and as well, along the Parade Route.

It is further anticipated that heightened activities will come from within the town, from communities in and out of the regions immediately bordering Richmond Hill and as well, from activities that shall derive from interactions between the respective towns and the City of Toronto. It will therefore be necessary to engage in discussions with the responsible parties in the respective municipalities and the BIA's about some equity sharing arrangements that will subsidize transportation fares and also make more vehicles available and accessible in order to meet the projected needs that will be caused by the increased demand.. It would also be a great asset for our marketing and promotional opportunities to have the various TRANSIT SYSTEMS CARRY & DISPLAY PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS ADVERTISING THE FESTIVAL

**SECURITY, TRANSIT & TRANSPORTATION ARRANGEMENTS:**

The Caribana Committee, being guided by the significant background of their past experiences, are able to assert with some degree of confidence, that there will be a significant increase in ridership on the respective local and regional transit and transportation systems during the course of the festival activities.

**PROGRAM PLANNING STRATEGIES:**

The program planning strategies will constitute one the of the more IMPORTANT areas of our planning process that will require some more time in which to present a definitive program agenda; However, it is possible to proceed in our quest with the general broad outline that is submitted essentially to meet budgetary deadlines.



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**CARIBANA NORTH: YORK REGION /RICHMOND HILL 2011**

**EVENTS PROPOSED TO BE HELD AT The RICHMOND HILL CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS**

The following are Events/Activities tentatively scheduled for the programming agenda and will be better outlined in due course.

**EVENT /PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE**

**INDOOR USE OF THE AUDITORIUM & ANNEX FACILITIES:** It has been proposed by the CAG to the RHCPA, that we acquire 4 - 5 Days of SPACE usage at the Performing Arts Centre for the entertainment and performing Activities that are being proposed to be conducted there. It is anticipated that the Main auditorium Venue, shall be used for primarily for conducting the staging of the essential Carnival Arts events: It is also being proposed that the activities to be staged at the Performing Arts Centre [PAC], shall progress on each of those days from early morning through the days and evenings into the night: The Day-time events may typically include matinees of entertainment events to be presented for audiences from the local and regional schools (Youth oriented programs); Events that will see a significant flow of school children through the Performing Arts Centre [PAC]. It is also intended that the Caribana North Festival shall be providing a significant number and variety of Carnival related Seminars and Workshops - Lecture series that shall re-tell the history of the CARIBANA and Caribbean Festivals. A number of Academics and professional experts are being invited to engage in these activities.

**STAGED AUDITORIUM EVENTS**

It is envisaged that there will be Costumed Masqueraders including members of the 'Junior Carnival' Team donned in spectacular costumes parading across the stage at the outset of each event [much planning to be done here.

EACH EVENING there shall be the staging of a main event Act together with individual performances involving Calypsonians, Steel Pan players etc and this may include various forms of Competitions involving the MAS' BANDS, the STEELBANDS & CALYPSONIANS:

We are proposing the scheduling of a major Symphonic Presentation by highly acclaimed Steel bands that will round off the main CARIBANA NORTH Festival events, on SUNDAY NIGHT August 7<sup>th</sup> 2011: There shall be the delivery of Special Recital performances by the Pan Players, highlighting the virtuoso Talent and skills of the BANDS as a philharmonic orchestra. This event shall be supplemented by a popular and high-profile Gospel Choir.



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**CARIBANA NORTH: YORK REGION /RICHMOND HILL 2011**

**SPECIAL DIGNITARIES AT MAJOR AUDITORIUM EVENTS:**

It is proposed to invite and secure the services of such high-profile dignitaries as Pinball Clemons; Michael Lee Chin; Bill Cosby and the Governor General of Canada etc etc \* with the intention of maximizing the full potential benefits inherent in the capacity of the RHCPA and as well, the CITY of RICHMOND HILL to secure the attendance of these dignitaries and we shall require the assistance of the Performing Arts Centre.

**ART GALLERY EXHIBITION/DISPLAY:**

The CAG is proposing to conduct an Exhibition & Display FEATURING THE WORKS OF MAJOR AFRO-CARIBBEAN ARTISTS ie 'SKIN TO STEEL' ART Exhibit plus the works of Sculptors & Craft Technicians: It is being anticipated that facilities will be made available to accommodate the EXHIBITION for the period of one month commencing Monday July 25th 2011.

**OUTDOOR FACILITIES USAGE:**

The PAC Municipal Square and the external Piazza, will be a central area to put on some outdoor concerts that will serve to attract day-time audiences with the a range of entertainment activities and also, will serve as a promotional & advertising forum /tool for the Festival's Indoor activities

**PARKLAND AREAS:** Planning should take into consideration the maximization of the use of any significant parkland areas, to stage and perform a substantial number of Outdoor Concert-like Events that will serve in several capacities:

- a) to ENTERTAIN an audience and to promote the PROJECT:  
and as well, to offer
- b) VENDING opportunities

DAY #4 Performing Arts Centre [PAC]

Sunday August 7<sup>th</sup> 2010

\*Signature Final Day Event: Symphonic Philharmonic presentation in 'STEEL'

And AWARD PRESENTATIONS:



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As a significant aspect of the prime marketing and promotional strategies of the CAG, The Caribana North Festival Committee shall seek to take full advantage of the United Nations Declaration in 2009 of the year 2011 as “THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT”:

The Committee shall use this proclamation as a means of strengthening national actions to further these opportunities here in Canada; and as well, to facilitate the regional and international cooperation of the various levels of government in order to improve the participation and integration of African Peoples from across the world, into the enjoyment of full political, economic and socio-cultural aspects of society.

The Committee shall be doing all within its power to focus attention, in assuring that people of African descent benefit in regard to their full enjoyment of these economic, social, civil, political rights and as well, obtain the full entitlement to their divested cultural rights and legacies.

The Caribana North Committee shall be using this opportune moment in the new decade to maximize the possibilities of YORK REGION, in moving towards attracting Cultural Tourists from the various Carnival Capitals of the World, in countries such as Brazil (Rio and Sao Paulo) and Nigeria.



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**CARIBANA NORTH FESTIVAL YORK REGION /RICHMOND HILL 2011**

**BUDGET OUTLINE: GENERAL BUDGET OUTLAY OF \$410,000.**

**REVENUE SOURCES**

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (Ministry of CIC, Ministry of Trade, Ministry of Industry Ministry of Heritage	\$100,000.
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT (Ministry of Tourism)	\$ 50,000.
MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS (York Region, Richmond Hill, Vaughan, Markham & New Market) 30,000.	\$
<b>TOWN OF RICHMOND HILL ( GRANT)</b>	\$ 50,000.
Richmond Hill BIA SPONSORSHIP/Some Local Vendor Rights & promotional activity	\$ 15,000.
AUDITORIUM TICKET SALES	\$100,000.
SPONSORSHIP/FOR MEDIA RIGHTS *****	\$ 15,000.
BANK SPONSORSHIP/ Possible Royal Bank Of Canada	\$ 50,000.
"T" SHIRT SALES (prospective)	\$ 10,000.
SALE OF ANCILLARY CARIBANA PRODUCTS	\$ 10,000.
SALE OF SIGNATURE TUNE/SONG (Caribana in Richmond Hill)	\$ 5,000.
VENDOR STALLS/Permits	\$ 25,000.
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$410,000.</b>

**IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS**

USE OF RICHMOND HILL CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS  
USE OF FACILITIES FOR ADVERTISING, MARKETING & PROMOTIONS OF FESTIVAL  
YORK REGION TRANSIT SPONSORSHIP \*\*\*\*\*  
YORK REGION POLICE SECURITY & TRAFFIC CONTROLS \*\*\*\*\*

TOTAL TICKETS TO BE SOLD OVER 4 DAYS 4 X 631 = 2,524  
2,524 TICKETS @ \$40.00 = \$100,096.



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**CARIBANA NORTH FESTIVAL: YORK REGION/RICHMOND 2011**

**BUDGET: EXPENDITURE/ACTIVITIES**

**SPACE & FACILITIES RENTAL**

RICHMOND HILL PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE 4 days @ \$600. + \$100./day as non-profit \$ 2,400.  
Office Space Rental 6 months x \$800. /mnth \$ 4,800.

**ADMINISTRATIVE & STAFFING NEEDS**

Office equipment, material & supplies \$ 6,500.  
Telephone, Fax, Internet, photocopying \$ 5,000

**STAFF FEES & WAGES**

Project Coordinator 30 hrs. /wk x \$30.00 hr x 30 weeks \$ 27,000.

Office receptionist \$30,000.

Festival Manager \$ 20,000.

MARKETING & PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES \$25,000.

PURCHASE & PRINTING OF 5,000 "T" SHIRTS

TRANSPORTATION OF SPECIAL GUESTS/DIGNITARIES/PERFORMERS (Bands etc.) \$ 20,000.

Masquerade BANDS & other Band Performers \$ 80,000.

ACCOMMODATION & MEALS (Special Guest/Dignitaries) \$ 5,000.

LOCAL HOTEL [N/C] \$ 5,000.

AUDIO-VISUAL DOCUMENTATION & RECORDING \$ 6,000.

EDITING FACILITIES & EQUIPMENT \$ 5,000.

PROMOTION & MARKETING & ADVERTISING \$ 15,000.

COMPETITION FEES & PRIZES [including production of signature tune] \$ 25,000.

SPECIAL GUEST APPEARANCES \$ 20,000.

PERFORMERS & ENTERTAINERS FEES & ALLOWANCES \$ 40,000.

PERFORMER/ENTERTAINERS TRANSPORTATION \$ 5,000.

Decorating & interior Design & Supplies \$10,000.

GENERAL TRANSPORTATION COSTS/VEHICLE RENTALS \$ 5,000.

MIXING & MINGLING ENTERTAINMENT COSTS \$ 10,000.

TICKET COST /PURCHASES \$ 3,500.

Project Insurance \$ 10,000.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURES (Fees etc.) \$ 5,000.

Accounting & Auditing Fees \$ 10,000.

Volunteer Activities Support \$ 15,000.

**TOTAL EXPENDITURE \$410,000.**

Respectfully submitted by: WINSTON W. LA-ROSE/VICE CHAIR CARIBANA

## THE UNITED NATIONS MARKS 2011 AS THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT

10 December 2010 – As the United Nations system gears up to celebrate 2011 as the *International Year for People of African Descent*, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon delivered an impassioned plea today to the world community to eradicate racism once and for all.

“The international community cannot accept that whole communities are marginalized because of the colour of their skin,” he told an event at UN Headquarters in New York to launch the Year. “People of African descent are among those most affected by racism. Too often, they face denial of basic rights such as access to quality health services and education. Such fundamental wrongs have a long and terrible history.

“The international community has affirmed that the transatlantic slave trade was an appalling tragedy not only because of its barbarism but also because of its magnitude, organized nature and negation of the essential humanity of the victims. “Even today, Africans and people of African descent continue to suffer the consequences of these acts,” he added, calling for their full integration into social, economic and political life and at all levels of decision-making.

The General Assembly proclaimed the Year in December 2009 in a resolution citing the need to strengthen national actions and regional and international cooperation to ensure that people of African descent fully enjoy economic, cultural, social, civil and political rights, to advance their integration into all political, economic, social and cultural aspects of society, and to promote a greater knowledge of and respect for their diverse heritage and culture.

“As the Universal Declaration of Human Rights affirms, ‘all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights,’” Mr. Ban said. “If we are to make those words real, then we must eradicate racism once and for all. The success of the International Year requires concerted efforts across the United Nations system and at the regional and national levels, with the widest possible engagement and participation.”

Also addressing the event was the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, Ivan Šimonovic, who said the International Year offers a unique opportunity to redouble efforts to fight racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance that affect Afro-descendants in all parts of the world.

“The International Year must become a milestone in the ongoing campaign to advance the rights of people of African descent and it deserves to be accompanied by activities that fire the imagination, enhance our understanding of the situation of people of African descent and are a catalyst for real and positive change in the daily lives of the millions of Afro-descendants around the world,” he told the gathering.

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=37018&Cr=racism&Cr1=>





CA  
COMMUNICATION  
CW - February 1 / 2011  
ITEM # - Deputation b)

### Synopsis of Deputation Request

I, Joy Levy, of Hospice Thornhill, would like to put forth the motion to have a Deputation Request be heard by the Committee of The Whole on Tuesday, February 1, 2011. A summary of what I would like to speak about is as follows:

- For The City of Vaughan to sponsor Hospice Thornhill in the first, annual **Run For A Loved One**, taking place Sunday, May 1 (run will entail a 5K run & a 2K Family Run/Walk). The 5K Run will begin at 9:00 am, the 2K Family Run/walk will begin at 9:30 am. The route has yet to be determined. The idea for this event in its inaugural year is to be a stepping stone for larger community runs to take place. Our goal is to have this event grow yearly both in the number of participants taking part as well as the distance for the run/walk (i.e. 15K/20K). I would like this to become a community-wide event.
- Goal of the event is two-fold. A) To raise awareness about Hospice Thornhill while raising much needed funds for the hospice at the same time (participants will be encouraged to receive pledges for the run, in which tax receipts will be issued for donations of \$10.00+) and B) bring the community out to a physically active event. We are encouraging all members of the community to take part, young and old which is why a 2K distance has been incorporated. I believe this run/walk fits the theory & criteria behind the **City of Vaughan's Active Together Physical Activity Strategy**.
- By extending support & sponsoring the event it would greatly assist Hospice Thornhill in many ways. Some areas it could cover are; increasing exposure through marketing and publicity to the community about the event taking place; as well as increasing the number of participants taking part in the event – our goal is to have community centres and schools encourage their student and staff bodies or members to take part in this event.

Thank you for taking the time to review. If you should have any further questions/comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at. I look forward to hearing back from you shortly.

Sincerely,

Joy Levy  
Volunteer & Event Coordinator  
Hospice Thornhill  
220 Charlton Avenue  
W: 905-764-0656 x223  
C: 416-520-9901  
[jlevy@bellnet.ca](mailto:jlevy@bellnet.ca)

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**From:** Joy Levy [jlevy@bellnet.ca]  
**Sent:** Monday, January 17, 2011 12:46 PM  
**To:** Bellisario, Adelina  
**Subject:** Deputation Request  
**Attachments:** Deputation Request.pdf

Hi Adelina,

Please find attached a copy of the Deputation Request Synopsis. If you believe there is any pertinent information omitted could you kindly inform me?

Thank you for your assistance with this.

Regards,

Joy Levy  
Volunteer & Event Coordinator  
Hospice Thornhill  
220 Charlton Avenue  
Phone: 905-764-0656 x 224  
Fax: 905-764-6963  
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# The Implementation of a Prudent Avoidance Policy for the Siting of Cellular Telephone Antennas – the Experience of Toronto\*

Ronald Macfarlane

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277 Victoria Street, 7th floor, Toronto, Ontario, M5B 1W2, Canada, rmacfar3@city.toronto.on.ca

## Introduction

The use of wireless communication technology is increasing rapidly. In particular, cellular telephones and their associated transmission towers are becoming more widespread. Cellular telephones allow for improved communication and are becoming an integral part of how we live and work. They can enhance work productivity, improve service capabilities, and provide for increased personal or family security. However, there is an associated concern over the potential health effects of this technology, in particular the emissions of radio waves.

In Canada, the regulation of telecommunication devices is a federal matter, which is administered by Industry Canada. Telecommunication devices must meet the requirements of Safety Code 6: Limits of Human Exposure to Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Fields in the Frequency Range from 3 kHz to 300 GHz. This code, developed by Health Canada, includes guidelines for exposure to the public. Allowable power densities for public exposures vary depending on frequency and range between 2 and 10 W/m<sup>2</sup>. These are based on a threshold for behavioural effects at a specific absorption rate (SAR) of 4 W/kg and a protection factor of 50 (Health Canada, 1999).

The use of wireless telecommunication devices (e.g., radio, television, and wireless telephones) has resulted in ubiquitous radio frequency (RF) fields in the environment. On the ground, maximum power fields are usually found 30 to 250 meters from base telephone towers. Results from monitoring studies typically show levels of RF well below current Canadian exposure limits (Health Canada, 1998a; Thansandote, et al., 1996). For example, in Vancouver at a school with a roof-mounted antenna, the highest levels measured (25 times less than Canadian exposure limits) were on the roof. At ground level around the school, the maximum RF levels measured were 230 times below current standards. Indoor levels were even lower – 4,900 times below the limit (Thansandote, et al., 1999).

At the request of elected representatives, Toronto Public Health (TPH) reviewed the need for a policy of prudent avoidance for the siting of cellular (mobile) telephone base antennas in the City of Toronto. After a review of the literature and exposure standards for radio frequencies (RF), TPH concluded that a policy of prudent avoidance was justified. In its November 1999 report to the Board of Health recommended that exposures to the public should be kept at least 100 times lower than current Canadian limits (TPH, 1999). The Board of Health endorsed this recommendation and the City is presently developing a planning protocol for the siting of base antennas, which will include the recommendations for prudent avoidance. This paper outlines the rationale behind this recommendation.

---

\*) Original paper

## Health Effects

In discussing health effects of radio waves, it is common to refer to thermal, athermal and non-thermal effects; as follows:

- Thermal effects occur when there is sufficient RF energy to cause a measurable increase in the temperature of the object or person (e.g., more than 0.1°C).
- Athermal effects occur when there is sufficient energy to cause an increase in the temperature of the body, but no change in temperature is observed due to natural or external cooling.
- Non-thermal effects are those occurring when the energy of the wave is insufficient to raise temperatures above normal temperature fluctuations of the biological system being studied (RSC, 1999).

The thermal effects of RF fields in general are well known. They include changes in temperature regulation, endocrine function, cardiovascular function, immune response, nervous system activity, and behaviour (Elder, 1987; Roberts, et al., 1986; Cleary, 1990 - as cited in RSC, 1999). Current Canadian and International standards are set to prevent adverse health outcomes from the thermal effects of RF (ICNIRP, 1998; RSC, 1999).

Some of the non-thermal effects of concern that have been studied include the following: the potential to promote the formation of tumours; the increase in the permeability of the blood-brain barrier; the potential influence on the natural pain control mechanism; and, changes in sleep patterns. In 1999, at the request of Health Canada, the Royal Society of Canada (RSC) reviewed the health effects of RF. It noted that there is increasing evidence that biological effects occur at low levels of RF which do not result in any thermal effects. It concluded that it is still uncertain whether these biological effects should be considered adverse effects. However, the scientific evidence is not sufficient to rule out the possibility of adverse health effects at such low levels of exposure (RSC, 1999).

Other areas of concern are the impacts of RF on reproduction and cancer (Elwood, 1999; RSC, 1999). The RSC concluded that the weight-of-evidence available did not suggest that RF can cause cancer or reproductive effects in humans. More research is needed to confirm if RF can cause genetic damage or if biological effects would lead to adverse health impacts (RSC, 1999).

## Standard Setting

Health Canada has indicated that it will review permissible exposure levels if there are demonstrable effects at low-level exposure (Health Canada, 1998b). The precautionary principle argues for caution when there are uncertainties on what level of exposure could have potential adverse effects. Waiting for confirmation of adverse effects from epidemiological studies before taking action does not adhere to a public health approach, which encourages prevention over cure. So far, human studies have not indicated a strong link between RF exposures and adverse human health effects (RSC, 1999). This is reassuring – if there are any health impacts at current levels of RF found in the environment, they are likely to be small. However, due to various methodological limitations, such studies by themselves are not sufficient as proof of either safety or harm.

In deciding whether current exposure levels of RF are a concern, there are several areas of uncertainty that need to be addressed. For example,

- Non-thermal effects: Current standards are based on thermal effects of RF. Available data show that biological effects do occur at levels below those where thermal effects are known to occur. While there is uncertainty in the health significance of these effects, it is also uncertain whether current standards would protect from potential adverse effects should these be confirmed.
- Duration of exposure: Current standards are based on short-term effects. Longer-term animal studies at lower levels of RF showed behavioural changes because of mild heat stress. Stress is known to lead to various adverse health outcomes. In addition, a doubling of cancer incidence has been reported in cancer-prone mice at average exposure levels of RF close to occupational

exposure limits. More studies are needed to confirm if long-term low level exposures can lead to adverse effects.

- Use of threshold effect: Present standards are based on a threshold rather than a no-effect level. Preference is normally given to the use of a no-adverse effect level (NOAEL) in developing environmental health standards.

A protection factor is usually considered for each of the following areas of uncertainty:

- Using data from animal studies rather than from observations in humans
- Variability in sensitivity among humans, including children and other sensitive sub-groups
- Use of data from short-term rather than long-term studies
- Severity of the effects observed, such as an adverse effect level rather than a no-adverse effect
- Quality of the overall data available (CalEPA, 1997; MDEP, 1990; US EPA, 1993)

Based on current practice of environmental standard setting in various agencies, the uncertainties identified above suggest that a protection factor of 1,000 to 10,000 is justified and prudent. Current levels for the public under Safety Code 6 incorporate a protection factor of 50. A protection factor of 10 was used for setting occupational limits and an additional factor of 5 to derive public exposure levels from occupational levels. This is less than is often customary, where a factor is used to convert exposure levels from a 40-hour work-week to continuous exposures, and an additional protection factor of 10 to take into account that some people in the general population are often more sensitive than workers. Nor does this consider that effects have been reported at occupational exposure limits. Ensuring that levels of RF were kept 100 times below Safety Code 6 recommendations would be equivalent to using a safety factor of 5,000. This is within the range given above.

## **Prudent Avoidance**

In examining the need for a prudent avoidance policy, Toronto Public Health considered two factors:

- Specific situations where high levels of exposure may occur; and
- The weight-of-evidence that harm may occur at these levels of exposures.

There are situations where Toronto residents could be exposed to levels of RF approaching Safety Code 6. Given the degree of uncertainty as to whether or not such levels could result in adverse health effects, Toronto Public Health supports the implementation of a prudent avoidance policy. Such a policy encourages the adoption of individual or societal actions to avoid unnecessary exposures to radio frequencies that entail little or no cost.

Toronto Public Health was requested to consider a policy of prudent avoidance based on restricting the siting of base transmitter antennas a certain distance from schools and day-care centres and away from residential areas. Given the density of Toronto, the mixed land use, and the existing network of antennas, it would be difficult to implement such an approach. Toronto Public Health believes that a prudent avoidance policy that ensures that the public is exposed to levels less than those recommended by Safety Code 6 would provide a greater level of protection in a more consistent way, than limiting antennas from specific areas or by requiring a minimum set-back.

In Canada, the final authority for the approval of the installation of base transmission towers lies with Industry Canada. The City of Toronto has little direct control over this matter. Therefore, the City is working with the industry and citizens to develop a planning protocol for the siting of antennas in Toronto. This protocol will ask those who wish to install, replace or modify base antennas to show that radio frequency exposures in the areas normally used by people other than telecommunications workers (e.g. roof-top gardens, balconies, or grounds) are at least 100 times lower than those currently recommended by Safety Code 6.

The application of this prudent avoidance policy and protocol is expected to be feasible and readily achievable (see Table 4). It will also provide a rational basis with which to evaluate and respond to community concerns about both existing and future installations. The predicted exposures from single installations are very low, and thus in most cases, this policy is not expected to have an adverse impact on existing facilities. However, this policy provides an extra measure of protection as the number of installations increases in the city, and in the event that new research provides evidence that adverse effects do occur at levels which are below current standards.

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**Table 1** Radio Frequency Exposure Limits for the Canadian Public

Frequency	Power Density (W/m <sup>2</sup> )
30-300 MHz	2
300-1,500 MHz	Frequency 150
1,500 to 300,000 MHz	10

**Table 2** Radio Frequencies and Health Effects below SAR of 4 W/Kg

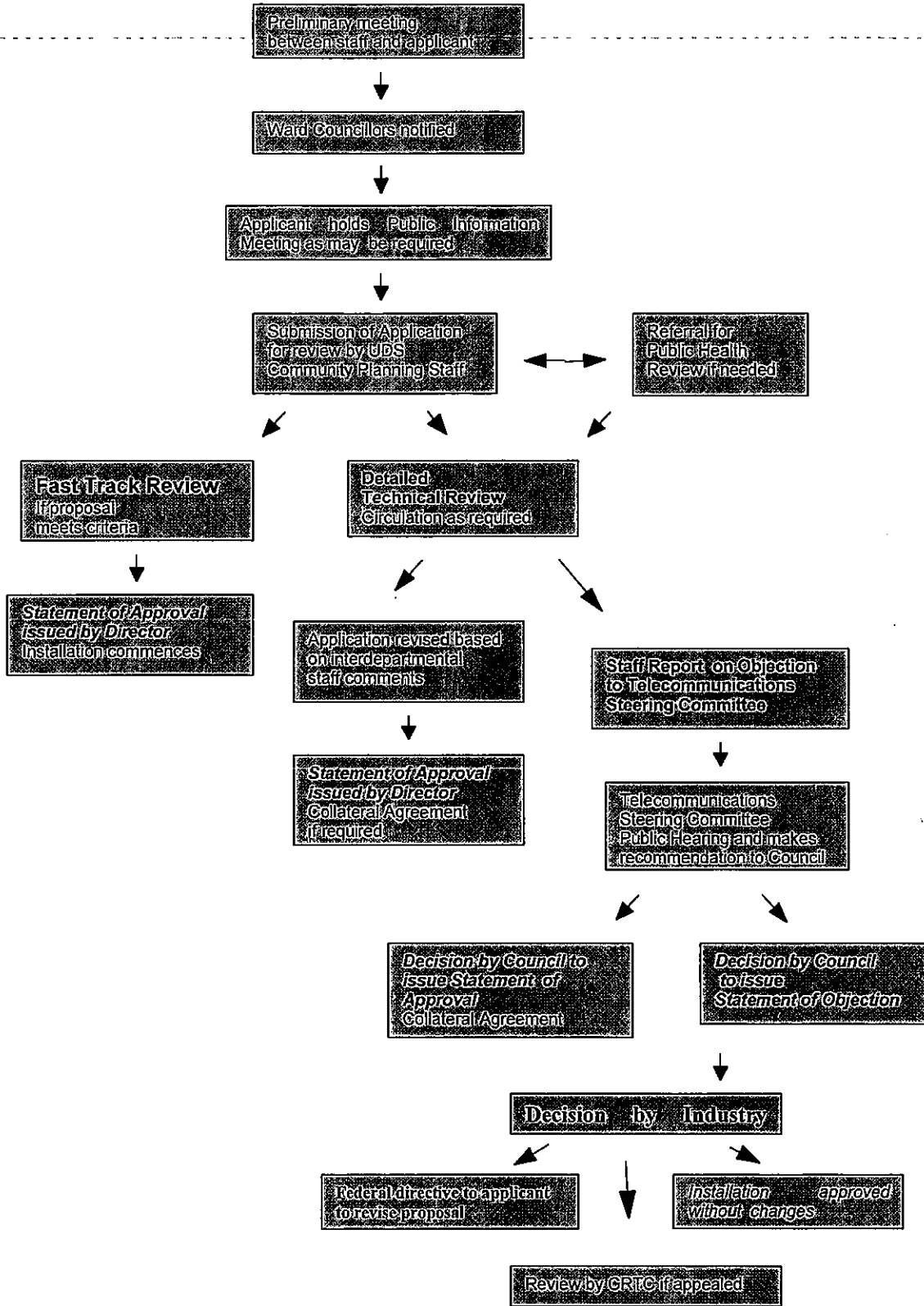
Frequency	Exposure Level (Whole body SAR W/Kg)	Duration	Effects	Reference
Not given	1 - 3	Not given	Decreased task performance	ICNIRP, 1998
Not given	1-4	30 minutes	Temperature increase < 1°C	ICNIRP, 1998
2450 MHz	1.5	2.5 hr/day 180 days	Reduces eosinophils and white blood cell count	Guy et al., 1980
2450 MHz	1.23	8 hr/day 80 days	Difference in activity	D'Andrea et al., 1979
2450 MHz	1.2-2.2	8 hr/day 40, 85 days	Changes in red blood cells and dietary habits	Ferri and Hagan 1977
960 MHz	0.21 - 2.1 mW/Kg with carrier modulation of 217 Hz	20-40 min.	Decreased cell growth at exposures of 30 minutes or more	Kwee and Raskmark, 1998
2450 MHz	0.4 - 0.7	550 - 15750 hrs	Threshold for changes in behaviour	D'Andrea et al., 1991
2850 MHz	1 W/m <sup>2</sup>	Not given	Increased permeability in the blood-brain barrier	Oscar and Hawkins, 1977
900 MHz pulsed	0.13 - 1.4	1 hr/day 18 months	2.4 increase in risk of lymphoma	Rechapolli et al., 1997
2450 MHz	0.14 - 0.7	7 hr/day 90 days	Changes in behaviour	D'Andrea et al., 1986
2450 MHz pulsed	0.15 - 0.4	25 months	Elevated adrenal mass; differences in immune competence	Guy et al. 1985
915 MHz	0.016 - 5 W/Kg continuous and modulated	Not given	Increased permeability in the blood-brain barrier	Salford et al., 1992, 1994







**Table 3** Exposure Level Calculations

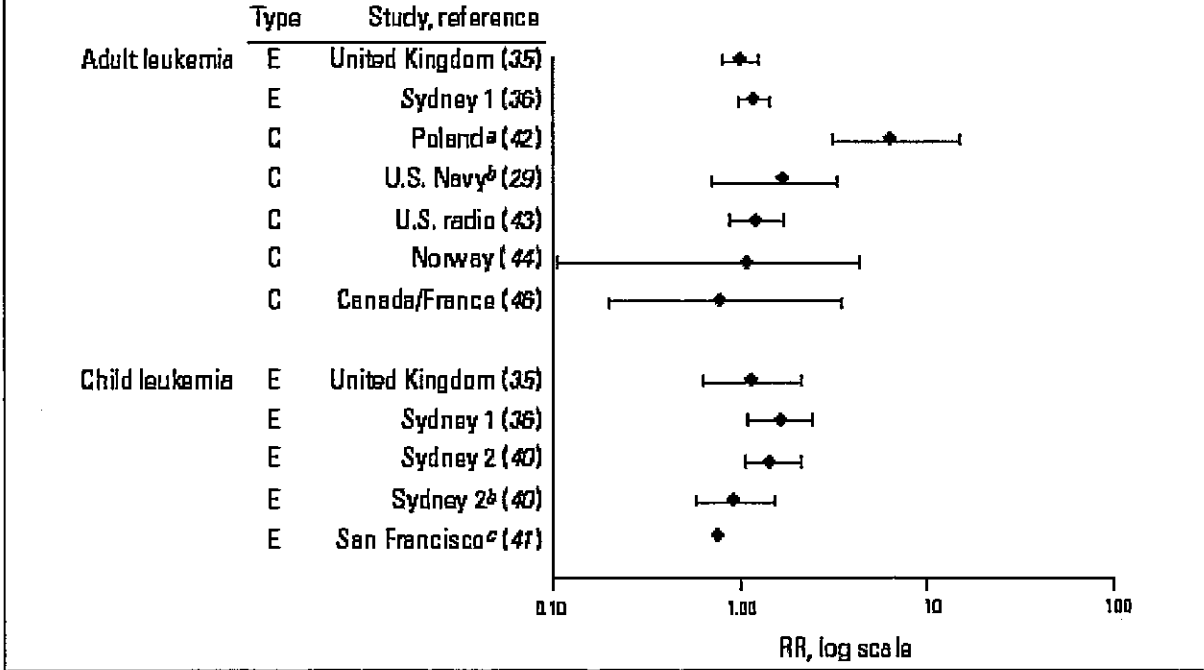
Approach	Recommended 24 hr public exposure cri- terion (W/Kg)	Modification factors
From occupational levels of 0.4 W/Kg	0.0008	÷ 10 for sensitive populations ÷ 10 for use of LOEL rather than NOEL ÷ 5 for converting to continuous exposures
From short-term studies (4 W/Kg)	0.0004	÷ 10 for use of LOEL rather than NOEL ÷ 10 for use of short-term rather than long-term ÷ 10 for extrapolation to humans ÷ 10 for sensitive populations
From long-term studies (0.14 W/Kg) (D'Andrea et al, 1986)	0.00028	÷ 10 for extrapolation to humans ÷ 10 for sensitive populations ÷ 5 for converting to continuous exposures
From long-term studies (0.13 W/Kg) (Repacholi et al, 1997)	0.00005	÷ 10 for extrapolation to humans ÷ 10 for sensitive populations ÷ 24 for converting to continuous exposures

**Table 4 Proposed Process**



<h3 style="text-align: center;">Exposure Level Calculations</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ From occupational levels of 0.4 W/Kg             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>÷ 10 for sensitive populations</li> <li>÷ 10 for use of LOEL rather than NOEL</li> <li>÷ 5 for converting to continuous exposures</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ 0.0008 W/Kg (24-hr)</li> </ul> 	<h3 style="text-align: center;">Exposure Level Calculations</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ From short-term studies (4 W/Kg)             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>÷ 10 for use of LOEL rather than NOEL</li> <li>÷ 10 for use of short-term rather than long-term</li> <li>÷ 10 for extrapolation to humans</li> <li>÷ 10 for sensitive populations</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ 0.0004W/Kg (24-hr)</li> </ul> 
<h3 style="text-align: center;">Exposure Level Calculations</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ From long-term studies (0.14 W/Kg) (D'Andrea et al, 1986)             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>÷ 10 for extrapolation to humans</li> <li>÷ 10 for sensitive populations</li> <li>÷ 5 for converting to continuous exposures</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ 0.00028 W/Kg (24-hr)</li> </ul> 	<h3 style="text-align: center;">Exposure Level Calculations</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ From long-term studies (0.13 W/Kg) (Repacholi et al, 1997)             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>÷ 10 for extrapolation to humans</li> <li>÷ 10 for sensitive populations</li> <li>÷ 24 for converting to continuous exposures</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ 0.00005W/Kg (24-hr)</li> </ul> 

Relative risks and 95% confidence limits for studies of leukemia in adults and in children. Type of study: C, occupational cohort; E, ecological. aAll lymphatic and hematopoietic--total leukemia not given. bExcluding Lane Cove area. cNo confidence limits given; nonsignificant. Source: Elwood JM; Environ Health Perspect 107 (Suppl 1):155- 168 (1999).





**Dr. Magda Havas, B.Sc., Ph.D., Associate Professor**

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April 20, 2010.

Christine Holke David, Clerk of the Committee,  
Standing Committee on Health, House of Commons,  
131 Queen Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6,  
[holkec@parl.gc.ca](mailto:holkec@parl.gc.ca)

Dear Christine Holke David,

I would like this written submission entitled "*Urgent Need to Revise Safety Code 6 as it does NOT protect the Health of Canadians*" to be part of my testimony to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health regarding Radio Frequency Radiation and Health.

Thank you,

Magda Havas  
Associate Professor

## **Urgent Need to Revise Safety Code 6 as it does NOT protect the Health of Canadians.**

**Magda Havas, B.Sc., Ph.D.,**  
Environmental and Resource Studies Program,  
Trent University, Peterborough, ON, K9L 1K3, Canada

**Expertise:** Please note that I have been teaching courses and doing research at Trent University on the Health Effects of Electromagnetic Energy since the 1990s. Prior to that time I conducted research on toxic chemicals in the environment. I have provided expert testimony in both Canada and the United States dealing with power lines and radio frequency antennas. My current research is helping doctors diagnose and treat patients with electrohypersensitivity (EHS), which has been recognized as a disability in Sweden. I work with people who are electromagnetically sensitive and who respond to microwave radiation at levels well below Safety Code 6 guidelines.

**Previous Testimony House of Commons Environmental Committee:** Charles Caccia invited me to address the *House of Commons Environmental Committee* on May 21, 2002. My presentation was entitled: *Wired and Wireless Electromagnetic Energy: An overview of Health Concerns and a Call for Action*. I am including the handouts that I presented to the Environmental Committee as part of my documentation (Appendix A). I expect you will find French translations of these handouts in the archives.

As I reviewed my 2002 presentation, I am sorry to say that little has changed in Canada regarding our guidelines, despite the fact that (1) many new studies have been published documenting adverse biological and health effects of radio frequency and microwave radiation (see the Bioinitiative Report at [www.bioinitiative.org](http://www.bioinitiative.org) ; and (2) scientists and medical doctors from around the world have signed resolutions, petitions, and written advisories trying to get international guidelines lowered to protect the public against radio frequency radiation exposure (see list in Appendix B) and warnings about cell phone use (Appendix C).

**Industry Canada sides with the Wireless Industry:** Communities from Prince Edward Island to Vancouver Island are opposing towers and antennas placed in residential areas, near schools and daycare centres. When communities oppose tower placement, the final arbitrator is Industry Canada and they often side with the Telecom Industry. In Charlottetown, PEI, City Council voted against allowing Rogers to erect a tower near a convent and several schools/day care centres. Yet Industry Canada overruled Charlottetown City Council and provided Rogers with a license to operate. Antennas are placed in areas where there is already adequate cell phone reception, so lack of service is not the primary factor in the decisions that are made regarding the placement of antennas. This blatant disrespect for the jurisdiction of local governments and the wishes of citizens is unacceptable.

----- **Electrohypersensitivity -an Emerging Health Crisis:** ~~If the number of emails and phone calls~~ I receive on a daily basis from people who are ill because of this radiation or who are trying to prevent yet another antenna in their neighbourhood is any indication of what is happening on a much larger scale, then we are experiencing an environmental health crisis that is likely to erupt as unpredictably as a volcano. This illness (electrohypersensitivity) is debilitating and those who are severely affected are no longer able to work. Three percent of the population has severe sensitivity and 35% of the population may be moderately sensitive to this radiation and this figure comes from peer-reviewed research I conducted in schools in both Canada and the United States (Havas and Olstad 2009, Havas et al. 2004).

It is particularly heart breaking when children become ill following exposure to the radiation from mobile phones and wireless routers that Health Canada tells us is perfectly safe since the levels are below thermal effects. The assumption that the only biological effect of microwave radiation is thermal, is just that, an assumption that has been repeatedly demonstrated to be false.

A Royal Society Report (1999) reviewed Safety Code 6 and this report stated that biological effects occur below SC6 guidelines and that some of these biological effects may cause adverse health effects. This report was published in 1999, yet the guidelines have not changed substantially. Indeed, one change that has occurred is that Health Canada removed a phrase from their 1999 guideline that stated: "*Certain members of the general public may be more susceptible to harm from RF and microwave exposure*" (page 11). It is unclear why this statement was removed.

The Canadian Human Rights Commission recognizes that electromagnetic exposure is one cause of environmental sensitivities (Sears 2007).

**Cardiovascular Disease:** We have scientific evidence that microwave radiation from a cordless DECT phone affects the heart and causes arrhythmia and tachycardia in double blind placebo experiments. This could be life threatening to those with heart disease (Havas et al. 2010). This research is peer-reviewed and a short youtube video of it is available at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EI9fZX4iww>.

**Cancer:** We have evidence that there is an increase in various types of ipsilateral tumors including gliomas, acoustic neuromas, salivary gland tumors, and uveal melanomas by those who have used a cell phone for 10 years or longer. Some of this evidence was presented to the U.S. Senate Committee on Cell Phones in September 2009. A short video clip of the Senate hearing (10 minutes) is available at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=npK5HsxukyA>.

**Reproductive Problems:** Using cell phones has also been linked to reproductive problems associated with abnormal sperm and behavioural problems with children born to mothers who used their cell phones while pregnant. See: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K4uz2TucwnI>.

**Environmental Petition:** I have submitted two environmental petitions to the Auditor General of Canada in 2008. One concerns **cordless DECT phones** that radiate unnecessarily 24-hours a day and are making people ill (Havas 2008). The other Environmental Petition concerns **energy efficient compact fluorescent lighting (CFL)** that is also making people ill and is a concern

----- raised by the UK Dermatological Association, Migraine Action, and Epilepsy Action (Havas and Hutchinson 2008). CFL are not only bad for human health because of the UV radiation, dirty electricity, and radio frequency radiation they emit, but they also contain mercury, which is a neurotoxin, is bad for the environment and is of particular concern if broken inside the home. Even the lighting industry recognizes the future of CFLs is far from bright as they are trying to replace them with LEDs as quickly as possible.

The Canadian Government, and especially Health Canada has failed to do its homework and has allowed products that are harmful to human health. Their lack of foresight and their response to the Auditor General Petition is a disgrace. Whether their response is due to incompetence or to collusion with industry is difficult to determine but they are failing to protect the Health of Canadians as their name implies.

**Credibility of government agencies** responsible for the Health of the Environment and for Human Health is at an all time low. This includes the World Health Organization as demonstrated by the Interphone Study, which involved 13 countries, cost millions of dollars, and was supposed to be release 4 years ago. We are told that the “scientists can’t agree on the interpretation of the results. When the WHO was encouraged to release the results without interpretation, they refused to do so.

Collusion between government regulatory agencies and multinational companies is so serious that several books are being written on this topic. I would strongly encourage you to read “Doubt is Their Product”, “Bending Science”, and “Environmental Skepticism”. These 3 books document why attempts to protect the environment and to protect human health are failing. The multinational companies with their billion dollar profits are far too influential within the walls of government.

Quote from *Environmental Skepticism: Ecology, Power and Public Life*.

“Environmental skepticism is the position that major environmental problems are either unreal or unimportant [or] . . . inauthentic.”

Quote from *Bending Science: How reliable is the science that federal regulators and legislators use to protect public from dangerous products?*

“As this disturbing book shows, ideological or economic attacks on the research are part of an extensive pattern of abuse. Bending Science makes a compelling case for reforms to safeguard both the integrity of science and the public health” (Harvard University Press 2008).

Quote from *Doubt is Their Product: How Industry’s Assault on Science Threatens your Health*.

“For almost half a century, the tobacco companies hired consultants and scientists—swarms of them, in times of greatest peril—initially to deny (sometimes under oath) that smokers were at greater risk of dying of lung cancer and heart disease, then to refute the evidence that secondhand smoke increases disease risk in nonsmokers. The industry and its scientists manufactured uncertainty by questioning every study, dissecting every method and disputing every conclusion. What they could not question was the enormous, obvious casualty

count—the thousands of smokers who die every day from a disease directly related to their habit—but no matter. Despite the overwhelming scientific evidence, the tobacco industry was able to wage a campaign that successfully delayed regulation and victim compensation for decades—and it is still doing so.”

Unfortunately, the same tactics are used by the telecommunication industry. Research funded by either the military or by the wireless industry predominantly shows no adverse effects of this technology, where as research independently funded shows the reverse. Henry Lai, at the University of Washington, as well as others (Huss et al. 2007), have documented this inverse relationship between adverse biological effects and source of funding. If the research was truly independent than both groups should document similar results.

This denial of any biological or health effects, especially in the face of so many studies documenting adverse effects is difficult to comprehend.

In a recent presentation in Thunder Bay (February 22, 2010), where the President of Lakehead University--Dr. Fred Gilbert--has opted in favor of wired rather than wireless internet access, Dr. Lai presented studies that document the following effects of radio frequency radiation: cancer, cellular/molecular disruption, changes in electrophysiology and behavior, affects on the nervous system, altered permeability of the blood-brain barrier, changes in calcium flux, cardiovascular disorders, hormonal and immunological changes, altered metabolic rate, reproductive problems and subjective symptoms (electrohypersensitivity).

**Safety Code 6 Guidelines are Inadequate to Protect Public Health:** The current guidelines we have in Canada for radio frequency radiation are orders of magnitude higher than in countries like Russia (1% of SC 6) and Salzburg, Austria (0.01% of SC 6). It is unlikely that Russians are more sensitive to this radiation and thus need more protective guidelines. While guidelines for chemical toxicants may vary slightly from country to country we have no other example, that I'm aware of, where guidelines range 4 orders of magnitude.

Canada has no long-term guidelines for radio frequency radiation exposure. Our exposure guideline is based on power density averaged over a 6-minute period. This was an engineering guideline rather than a biological guideline as living organisms are affected by extremes not averages. It is woefully inadequate and misguided.

**Recommendations:** The time is long overdue to re-evaluate Safety Code 6 and reduce guidelines to protect the Canada population. It is also necessary to bring in legislation to limit the placement of antennas near schools and other sensitive areas; to establish wireless-free zones for those who are sensitive; and to fund research on electrosensitivity and especially on the means by which this illness can be reversed and eradicated.

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Michaels, D. 2008. *Doubt is their Product. How Industry's Assault on Science Threatens your Health*. Oxford University Press, New York,

Royal Society of Canada. 1999. A Review of the Potential Health Risks of Radiofrequency Fields from Wireless Telecommunication Devices An Expert Panel Report prepared at the request of the Royal Society of Canada for Health Canada, March 1999.

Sears, M.E. 2007. The Medical Perspective on Environmental Sensitivities. The Canadian Human Rights Commission. 79 pp.

## **Appendix 1.**

### **House of Commons, Environmental Committee. notes 2002**

Wired and Wireless Electromagnetic Energy: An Overview of Health Concerns and a Call for Action. Oral Presentation by Dr. Magda Havas to the House of Commons Environmental Committee, May 21, 2002.

Attached are notes submitted to the Environmental Committee prior to translation (see pdf Havas Caccia RFR 02 HO). The French translation should be available in the Environmental Committee Archives.

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## Appendix 2.

### Resolutions and Appeals by International Groups of Scientific and Medical Doctors.

- 2000: Salzburg Resolution, Austria.** Scientists recommend 0.1 microW/cm<sup>2</sup> for radio frequency radiation exposure [[www.landsbg.gv.at/celltower](http://www.landsbg.gv.at/celltower)]. Guideline in U.S. is 1000 microW/cm<sup>2</sup>. No long-term guideline exists in the U.S.
- 2002: Catania Resolution, Italy.** Scientists recognize adverse health effects of EMF at levels below international guidelines. [[www.emrpolicy.org/faq/catania.pdf](http://www.emrpolicy.org/faq/catania.pdf)]
- 2002: Freiburger Appeal, Germany.** Physicians request tougher guidelines for radio frequency exposure, endorsed by hundreds of healthcare practitioners. [[www.mastsanity.org/doctors-appeals.html](http://www.mastsanity.org/doctors-appeals.html)]. Read quote from this appeal on next page.
- 2004: World Health Organization, Workshop on ElectroSensitivity, Czech Republic, Oct 2004.** Scientists recognize electrohypersensitivity and propose calling it “idiopathic syndrome”, which means “no known cause”.
- 2005: Irish Doctors’ Environmental Association (IDEA), Ireland.** Doctors recognize electrohypersensitivity (EHS) is increasing and request advice from government on how to treat EHS [[www.ideaireland.org](http://www.ideaireland.org)].
- 2005: Helsinki Appeal, Finland.** Call for new safety standards, reject International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) guidelines. [[www.emrpolicy.org/headlines/helsinki\\_appeal\\_05.pdf](http://www.emrpolicy.org/headlines/helsinki_appeal_05.pdf)]
- 2006: Benevento Resolution, Italy.** Scientists recognize adverse health effects, recommend precautionary principle, identify funding biased studies, recognize need for wireless-free zones [[www.icems.eu](http://www.icems.eu)]-International Commission for Electromagnetic Safety.
- 2007: BioInitiative Report, USA.** Reviewed 2000 studies showing biological effects of ELF and RF radiation and calling for biologically based exposure guidelines. [[www.bioinitiative.org](http://www.bioinitiative.org)]
- 2008: Venice Appeal, Italy.** Scientists recognize biological effects at non-thermal levels, that standards are inadequate, that electro-sensitivity exists and that there is a need to research mechanisms. [[www.icems.eu/resolution.htm](http://www.icems.eu/resolution.htm)]
- 2009: Porto Alegre Resolution, Brazil.** Scientists and doctors recognize electrohypersensitivity and are concerned that exposure to electromagnetic fields may increase the risk of cancer and chronic diseases; that exposure levels established by international agencies (IEEE, ICNIRP, ICES) are obsolete; and that wireless technology places at risk the health of children, teens, pregnant women and others who are vulnerable.

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## Appendix 3:

### Warnings about Cell Phones

**United Kingdom:** “. . . we believe that the widespread use of mobile phones by children for non-essential calls should be discouraged.” (Stewart Report 2000)

**Germany:** People should avoid using Wi-Fi wherever possible because of the risks it may pose to health. (2007)

**France:** The French government is warning consumers to avoid “excessive” cell phone use because of concerns that mobile phone use could increase the risk of some cancers . . . children who use cell phones face the most danger from the devices. (2008). Cell phones banned in primary schools and models cannot be used near the ear.

**Russia:** Children under the age of 18 should not use cell phones (2008).

**India:** Ministry of Telecommunication recommends that children, pregnant women and people suffering from heart ailments limit use of mobile phones (2008).

**Toronto Board:** Children under 8 should use cell phones for emergencies only and teens should limit calls to under 10 minutes (2008).

**Pittsburgh Cancer:** Head of prominent cancer research institute warns faculty and staff to limit cell phone use because of the possible risk of cancer (2008).

**Belgium:** Discourage the use of cell phones by children (2008).

**Finland:** The Radiation and Nuclear Power Authority urges parents to err on the side of caution, because . . . there is no definitive research indicating the absence of health risks from cell phone use (2009).

**Seoul Korea:** “Cellular phones could harm the study atmosphere at schools and could cause health risks for kids. It is desirable to prohibit students from using cell phones at schools.” (2009).

**U.S. FCC: Consumer Facts:** Recommends precautionary steps for use of cell phones (2009).

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# Electro Hypersensitivity

## Talking to Your Doctor

In addition to numerous other health problems, electromagnetic pollution has been associated with an increase in the number of individuals suffering from a condition known as electrohypersensitivity (EHS). EHS is defined by the World Health Organization as: "...a phenomenon where individuals experience adverse health effects while in the vicinity of devices emanating electric, magnetic, or electromagnetic fields."

In Sweden, it is classified as a disability and health care facilities with low levels of exposure to electromagnetic fields and radiofrequency radiation are available. The Canadian Human Rights Commission report also acknowledges environmental sensitivity attributed to electromagnetic exposure. (28) Researchers estimate that approximately 3% of the population has severe symptoms of EHS, and another 35% of the population has moderate symptoms such as an impaired immune system and chronic illness (Havas, 2007).

Because EHS is an **environmental sensitivity**, avoidance of triggers is essential in preventing symptoms and regaining good health. Like other environmental sensitivities, EHS presents with a variety of symptoms and it is common to have overlapping conditions. For instance, Multiple Chemical Sensitivity and Fibromyalgia, among other illnesses, are common in people with EHS and severity of symptoms in people with M.S., Diabetes, and other illnesses have been shown to be exacerbated with exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMF) and abated with mitigation of the EMF source(s).

### SYMPTOMS OF ELECTRO HYPERSENSITIVITY

The biological effects from exposure to EMF/EMR include both adverse health effects and loss of homeostasis and well-being. Symptoms vary from patient to patient depending on their physical biology and exposure intensity and duration. Symptoms quickly improve when away from EMF/EMR sources, particularly when the patient moves away from computers, fluorescent lighting, transformers, wireless antenna, cell and cordless phones,

appliances and out of proximity to cell phone towers, electrical substations and power lines. All these are potential sources of higher than normal EMF/EMR exposure. Symptoms recur on returning to the irradiated environment. Over time, sensitivity is increased to smaller and smaller EMF/EMR exposures. (Sage, 2001)

<b>SYMPTOMS OF ELECTRO HYPERSENSITIVITY</b>					
Neurological		Cardiac	Respiratory	Dermatological	Ophthalmologic
headaches	depression	palpitations	sinusitis	skin rash	deteriorating vision
difficulty concentrating	anxiety	pain or pressure in the chest	asthma	facial flushing	pain or burning in the eyes
muscle and joint pain	confusion and spatial disorientation	low or high blood pressure	bronchitis	itching	pressure in/behind the eyes
memory loss	fatigue	shortness of breath	pneumonia	burning	floaters
dizziness	weakness	arrhythmias			cataracts
nausea	tremors	slow or fast heart rate		swelling of face and neck	
irritability	muscle spasms				
numbness	leg/foot pain				
tingling	"Flu-like" symptoms				
hyperactivity	fever				
altered reflexes	insomnia				
<b>OTHER</b>					
digestive problems	abdominal pain	testicular/ovarian pain/swelling	enlarged thyroid	great thirst	dehydration
nosebleeds	internal bleeding	hair loss	pain in the teeth	deteriorating fillings	Light sensitivity
swollen lymph nodes	loss of appetite	hypoxia	allergies	frequent urination and incontinence	night sweats
immune abnormalities	redistribution of metals within the body	ringing in the ears (tinnitus or similar chronic ear-noise)	impaired sense of smell	altered sugar metabolism	dryness of lips, tongue, mouth, eyes
<b>Severe reactions can include seizures, paralysis, psychosis, and stroke</b>					

## **BIOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF EMF/EMR EXPOSURE**

*(Excerpted from: Do You Have Microwave Sickness? Paul Doyon)*

### **Exposure to EMF/EMR:**

**Induces Oxidative Damage** leading to depletion of the body's natural store of antioxidants like Super Oxide Dimutase (SOD), Catalase, Glutathione, CoQ10, and Melatonin. When the body becomes depleted in antioxidants, premature aging, increased infections, and sticky blood are just a few of the consequences. With a depressed level of antioxidants in the blood, for example, high-density lipoproteins (HDL) or the good cholesterol will bind with free radicals (oxidants) turning the good cholesterol into bad cholesterol or low-density lipoproteins (LDL).

**Affects an abnormal influx of calcium into cells.** When there is an abnormal influx of calcium into mast cells, for example, they produce histamine. This is just one of the ways in which microwave exposure has been known to trigger or aggravate allergic reactions.

**Induces mitochondria dysfunction.** The mitochondria are the powerhouse of the cell. Dysfunctional mitochondria will interfere with the cells' ability to produce energy and can be linked to fatigue and possibly even obesity.

**Depolarizes the body's red blood cells,** causing them to clump together. When this happens, the amount of oxygen getting to the brain cells and the cells of the body's other organs is diminished substantially leading to hypoxia. This can cause symptoms similar to altitude sickness: nausea, dizziness, inability to concentrate, and so on.

**Induces a decrease in the numbers of Natural Killer (NK) cells.** This leads to the body's weakened ability to recover from viral and other types of infections. Therefore, people exposed to microwave radiation would take longer than normal to recover from your day-to-day infections.

Long-term microwave radiation has been shown to **change a particular form of white blood cell (lymphocyte) ratio** - known as the T-helper/T-suppressor (T4/T8) cell ratio - from normal to abnormal. Abnormalities in this T-lymphocyte ratio have been shown to lead to an increased susceptibility to viral, fungal, and bacterial infections. Symptoms include sore throats, low-grade fevers, weakness, persistent fatigue, and swollen lymph glands.

**Increases viruses, bacteria, mold, parasites, and yeast in the blood of the human host.**

**Induces what is known as "subliminal" stress** causing the adrenal glands to excrete an abnormally greater amount of cortisol and adrenaline. Excretion of adrenaline, for one, can lead to irritability and a feeling of hyperactivity - the latter now very common in children with ADHD. In a continuous state this will eventually lead to adrenal exhaustion. Excessive cortisol has been linked to obesity.

**Causes a decrease of 5-HT in the blood.** 5-HT is a precursor to the production of the brain hormone serotonin. Low levels of serotonin have been linked to anxiety and depression. An increase in anxiety and depression can in turn be linked to an increase in the number of suicides.

**Induces a decrease in levels of the brain hormone norepinephrine.** This hormone is essential for control of the autonomic nervous system, and lack of it can lead to autonomic nervous system disorders. For example, if the autonomic nervous system is not working properly, the body will have trouble regulating its temperature - i.e. cooling itself when it is warm and heating itself when it is cold. An abnormal decrease in norepinephrine levels has also been connected to short-term memory disturbances and depression.

**Alters production of melatonin.** This brain hormone and antioxidant is necessary for proper sleep. 42 million (approximately one in five) Americans now take sleep medication for insomnia while others often experience sleep disturbances due to exposure to electromagnetic radiation (EMR). A drop in melatonin levels has also been connected with increases in breast cancer.

**Reduces the levels of the brain hormone, dopamine.** A drop in dopamine levels have been linked with depression.

**Affects an abnormal drop in the levels of the neurotransmitter acetylcholine.** A drop in the levels of this neurotransmitter has been linked to a number of neurological and neuromuscular disorders - including Alzheimer's disease.

**Induces restlessness** and hence may very well also be responsible for a syndrome called **restless leg syndrome (RLS).**

**Alters regional cerebral blood flow.** In conditions like autism and chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS) it has been shown via SPECT

The **Canadian Human Rights Commission** approved a Policy on Environmental Sensitivities on June 15th 2007. EHS is included in this report and is recognized as a disability.  
[http://www.chrc-ccdp.ca/legislation\\_policies/policy\\_envIRON\\_politique-en.asp](http://www.chrc-ccdp.ca/legislation_policies/policy_envIRON_politique-en.asp)

**Diagnostic Criteria**

Diagnostic criteria are such that independent physicians would come to the same conclusion when examining a particular patient. This is important both for treatment purposes and for research.

With regard to multiple chemical sensitivity, thirty-four experienced North American physicians and researchers who had examined patterns of symptoms in thousands of people reached a consensus regarding criteria to establish a diagnosis:

- symptoms are reproducible with repeated exposure;
- the condition is chronic;
- low levels of exposure [lower than previously or commonly tolerated] result in manifestations of the syndrome;
- symptoms improve or resolve when the incitants are removed;
- responses occur to multiple chemically unrelated substances; and
- symptoms involve multiple organ systems.

A systematic literature review confirmed the diagnostic criteria, and suggested that neurological symptoms could be an additional criterion. The consensus diagnostic criteria were also validated, as they identified those most and least likely to be affected among 2,546 patients in Toronto medical practices with high and low prevalence of patients with sensitivities. In the same study, a combination of four neurological symptoms also discerned people most likely affected by multiple chemical sensitivities: having a stronger sense of smell than others; **feeling dull/groggy; feeling "spacey;" plus having difficulty concentrating. A pattern consistent with these diagnostic criteria is also reported for sensitivities to electromagnetic phenomena.**

"Environmental sensitivities" does not describe a single, simple condition with a universal cause. Environmentally sensitive individuals link their symptoms to aspects of their environment such as being in a particular place or being exposed to one or more factors such as chemicals, biological materials or **electromagnetic phenomena**. Table 1 lists some terms that have been used to describe aspects of environmental sensitivities.

Adding to the complexity of the clinical picture are overlapping conditions, also listed in Table 1. Environmental exposures may not contribute to all these conditions in all patients, but one should be alert to the possibility that a range of factors may contribute to an individual's ill health.

**Table 1: Names used for aspects of environmental sensitivities and commonly overlapping conditions**

<u>Aspects of Environmental Sensitivities</u>	<u>Commonly Overlapping Conditions</u>
State of heightened reactivity to the environment	Fibromyalgia
Total allergy syndrome	Myalgic encephalomyelitis (ME) Chronic fatigue syndrome
Toxicant-Induced Loss of Tolerance (TILT)	Post-viral fatigue syndrome
Multiple chemical sensitivity(ies) (MCS)	Post-infectious neuromyasthenia
Multiple chemical hypersensitivity(ies)	Yuppie flu
Chemical intolerance(s)	Chronic pain
Gulf War illness/syndrome	Migraine
Idiopathic environmental intolerance	Arthritis
Environmental illness	Allergies
Chemical injury/allergy	Rhinitis
Toxic injury	Asthma
Tight building syndrome	Food intolerance syndrome
Sick building syndrome	Celiac disease
Twentieth century disease	Irritable bowel syndrome
Chemically induced illness	Major depression
Chemophobia	Anxiety or panic disorder
<b>Electromagnetic (hyper) sensitivities /intolerance</b>	Hypothyroidism
<b>Radiowave sickness</b>	

([http://www.chrc-ccdp.ca/research\\_program\\_recherche/esensitivities\\_hypersensibilitee/page2-en.asp#21](http://www.chrc-ccdp.ca/research_program_recherche/esensitivities_hypersensibilitee/page2-en.asp#21))

## **TREATMENT**

*(Excerpted from [The Medical Perspective on Environmental Sensitivities](#) > Page 6 The Canadian Human Rights Commission Research Project)*

Early recognition, avoidance of symptom-triggering agents, environmental control, treatments that may reduce residual toxins and recovery of normal biological processes are key to regaining health for people with sensitivities. Without mitigation of the incitant, people with environmental sensitivities may become severely debilitated.

The most immediate and effective course of action is to avoid all sources of electromagnetic radiation.

Once exposure to incitants is eliminated, helpful interventions include:

- treating gastrointestinal infections which, if untreated, can lead to absorption of internal toxins and large-molecule food antigens, or conversely, may lead to poor absorption of nutrients;
- regimens to enhance detoxification and elimination such as sauna and exercise therapy;
- reduction of heavy metal contamination using oral and intravenous chelation for toxic metals (shown to be safe to treat lead in children; it is currently in clinical trials for children with autism);
- oral and intravenous vitamins;
- securing hormonal homeostasis, given that many of the toxins observed are endocrine disruptors;
- correcting biochemical irregularities;
- psychological, social and spiritual support;
- occupational accommodation.

***The Environmental Health Clinic at the The New Women's College Hospital, Toronto, Ontario***

<http://www.womenscollegehospital.ca/programs/program76.html>

All patients with suspected Environmental Sensitivities would benefit greatly from attending this clinic.

The **Environmental Health Clinic** is a unique multidisciplinary clinic, and the only one of its kind in Ontario. It was established in 1996 by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care to be a provincial resource in promoting environmental health, and to improve health care for people with environment-linked conditions such as Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, Fibromyalgia and Multiple Chemical Sensitivities.

The Environmental Health Clinic is the clinical part of a joint clinical and research program of Women's College Hospital and the University of Toronto.

The purpose of the Clinic is to:

- Educate our clients, the public and health-care professionals about environmental health issues
- Provide a comprehensive multidisciplinary assessment for clients with Environmental Sensitivities/Intolerances (and related conditions), Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and Fibromyalgia, and to make recommendations to their treating physicians regarding the management of their ongoing health care needs
- Gain a better understanding of the health-care needs of those with Environmental Sensitivities/Intolerances, Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and Fibromyalgia through participation in clinical research a better understanding of the health-care needs of those with Environmental Sensitivities/Intolerances, Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and Fibromyalgia through participation in clinical research

**A physician referral is required. To have a referral package mailed to you, call toll free 1-800-417-7092.**

## **THE CONTROVERSY**

*(Excerpted from the [Bioinitiative Report](http://www.bioinitiative.org/report/), <http://www.bioinitiative.org/report/>)*

### **Problems with Existing Public Health Standards (Safety Limits)**

Today's public exposure limits for telecommunications are based on the presumption that heating of tissue (for RF) or induced electric currents in the body (for ELF) are the only concerns when living organisms are exposed to RF.

In the past, scientists and engineers developed exposure standards for electromagnetic radiation based on what we now believe are faulty assumptions that the right way to measure how much non-ionizing energy humans can tolerate (how much exposure) without harm is to measure only the heating of tissue (RF) or induced currents in the body (ELF). In the last few decades, it has been established beyond any reasonable doubt that bioeffects and some adverse health effects occur at far lower levels of RF and ELF exposure where no heating (or induced currents) occurs at all; some effects are shown to occur at several hundred thousand times below the existing public safety limits where heating is an impossibility.

Effects occur at non-thermal or low-intensity exposure levels thousands of times below the levels that federal agencies say should keep the public safe. For many new devices operating with wireless technologies, the devices are exempt from any regulatory standards. The existing standards have been proven to be inadequate to control against harm from low-intensity, chronic exposures, based on any reasonable, independent assessment of the scientific literature. The explosion of new sources of RF and ELF has created unprecedented levels of artificial electromagnetic fields that now cover all but remote areas of the habitable space on earth.

### **Main Reasons for Disagreement Among Experts**

1. Scientists and public health policy experts use very different definitions of the standard of evidence used to judge the science, so they come to different conclusions about what to do. Scientists do have a role, but it is not exclusive and other opinions matter.
2. We are all talking about essentially the same scientific studies, but use a different way of measuring when "enough is enough" or "proof exists".
3. Some experts keep saying that all studies have to be consistent (turn out the same way every time) before they are comfortable saying an effect exists.
4. Some experts think that it is enough to look only at short-term, acute effects.
5. Other experts say that it is imperative we have studies over longer time (showing the effects of chronic exposures) since that is what kind of world we live in.
6. Some experts say that everyone, including the very young, the elderly, pregnant women, and people with illnesses have to be considered – others say only the average person (or in the case of RF, a six-foot tall man) matter.
7. There is no unexposed population, making it harder to see increased risk of diseases.
8. The lack of consensus about a single biological mechanism of action.
9. The strength of human epidemiological studies reporting risks from ELF and RF exposures, but animal studies don't show a strong toxic effect.
10. Vested interests have a substantial influence on the health debate.

No one would recommend that drugs used in medical treatments and prevention of disease be randomly given to the public, especially to children. Yet, random and involuntary exposures to EMFs occur all the time in daily life.

Medical conditions are successfully treated using EMFs at levels below current public safety standards, proving another way that the body recognizes and responds to low-intensity EMF signals. Otherwise, these medical treatments could not work. The FDA has approved EMFs medical treatment devices, so is clearly aware of this paradox.

### **RECOMMENDED READING**

Resources are endless on this topic. Here are some links to highly recommended reading materials.

#### **The BioInitiative Report**

<http://www.bioinitiative.org/report/index.htm>

*By the BioInitiative Working Group. An international working group of scientists, researchers and public health policy professionals (The BioInitiative Working Group) has released its report on electromagnetic fields (EMF) and health. They document serious scientific concerns about current limits regulating how much EMF is allowable from power lines, cell phones, and many other sources of EMF exposure in daily life.*

#### **The Canadian Human Rights Commission Policy on Environmental Sensitivities.**

[http://www.chrc-ccdp.ca/legislation\\_policies/policy\\_envIRON POLITIQUE-EN.asp?lang\\_update=1](http://www.chrc-ccdp.ca/legislation_policies/policy_envIRON POLITIQUE-EN.asp?lang_update=1)

#### **Evidence that Electromagnetic Radiation is Genotoxic: The implications for the epidemiology of cancer and cardiac, neurological and reproductive effects**

*by Dr. Neil Cherry June 2000*

<http://www.whale.to/b/cherry6.html>

#### **WEPP Canadian Initiative to stop Wireless, Electric, and Electromagnetic Pollution.**

<http://www.weppinitiative.org>

<http://weppinitiative.org/talkingtoyourdoctor.pdf>



## TOWN OF MARKHAM

### Policy for Establishing Telecommunication Towers

June 2009

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Radiocommunications and broadcasting services (e.g. personal communications services and cellular, fixed wireless, broadcasting, etc.) have become an important component of the way business, and society in general, operates today. These services are used daily by the public, safety and security organizations, government, wireless service providers, broadcasters, utilities and businesses; from cell phones and pagers to instant text and photo messaging, e-mail messages and connection to the web. For these services to work, systems including masts, towers, antennae and other supporting structures are required. There is a certain amount of flexibility in the placement of Telecommunication Towers constrained by some degree by: the need to achieve acceptable coverage for the service area; the availability of sites; technical limitations; and safety. Accordingly, municipalities are experiencing an increasing demand to accommodate Telecommunication Towers by balancing the location and design requirements of the Proponent with the desire to minimize the impact on the community and local surroundings.

The approval authority for Telecommunication Towers is with Industry Canada under the *Radiocommunication Act*. Their most recent release of a "Client Procedures Circular" was June 2007, which came into effect on January 1, 2008 ("CPC-2-0-03"). CPC 2-0-03 outlines the process that must be followed by Proponents seeking to install or modify a Telecommunication Tower, where a Land Use Authority ("LUA") does not have a consultation protocol. Although Industry Canada has provided a Default Public Consultation Process in CPC 2-0-03, they encourage the establishment of policies from LUA's recognizing they are best positioned to contribute to optimum siting of facilities to meet their own community needs. The Town of Markham established its own policy in June 2002 and due to Industry Canada's update and changing technology, the Town is proposing to update its policy at this time. The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to the Town, Proponents, and the general public in considering proposals to locate Telecommunication Towers within the Town of Markham.

It is intended that by outlining the procedures to be followed for Telecommunication Tower proposals, a framework for identifying and resolving any land use conflicts at an early stage in the process will be established. The consultation process for a Telecommunication Tower will be in accordance with the Town's site plan process, as outlined in this policy. It is acknowledged that Proponents following the Town's usual site plan process are not subject to Site Plan approval in accordance with the *Planning Act*. Final approval for Telecommunication Towers is with Industry Canada. It is anticipated that Proponents will continue to pursue innovative technology that will reduce the visual impact on the community.

## DEFINITIONS

**Co-location** means the sharing of a Telecommunication Tower by two or more Proponents.

**Telecommunication Tower** - means all types of towers including but not limited to: a monopole; tripole; lattice tower; guyed tower; self-support tower; pole; mast; or other structure, which are used to support one or more telecommunication antennae for the purpose of radio telecommunications and which may be located at ground level or on the roof of a building.

**Proponent** means a company, organization or person that is subject to Industry Canada's CPC-2-0-03, or its successors.

## OBJECTIVES

The intent of this policy is:

- to balance demands for new Telecommunication Towers on both private and publicly owned property, with
  - i) a desire to preserve the natural and cultural landscape and minimize community impacts
  - ii) a view to generating a new source of non-assessment based revenue for the Town;
- to outline a general process to be followed by the Proponent and the Town for reviewing and commenting on Telecommunication Tower proposals, which are not exempt by this policy, and to provide an opportunity for public consultation;
- to provide for high calibre wireless telecommunications service, in order to promote economic development, and meet the business and safety needs of the public and community;
- To provide a process to implement Industry Canada's CPC-2-0-03 for all Proponents;
- To clarify that the Town of Markham is the designated "Land Use Authority" (LUA) for all lands within the Town of Markham municipal boundaries.

## PRELIMINARY CONSULTATION

Where not exempt from the requirement to consult with the Town under this policy, preliminary consultation shall be required between Proponents and Town staff through a process outlined on Markham's web page at Markham.ca under Forms and Applications and Planning. At the pre-consultation meeting, municipal staff shall provide details outlining:

- consider the appropriateness of the proposed location and/or appropriateness of co-location opportunities
- provide preliminary comments;
- the process to be followed, including requirements for public consultation;
- any additional documents, drawings required as part of the application;
- fees for the application;
- list of agencies to be consulted; and
- location of Town owned land or facilities that may be a suitable site for a Telecommunication Tower.

Where not exempt from the requirement to consult with the public under this policy, the Proponent will be requested to consult adjacent municipalities within 120 metres or three times the height of the proposed Telecommunication Tower, whichever is greater, by circulating proposals to the Clerk and Planning Director/Commissioner of the adjacent municipality. The Proponent shall provide confirmation of this consultation to the Town.

#### **SITE SELECTION CRITERIA**

The Proponent shall make every effort to identify a location that minimizes the total number of Telecommunication Towers in the area, existing or proposed. In this regard, the Proponent shall be encouraged to co-locate on existing Telecommunication Towers, such as water towers, rooftops, existing towers, etc. wherever possible. Proponents shall consider the visual impact when proposing co-location on existing Telecommunication Towers within sensitive areas such as residential zones in consultation with Staff. Where Proponents require a new Telecommunication Tower to meet network needs, when selecting a location, the following shall be considered:

- maximizing the distance from residential zones, where possible, and minimizing any negative visual impacts;
- avoiding significant natural features (both topographic and vegetative), including hazard lands (floodplains, steep slopes);
- avoiding areas of topographical prominence, where possible, to minimize any negative visual impacts;
- ensuring that access requirements are sensitively integrated ;
- avoiding new Telecommunication Towers in Heritage Conservation Districts and Heritage Conservation Study Areas; and
- consider the use of Town owned lands and/or facilities where technically feasible and of a location and design acceptable to the Town.

#### **DESIGN**

Where co-location is not available, a Telecommunication Tower shall be located and designed to minimize visual impact and to avoid disturbance of significant natural features. The type, size, location, height, width, configuration, and colour of a Telecommunication Tower shall be selected to blend in with the surroundings to be as unobtrusive as possible, where permitted by Transport Canada and/or NAV Canada. (Landscaping or a lump sum cash payment in lieu of landscaping will be provided where appropriate, at the discretion of the Town.)

Telecommunication Towers should be designed to fit into and be compatible with the immediate context and the surrounding area. Telecommunication Tower designs that mimic other features customarily found in an area context are encouraged where appropriate. These features may include appropriately located clock towers, flag poles, church steeples etc. No signs or other material not directly related to this equipment, or other on-site land uses shall be permitted on the Telecommunication Tower unless Proponents comply with the Town's sign by-law.

Where appropriate, the Proponent shall be encouraged to consult with other telecommunication providers in an effort to co-locate or build Telecommunication Towers that can accommodate additional users, subject to compliance with Industry Canada's CPC-2-0-17 *Conditions of Licence for Mandatory Roaming and Antenna Tower and Site Sharing and to Prohibit Exclusive Site Arrangements*.

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The Proponent will be encouraged to relocate the Telecommunication Tower if another more suitable location becomes available provided:

- a) the move to an alternate location is economically feasible;
- b) the alternate location is appropriate from a radio frequency engineering perspective;  
and
- c) that the alternate location is one on which the Proponent is permitted to locate on subject to reasonable commercial terms.

A small plaque shall be placed at the base of the Telecommunication Tower identifying the owner/operator and a contact number.

### **APPLICATION PROCESS**

A proposal for a Telecommunication Tower and modifications to an existing Telecommunication Tower, that are not exempt from Municipal Review under this policy, shall be supported by an information package including the information required as outlined in the checklist attached as part of this policy. Each Telecommunication Tower Proponent shall follow the Town's site plan process for consultation purposes including the pre-consultation process as outlined on the Town of Markham web page and the accompanying application.

The Town, when it receives an application for a Telecommunication Tower shall:

- provide guidance to the Proponent regarding the public consultation process;
- provide direction to the Proponent regarding the format to be used for the notice for the community information session and a mailing list of parties to be notified;
- provide direction to the Proponent to determine an appropriate location for the community information session;
- make recommendations to be received by Development Services Committee when the Proponent presents the proposal, based on the public consultation process and discussions with the Proponent;

Any Telecommunication Tower proposed on Town owned lands and/or facilities will require an internal municipal review. No public consultation will be required for Telecommunication Towers on Town owned lands and/or facilities where the proposed Telecommunication Tower is otherwise exempt from the requirement to consult with the public by CPC-2-0-03 or this policy.

### **SITE PLAN FEES**

The Proponent shall be subject to the Town's existing site plan application fee determined at the time of application. Other fees may apply if additional applications to other approval authorities, e.g. Regional Municipality of York, TRCA, etc. are required.

### **UNDERTAKING**

The Proponent may be required to enter into an undertaking acceptable to the Town which may include such requirements as:

- the location and design of the Telecommunication Tower;
- in the case of a lease between the Town and a Proponent, the removal of all structures upon expiration of the lease;

- the provision for landscaping;
- compliance with the requirements of Industry Canada's CPC-2-0-17 *Conditions of Licence for Mandatory Roaming and Antenna Tower and Site Sharing and to Prohibit Exclusive Site Arrangements*;
- in the case of a lease between the Town and a Proponent, lease provisions acceptable to the Town Solicitor.

#### **EXEMPTIONS TO MUNICIPAL REVIEW**

The following proposals for a Telecommunication Tower will be exempt from the requirement to consult with the Town and will not require the submission of a site plan application:

- maintenance of existing radio apparatus including the antenna system, transmission line, mast, tower or other antenna-supporting structure;
- addition or modification of an antenna system (including improving the structural integrity of its integral mast to facilitate sharing), the transmission line, antenna-supporting structure or other radio apparatus to existing infrastructure, a building, water tower, etc. provided the addition or modification does not result in an overall height increase above the existing structure of 25% of the original structure's height;
- maintenance of an antenna system's painting or lighting in order to comply with Transport Canada's requirements;
- installation, for a limited duration (typically not more than 3 months), of an antenna system that is used for a special event, or one that is used to support local, provincial, territorial or national emergency operations during the emergency, and is removed within 3 months after the emergency or special event; and
- Co-location on an existing Telecommunication Tower.; and
- amateur radio Telecommunication Towers provided:
  - a. They are strictly for personal use
  - b. The antenna boom or other appurtenance attached to the antenna are more than 1 metre from any property line;
  - c. No structure is placed in a front yard; and,
  - d. The antenna and associated equipment is less than 10 metres in height;

#### **PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

The Proponent is responsible for organizing and holding a community information session. For a proposed Telecommunication Tower or alterations to an existing Telecommunication Tower that requires public consultation, the Proponent shall provide the following notices of the information session:

- give notice by regular mail to all owners of properties within a radius 120 metres or 3 times the height of the proposed Telecommunication Tower, measured from the base, whichever is greater;
  - Give notice by regular mail to area ratepayer associations;
  - For a Telecommunication Tower that is proposed to be 45 metres or more in height, place a notice in the local community paper;
-

- If a condominium development is located within the required circulation radius, notice may be given to the condominium corporation, instead of all owners assessed in respect of the condominium development; and
- Notice is to be provided to the Chairman of Development Services Committee, the Ward Councillor, Director of Planning and the Town Clerk

The notification of the information session shall include the following information:

- the proposed location of the Telecommunication Tower within the subject property;
- physical details of the Telecommunication Tower including its height, colour, type, design, including any accessory equipment;
- the time and location of the community information session;
- the name and telephone number of a contact person employed by the Proponent, as well as a Town contact person;
- information package.

The Proponent shall distribute comment cards at the public information session and prepare a record of all attendees who submitted a comment card and:

- provide a follow-up letter addressed to the Director of Planning, copied to the Chairman of Development Services Committee, the Ward Councillor, the Town Clerk and to all attendees of the community information meeting who submitted comment cards and those who made written submissions, to indicate the Proponent's formal response to any concerns or issues raised in the comment cards or from written submissions. Should any modification of the proposed structure be agreed to, then further details e.g. revised plans or drawings must be submitted to the Town as soon as possible;
- the Proponent shall also include a request to provide a presentation to the Development Services Committee.

#### **EXEMPTIONS TO PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

For a Telecommunication Tower which meets the following criteria, public consultation is not required.

- All Telecommunication Tower proposals exempt from Municipal Review;
- New antenna systems, including masts, towers or other antenna-supporting structure, with a height of less than 15 metres above ground level.
- Telecommunication Towers within industrial, institutional, and commercial zoned areas, where the Telecommunication Tower base is located a minimum of 120 metres or a distance of 3 times the height of the proposed Telecommunication Tower, whichever is greater, away from a residential zone;

(In cases where no public consultation is required, the Town shall apply its best efforts to finalize the site plan application within 2 weeks of receiving a written request from the Proponent.)

#### **APPROVALS REQUIRED**

Proponents shall undertake to get all required approvals, including but not limited to, Transport Canada, NAV Canada, Ministry of Transportation, Toronto Region Conservation Authority, and the Regional Municipality of York, if required.

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## **CONCLUDING CONSULTATION**

### **Where Public Consultation Is Not Required**

For a Telecommunication Tower proposal that is exempt from public consultation as identified in this policy, the Director of Planning has authority to approve the site plan application. Approval of the site plan by the Director of Planning, subject to conditions if required, shall document concurrence between the Town and the Proponent.

### **Where Public Consultation Is Required**

For Telecommunication Tower proposals requiring public consultation, the Proponent will provide a deputation to the Development Services Committee to seek approval of the site plan application from the Committee following the public information session. The Development Services Committee will either approve the application subject to conditions if required, or deny the application. The Committee Resolution will be forwarded to Industry Canada. If the Committee approves the proposal, the Proponent will be required to submit 15 copies of the site plan and elevations for final approval to the Director of Planning. Approval of the site plan by the Director of Planning, subject to conditions if required, shall document concurrence between the Town and the Proponent.

For a Telecommunication Tower located on Town owned lands and/or facilities, lease agreements will be required to be executed as a final step in the approval process, to the satisfaction of the Chief Administrator Officer and Town Solicitor

The Town will endeavor to complete the circulation of the Proposal and make its views known to the Proponent within 60 days. In all cases, the entire consultation process shall not exceed 120 days, as per Industry Canada's requirement.

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**CHECKLIST FOR TELECOMMUNICATION TOWERS**

1. Site Plan Application (including all standard submission requirements)
  2. A site selection/justification report outlining the location of non-tower and co-location options which have been considered, and why the Proponent's proposal is the preferred option. This report shall include details with respect to the coverage and capacity of the existing facilities in the surrounding area, and confirm the need for a new tower at the proposed location with this context.  
 Yes  No
  3. Map/inventory of all towers within the Proponent's search area.  
 Yes  No
  4. PIN printout/survey  
 Yes  No
  5. Colour images with support structure superimposed (simulated).  
 Yes  No
  6. Information required as per municipal building permit process (if required)  
 Yes  No
  7. Information required as per Conservation Authority permit process (if required)  
 Yes  No
  8. Environmental impact statement, if required under the existing land use designation.  
 Yes  No
  9. Confirmation of appropriate utility locates, such as gas companies and hydro providers, have been consulted.  
 Yes  No
  10. Confirmation that Transport Canada has been consulted.  
 Yes  No
-



11. Copy of Standard Town Telecommunications Lease, if required.

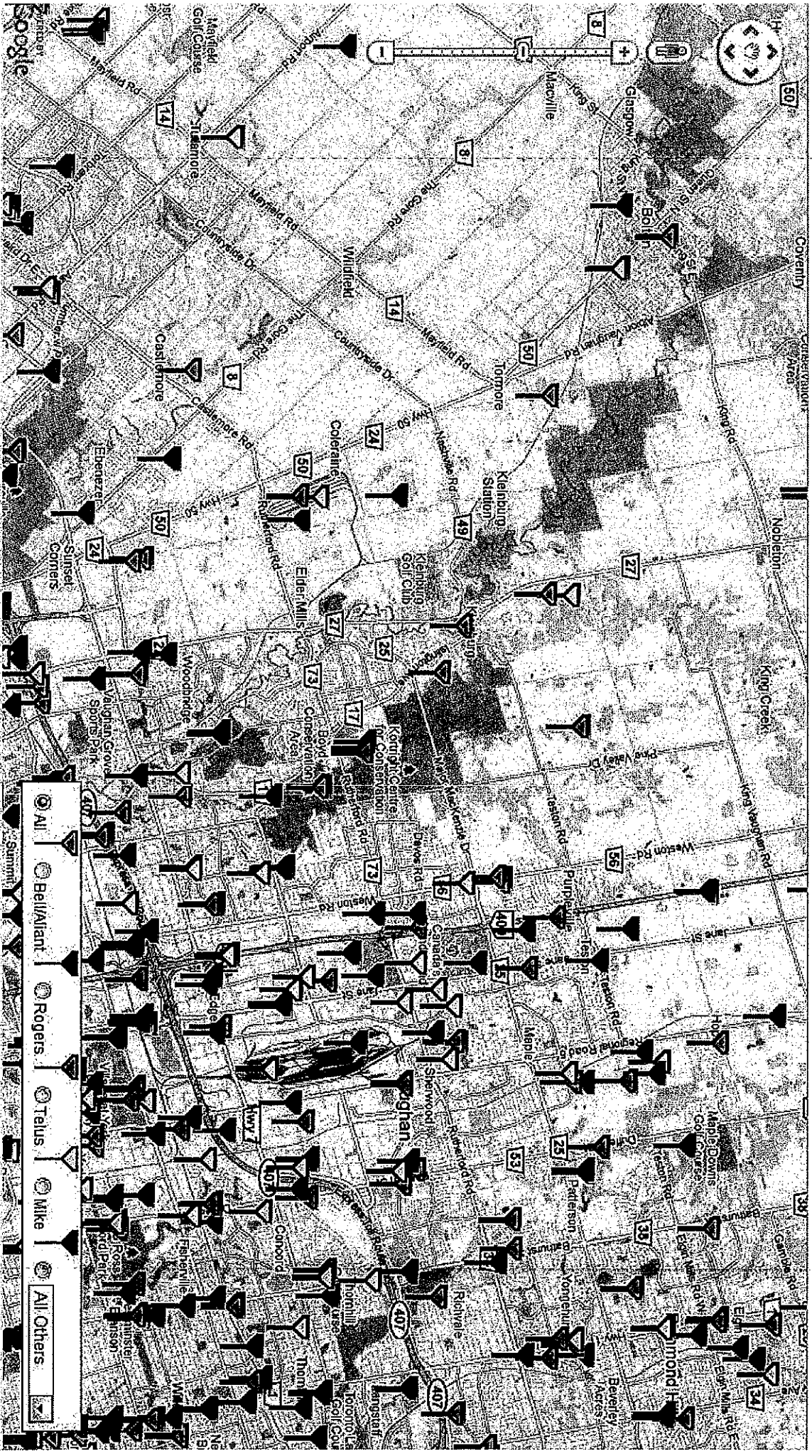
Yes

No

12. Sign-off from/circulation to other PropONENTS

Yes

No



Map navigation and legend controls:

- All
- Bell/Milant
- Rogers
- Telus
- Mike
- All Others



T H E C I T Y O F L E G E N D S

PROCLAMATION

Electromagnetic Hypersensitivity Awareness Month

September 2009

Whereas: People of all ages in St. John's and throughout the world have developed the illness of Electromagnetic Hypersensitivity (EMHS) as a result of global electromagnetic pollution; and,

Whereas: Electromagnetic Hypersensitivity is a painful chronic illness of hypersensitive reactions to electromagnetic radiations for which there is no know cure; and,

Whereas: The symptoms of Electromagnetic Hypersensitivity include dermal changes, acute numbness and tingling, dermatitis, flushing, headaches, arrhythmia, muscular weakness, tinnitus, malaise, gastric problems, nausea, visual disturbances, severe neurological respiratory, speech problems, and numerous other physiological symptoms and often can develop into Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS); and,

Whereas: Electromagnetic Hypersensitivity is recognized by the Canadian Human Rights Commission, The Canadian Government as an Environmental Sensitivity, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and many other national and international commissions; and,

Whereas: this illness may be preventable through the reduction or avoidance of electromagnetic radiation in both indoor and outdoor environments and by further medical research:

Now Therefore I, Dennis O'Keefe, Mayor of the City of St. John's, hereby proclaim the month of September 2009 as:

Electromagnetic Hypersensitivity Awareness Month

Signed at City Hall, St. John's, Newfoundland this 24<sup>th</sup> day of August 2009.



Dennis O'Keefe Mayor

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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### WEB SITES:

<http://www.magdahavas.com/>

<http://www.weepinitiative.org/index.html>

<http://citizensforsafetechnology.org>

### VIDEOS:

<http://video.google.ca/videoplay?docid=6284020723745580379#>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a6wLFelrCtU>

<http://www.youtube.com/user/BurbankACTION>

### MEDIA:

<http://www.cbc.ca/video/news/audioplayer.html?clipid=1771412182>

### CELL TOWER MAPS:

<http://loxcel.com/celltower>

C4 CW - February 1111  
Items 4, 5, 6, 7

**City of Vaughan Committee of the Whole Meeting  
Feb 1, 2011**

Deputation by Tina Catalano in Regards to Cellular Installations (Agenda Items 4, 5, 6 and 7)

I put forth this deputation today on Feb. 1, 2011, as I believe that the City of Vaughan needs to step in and put protocols in place for Telecommunications Sitings adopting a Prudent Avoidance type policy as we will be inevitably faced with a Health Crisis. The advent and pervasiveness of cellular and wireless transmissions over the past decade has reached a level where vast areas of the Canadian urban environment are flooded by radio frequency (RF) radiation. This technology has become embedded in our lifestyles both at work and at home thereby resulting in the infiltration of telecommunication structures into our neighborhoods and in most instances these structures appear without any public consultation, as it is not required.

One of the biggest issues that our cities face is the fact that the siting of these cell towers is under federal jurisdiction and essentially controlled by Industry Canada. We very well know, and if you don't know, well its name should tell you: Industry Canada does not serve the general public it serves industry and in this case the Telecommunications industry. It is documented that Industry Canada auctions "Spectrum Licences" to the communications companies for multi-million dollar bids, thus Industry Canada has a vested financial interest in selling as many licenses as possible. This is a billion dollar industry as are the financial gains by Industry Canada.

Industry Canada is the only federal body monitoring the existing standards that the telecommunication companies have to meet, meaning that there is virtually no current legislation controlling where and how many cell towers can go up in a given residential area. There also seems to be a disconnect as Health Canada states that Industry Canada sets the standards for the telecommunications industry and Industry Canada states that the standards are based on Health Canada's standards " Safety Code 6."

Which brings me to the next issue: Health Canada's Safety Code 6, last revised in 1999. This is highly scrutinized in the scientific community as being lax, for lack of a better term. Its standards are based on acute effects and on the prevention of thermal effects (heating of the body) and do not take into account non-thermal effects which result in altered biological responses. Several studies have determined that danger to humans occur at levels at least 10,000 times lower than current "Safety Code 6" standards, and yet this country has not commissioned its own study of the effects of radiofrequency (RF) radiation on the human body. This leaves us relying on sources from both the US and Europe for our science. In minutes dated December 2010 from Canada's Standing Committee of Health which subsided a meeting in April 2010 at the House of Commons in Ottawa: An Examination of the Potential Health Impacts of Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Radiation, the Standing Committee of Health finally recommended that the Government of Canada consider funding to the Canadian Institutes of Health Research in support of long-term studies examining the potential health impacts of exposure to radiofrequency and electromagnetic radiation, acknowledging that there is no university funded research (i.e. independent research) in Canada on this topic because the Canadian government has not made any funding available. Despite the fact that Canada is behind on the science, several key studies throughout the world such as Israel (Wolf 2004), Germany (Eger 2004), Spain (Oberfeld

2004), and France (Santini 2001), and the 610 page advisory "Bioinitiative Report" ([www.bioinitiative.org](http://www.bioinitiative.org)) published by an international team of scientists who reviewed more than 2000 scientific documents, partly contributed to by the European Union Environmental Agency and published on August 31, 2007, have demonstrated the consequences of long term exposure to low levels of RF radiation, specifically the greater risk in the development of cancer in populations situated in close proximity to telecommunications towers/antennas. Thus, it is difficult to comprehend why our government and in particular Health Canada, has not severely upgraded the RF standards for non-thermal long-term radiation exposure. How many more studies of adverse health effects have to be documented that include cancers, reproductive problems and EHS (extreme hyper-sensitivity) symptoms, before the Ministry is willing to act? What is inconclusive seems to be quite subjective and a term loosely used by the federal government and Health Canada. Why would this scientific evidence be inconclusive for Canadian standards and be interpreted quite differently by the rest of the world? The advisory coming from various parts of the world are that any one individual should not be exposed to a power density beyond 0.1 micro-watts per square centimetre in their outside environments and lower still in an indoor environment. In essence, what this means is that Health Canada's "Safety Code 6" is significantly less stringent than this advisory. These standards that have been set by Health Canada (Safety Code 6) for safe levels of public exposure fall at least 100 times higher (**meaning 100 times more exposure**) than those set by most European countries. Many Canadians now living within 500 metres of cellular transmission devices are currently being subjected to tens and hundreds of times more radiation than recommended for long term daily exposure. What several fail to realize is that the microwaves that are emitted from these towers are known to be carcinogenic, and linked to leukemia, infertility, Alzheimer's, autism, and various other insidious health issues. Short term exposure is known to cause *headaches, nausea, tinnitus, sleep disturbances, skin rashes, disorientation, vertigo, changes in vision, and can affect the cardiovascular and nervous system. Exposure causes DNA damage and has been linked to various cancers. We are currently being exposed to levels of radio and microwave frequency that have never been experienced in human history.* The most comprehensive compilation of research on cell tower emissions, the Bioinitiative Report, briefly presented above, has described current exposure limits in various parts of the world, including Canada, as *"insufficiently protective of public health"..."The entire basis for safety standards is called into question, and it is not unreasonable to question the safety of RF at any level."* This report can be found at [www.bioinitiative.org](http://www.bioinitiative.org).

In addition to lack of protection by Safety Code 6, another issue that we currently face is Environment Canada's exemption of cell towers and other transmission devices from environmental assessments, thereby utilizing "Safety Code 6", as an effective "free reign" for siting cellular transmission devices on any willing host private property in Canada regardless of the effective incursion on the rights of their neighbours or on the local land use authority. This has been done, over the past decade or so, in the interest of the efficient construction of competing wireless networks to effect nearly 100% coverage on the streets and in the homes of Canada. As a result of the lack of protection emanating from Health Canada and Environment Canada, the amendment to the Auditor General Act of 1995 for "Sustainable Development", under the auspices of the Minister of Justice and Attorney General for Canada, is not being adhered to thereby effectively infringing on the democratic rights of Canadians. The Auditor General Act, Section 21.1, which reads in part, that sustainable development is a *"continually evolving concept based on the integration of social, economic and environmental concerns, and*

*may be achieved by, among other things: (a) the integration of the environment and the economy; (b) protecting the health of Canadians; (g) preventing pollution”, is being violated by Health Canada, Industry Canada and Environment Canada.*

As wireless communication has become pervasive in our cities over the past 10 years or so, the standard by which all RF devices are set in Canada has not kept pace with the cumulative amounts of radiation exposure both near and within our homes, hospitals, schools, daycares, other continually inhabited areas, and the absorbed by our bodies via transmission and receiving devices. Our cities have already become bubbles of dangerous radiation fields far beyond safe levels as defined by pre-eminent scientists and doctors from around the world.

The federal government needs to make changes in the current legislation to control and monitor our exposure to radio frequency and implement stronger regulations for the Telecommunications Industry before we are faced with a national Health Crisis. Scientists, doctors and governmental agencies worldwide have issued warnings, restrictions and resolutions urging limiting exposure to EMF/RF. Due to the numbers of people suffering from symptoms of EHS. Medical doctors and scientists have issued resolutions stating that there is a more sensitive population to RFR and that antennas should not be sited near homes, schools and hospitals. These run from the Vienna Resolution in 1998 through to the Porto Alegre Resolution in 2009.

In 2009 three U.S. Governors, of Florida, Connecticut and Colorado, declared Electrohypersensitivity Awareness months.

In May, 2009 the LA Unified School District, which restricts cell towers on school property passed a resolution attempting to restrict antennas near school property and in April, 2009, the EU Parliament adopted, by 559 votes to 22, with 8 abstentions, a resolution on health concerns associated with electromagnetic fields (EMFs) which includes criteria for setting up [Cell Towers] and high-voltage power lines. They state: “In this context, it is important to ensure at least that schools, crèches [nursery schools], retirement homes, and health care institutions are kept clear, within a specific distance determined by scientific criteria, of facilities of this type.”

The Vancouver School Board (VSB) passed a resolution in January 2005 that prohibits construction of cellular antennas within 1000 feet (305 m) from school property.

Palm Beach County, Florida, the city and county of Los Angeles, California, and New Zealand have all prohibited cell phone base stations and antennas near schools due to safety concerns. The decision not to place cell antennas near schools is based on the likelihood that children are more susceptible to this form of radiation.

In January 2008, the National Research Council (NRC), an arm of the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineering, issued a report saying that we simply do not know enough about the potential health risks of long-term exposure to RF energy from cell phones themselves, cell towers, television towers, and other components of our communications system. The scientists who prepared the report emphasized, in particular, the unknown risks to the health of children, pregnant women, and fetuses as well as of workers whose jobs entail high exposure to RF (radiofrequency) energy. The report called for long-term safety studies on all wireless devices including cell phones, computers, and cell phone towers.



This being said, the City of Vaughan should be working with our MP Honorable Julian Fantino to address this same issue. Furthermore, our city should do something in the interim to protect its citizens.

I want to motion that the City puts in place protocols that will protect its citizens from exposure to RF radiation. I would encourage the City of Vaughan to look at the City of Toronto's proposed Prudent Avoidance Policy on Siting Telecommunication Towers and Antennas, together with its affiliated Medical Report by Dr. David McKeown, Medical Officer of Health: *Update and Review of Research on Radiofrequencies: Implications for a Prudent Avoidance Policy in Toronto Technical Report (Nov 2007)*. In brief, this policy recommends that general public exposure limits be set to 100 X lower to Health Canada's Safety Code 6 (0.10 W/m<sup>2</sup>), such that these levels that are in line with exposure limits set throughout the world. For example, Italy, Switzerland, China, Russia and Paris have exposure limits set to 0.10 W/m<sup>2</sup>, and Salzburg has levels of exposure set to 0.001 W/m<sup>2</sup>.

**I ask that the city to review all of the information and the facts that are out there with an open mind, consider what the rest of the world is doing outside of North America, consider why the rest of the world has lower exposure limits in place, and put protocols in place for the siting of telecommunications towers and antennas so that Vaughan's citizens can be properly protected without a compromise on their health and invasion of their human rights.**

**I present to council the following recommendations:**

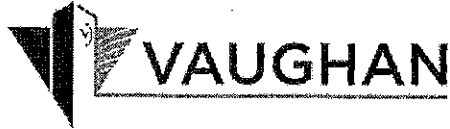
- Ban all new antennas, base stations, and transmitters to be installed within 500 meters of any residence, school, community centre, hospital or any place where people spend a good part of their day, and reduce the frequency of pre-existing antennas to adhere to the precautionary principle as suggested in the *BioInitiative Report* of 2007; ban installations of antennas on the roofs of apartment building or any residential dwellings;
- Consult all residents within a 500 meter radius well in advance to any installation of cell towers, base stations, antennas and transmitters so they can be informed of the biological health effects and have a say on the long-term implications of these devices in their immediate neighborhood and quality of life.
- I would also ask that a petition/resolution be set forth by the City of Vaughan to the Federal government so that local councils are allowed to make their own decisions about the tower sites without being overruled.

Let's not wait to have protocols in place and let us stay abreast of the reality of the dangers that this long term exposure to electromagnetic radiation poses on us. Look outside of North America to the rest of the world and realize that a precautionary approach is needed to keep our residents safe and to prevent a Health Crisis. Electro hypersensitivity disorder is already being recognized as a disease emanating from this electro smog and Women's College has a clinic in place that deals with environmentally sensitive individuals. This should tell us something. As a city, Vaughan has to protect these individuals who do not currently have a say when these antennas and towers appear in their backyard. In addition the City of Vaughan should protect our most vulnerable, our children. City of Vaughan you have to step in NOW!

Thank you,

*Tina Catalano Feb 1, 2011*

Tina Catalano



Coun.  
SYR  
Item  
#21

January 23, 2011

*Sandra Yeung Racco*  
Councillor

Mr. Robb H. Minnes  
Project Manager  
Ministry of Transportation, Central Region  
Highway Engineering, Toronto/Durham  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Building D, 1201 Wilson Avenue  
Toronto, ON, M3M 1J8

Dear Mr. Minnes:

**RE: 407 Transitway from Highway 400 to Kennedy Road Environmental Project Report**

Further to my letter of October 28, 2010 expressing the concerns raised by the affected community, please accept this letter as my submission in relation to the Final Environmental Project Report, but more specifically the Transitway station at Keele St./Hwy. 7, adjacent to the Concord GO Barrie Station.

As you are quite aware, there is an existing subdivision of approximately 285 homes located at the southeast corner of Keele Street and Highway #7. Furthermore, there is an extensive trail system and green space (the Bartley Smith Greenway / Langstaff Ecopark) that exist just to the east of the GO Barrie North-South line. The proximity of the proposed Highway 407 Transitway station, along with the intermodal hub with its massive parking lot and the anticipated commuter bus activities, will negatively impact on the existing residential component, as well as on the neighbouring green space and valley lands.

It has been the wish of the Concord West community to protect the Bartley Smith Greenway/Langstaff Ecopark from future development in this area. They have requested safe access to this green space from their community and the large proposed transit terminus will surely impede on the community's ability to utilize or access this natural environment.

Please understand that this Concord West neighbourhood has been in existence longer than any of the surrounding homes and industries in the area and when the area was developed, this neighbourhood became uniquely isolated from the others. Therefore it is imperative that we be sensitive to the established residential component and take extreme care when considering what development should be placed in this adjacent area.

Mr. Robb H. Minnes

407 Transitway from Highway 400 to Kennedy Road Environmental Project Report

January 23, 2011

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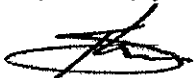
I must express my extreme disappointment that my request to the Minister of Transportation and the Minister of Environment for an extension of reasonable time to allow the community and the City of Vaughan to submit comments went unanswered. As you are well aware, the completion of the Environmental Project Report did not occur until Thursday, December 23, 2010, just 2 days before Christmas and in the middle of a major holiday. With the imposition of the 30 day review period, it has made it impossible for our City staff to have the opportunity to review the report in depth and to bring forward a formal report to Council for consideration before the deadline date of January 24, 2010. This has led to many unfounded accusations thrown onto the part of Council members not taking a strong position when in fact, we have not had the opportunity to receive comments from staff nor had a fulsome discussion with all members of Council on the matter.

**A Secondary Plan is required to be completed for this area, and as such, I am making a formal request for MTO to commit to working closely together with the City of Vaughan and the Region of York during this phase and address all concerns raised by area residents, as well as by Council, and amend the 407 Transitway Environmental Project Report as needed based on the approved secondary plan. Additionally, I would request that during the design process stage, that the City and area residents be consulted and kept in the loop through community meetings.**

I thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this ambitious project. I hope that the comments raised by myself, by City staff and other Members of Council, as well as all the comments brought forward by the Concord West Residents Ad Hoc Committee, the Concord West Seniors Club, and the Concord West Ratepayers' Association be taken seriously into consideration. We recognize the importance of this Environmental Assessment Study and understand that it is an integral element of the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (2006) (Growth Plan) but please ensure it is done with sensitivity with the existing community in mind.

Should you require further information or clarification on any of the above, please feel free to contact me directly.

Respectfully yours,



Sandra Racco  
Councillor, Concord/Thornhill North  
*"For the Community"*

Cc: Hon. Dalton McGuinty, Premier of Ontario  
Hon. John Wilkinson, Minister of Environment  
Hon. Kathleen Wynne, Minister of Transportation  
Hon. Michael Chan, Minister of Tourism and Culture  
Greg Sorbara, M.P.P. Vaughan  
Bill Fisch, Chair, Region of York  
Maurizio Bevilacqua, Mayor, City of Vaughan

**Mr. Robb H. Minnes**

**407 Transitway from Highway 400 to Kennedy Road Environmental Project Report**

January 23, 2011

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Gino Rosati, Regional Councillor, City of Vaughan  
Michael DiBiase, Regional Councillor, City of Vaughan  
Deb Schulte, Regional Councillor, City of Vaughan  
Marilyn Iafrate, Local Councillor, Ward 1, City of Vaughan  
Tony Carella, Local Councillor, Ward 2, City of Vaughan  
Rosanna DeFrancesca, Local Councillor, Ward 3, City of Vaughan  
Alan Shefman, Local Councillor, Ward 5, City of Vaughan  
Clayton Harris, City Manager, City of Vaughan  
Bill Robinson, Commissioner of Engineering Services & Public Works, City of Vaughan  
John Zipay, Commissioner of Planning, City of Vaughan  
Andrew Pearce, Director of Development & Transportation Engineering, City of Vaughan  
Grant Uyeyama, Director of Planning, City of Vaughan  
Bruce McGregor, Chief Administrative Officer  
Brian Tuckey, Commissioner of Planning & Development Services, Region of York  
Mary-Frances Turner, President, York Region Rapid Transit Corporation  
Khaled El-Dalati, Consultant Project Manager, Delcan Corporation  
George Ivanoff, Senior Environmental Planner, Ministry of Transportation  
Grant N. Kauffman, Consultant Environmental Planner, LGL Limited  
Lorna Zappone, Project Officer, Ministry of Environment  
Loy Cheah, Director of Transportation Planning, Region of York  
Dr. Paulo Correa, Chair Concord West Residents Ad Hoc Committee  
Josephine Mastrodicasa, President, Concord West Seniors Club  
Maria Bacchin, President, Concord West Ratepayers' Association



*Deb Schulte*  
*Local and Regional Councillor*

January 24, 2011

Dear Mr. Minnes:

**RE: 407 Transitway from Highway 400 to Kennedy Road Environmental Project Report**

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the above referenced EA Process and specifically the GO Barrie Station location, and to support the concerns raised by the affected Concord West ratepayers. Please accept this letter as my submission in relation to the Final Environmental Project Report.

Due to the fact that the Province provided the Notice of Completion on December 23<sup>rd</sup> 2010, and therefore staff could not bring forward a report to Council before the submission deadline, it provided little opportunity for our Council, five of which are new members, to review the project and make comment before the deadline for submissions, January 24<sup>th</sup> 2011. Staff will be bringing a report to Council at our next Committee of the Whole on February 1<sup>st</sup> 2011, so please expect further comments after our Council meeting February 15<sup>th</sup>. I understand this report was forwarded to you today by our staff.

As you are aware, the proximity of the proposed intermodal hub (Highway 407 Transitway station/Concord GO station/ YRT/VIVA bus access) and the commuter parking lot will have a significant impact on the existing residential community to the west, as well as impacting the neighbouring green space and valley lands. The proposed hub and parking lot is to be constructed in an area currently serving as a natural greenspace adjacent to the West Don (Bartley Smith Greenway) which currently serves as an important linkage area up the West Don to the Oak Ridges Moraine. Enhancing this natural linkage area by including more greenspace where possible, is an important element of the TRCA's Natural Heritage Strategy and the Provinces objectives. If it could be possible to meet the needs of MTO and preserve this greenspace it would be a win-win for all.

It is clear to me that this EA has been in the works for at least three years and has preceded some of the recent work undertaken by the City of Vaughan to incorporate the requirements of the Places to Grow Act in its New Official Plan. The area surrounding the proposed Go Barrie station location has been designated in the Official Plan as an area for intensification and in need of a secondary plan. The secondary plan will identify what development will be appropriate and what phasing of infrastructure might be necessary to properly support this intensification and the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre (VMC) just west of this area.

I am making a formal request for MTO to commit to working closely together with the City of Vaughan and the Region of York during this secondary plan phase and address all concerns raised by area residents, as well as by Council, and amend the 407 Transitway Environmental Project Report as needed, based on the approved secondary plan. I would also request that MTO protect for the full range of options that might be included in the secondary plan. Additionally, I would request that during the design process stage, that the City and area residents be consulted and kept in the loop through community meetings.

I thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this project. I hope that the comments raised by myself, by City staff and other Members of Council, as well as all the comments brought forward by the Concord West Residents Ad Hoc Committee, the Concord West Seniors Club, and the Concord West Ratepayers' Association be taken seriously into consideration.

Should you require further information or clarification on any of the above, please feel free to contact me directly.

Respectfully yours,



Deb Schulte  
Local and Regional Councillor

Cc: Hon. Dalton McGuinty, Premier of Ontario  
Hon. John Wilkinson, Minister of Environment  
Hon. Kathleen Wynne, Minister of Transportation  
Hon. Michael Chan, Minister of Tourism and Culture  
Greg Sorbara, M.P.P. Vaughan  
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Gino Rosati, Regional Councillor, City of Vaughan  
Michael DiBiase, Regional Councillor, City of Vaughan  
Sandra Racco, Councillor, Concord/Thornhill North, City of Vaughan  
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Mary-Frances Turner, President, York Region Rapid Transit Corporation  
Lorna Zappone, Project Officer, Ministry of Environment  
Loy Cheah, Region of York



Planning and Development Services Department  
**Infrastructure Planning**  
Fax No. 905-895-0191

January 24, 2011

Ms. Lorna Zappone, Project Officer  
Environmental Assessment and Approvals Branch  
Ministry of the Environment  
2 St. Clair Avenue West, Floor 12A  
Toronto, ON M4V 1L5

Dear Ms. Zappone:

**Re: 407 Transitway from Highway 400 to Kennedy Road  
Notice of Completion of Environmental Project Report**

The Ministry of Transportation has completed the Environmental Project Report for the 407 Transitway from Highway 400 to Kennedy Road in accordance with O.Reg. 231/08. A notice of completion was issued on December 23, 2010 and identified the timing for the 30-day public review period, which expires on January 24, 2011. York Region was consulted at key milestones throughout the study and we appreciate this opportunity to review and comment on the final Environmental Project Report.

Please note that a staff report on the 407 Transitway EA has been prepared for the February 2, 2011 Planning and Economic Development Committee meeting with a final resolution from Regional Council expected on February 17, 2011. We will advise you of the Regional Council resolution following the February 17, 2011 Council meeting. In the interim, please accept this correspondence as our input on the 407 Transitway Environmental Project Report.

York Region is supportive of the 407 Transitway and we have no significant issues with approval of the Environmental Project Report. We have previously provided the Ministry of Transportation with comments related to specific project details which we are confident can be addressed during the design phase, with the expectation that the Ministry of Transportation will continue to consult the Region and our local municipalities during the design phase of the project.

We understand that the Town of Markham and City of Vaughan have identified a number of specific issues with the 407 Transitway. Please note that York Region will continue to work with the Ministry of Transportation and our local municipalities to assist in resolving the outstanding issues either during the final stages of the EA approval process or during the subsequent design phase of the project.



The City of Vaughan has identified a number of issues specifically related to the proposed 407 Transitway GO Barrie (Concord) Station. Vaughan is currently undertaking a secondary plan study in this area to look at the appropriate land uses around the station. The conclusions of the secondary plan study should be incorporated by the Ministry of Transportation during the detailed design of the station and we would ask that the Ministry of Transportation protect for a full range of options until the secondary plan study is complete.

If you have any questions, please contact me at [steve.mota@York.ca](mailto:steve.mota@York.ca) or at 905-830-4444 ext. 5056.

Sincerely,



Steve Mota, P.Eng.  
Program Manager, Transportation Engineering

SM

Attachment (2)

Copy to: Robb Mintes, Ministry of Transportation  
Andrew Pearce, Engineering Department, City of Vaughan  
Alan Brown, Engineering Department, Town of Markham  
Bryan Tuckey, Commissioner of Planning and Development Services  
Loy Cheah, Director of Infrastructure Planning

Honorable J. Wilkinson  
Minister of the Environment  
77 Wellesley Street West  
11th Floor, Ferguson Block  
Toronto, Ontario, M7A 2T5

21 January, 2011

Honorable Minister J. Wilkinson,

Pursuant to (1) our letter to you of November 20, 2010, (2) your response via Ms. A. Garcia-Wright on December 15, 2010, and (3) the Environmental Project Report (EPR) submitted to you on December 23, 2010, by the MTO group headed by Project Manager R. Minnes, we are hereby filing our reasoned Objection to this EPR within the prescribed period of 30 days after the latter's submission, to request that (i) you deny the proponent to proceed with the transit project, and (ii) issue a notice requiring further consideration of the transit project, according to subsections 12(1)b and 13(1) of Ontario Regulation 231/08, and specifically, that such further consideration be directed to concentrate on placing the said intermodal hub *north* of Highway 7.

We submit to you that the existing transit project will have a negative impact on a matter of community and provincial importance that relates to both (1) the natural environment of the land where the existing transit project locates a large intermodal transportation hub associated with the GO Concord Station; and (2) the cultural heritage and social fabric of a well established community, uniquely placed as an isolated residential island within the entire study area under consideration, *as if singled out for destruction*.

Technical decisions lack absolute substance and always devolve to political decisions. The present instance is a case in point. When all is said and done, the existing Plan for the Concord intermodal hub abides by a criterion that values more highly a single technical parameter (the short distance between GO and transitway stations) than either the social and cultural fabric of a community or the existence of a sensitive ecological habitat contiguous with the West Don river and near the confluence of two major tributaries of the same. We remind the Minister that the EPR's Conceptual Design of the GO Concord intermodal hub was unanimously rejected by our community at a General Meeting on August 24, 2010; that other residents from neighbouring communities have expressed support for our requests, and that so have a majority of the present members of Vaughan City Council. Moreover, the community does not believe that its own Alternative Plan for the GO Concord intermodal transit hub has received a fair assessment, nor has further definition of the Alternative Plan received any constructive support from the MTO or its private planners.

Further, we request from you, as Minister in charge of protecting the environment - as per the Environmental Assessment Act, subsection 1(c) which defines "environment" to include "the cultural conditions that influence the life of humans or a community" - that you forthwith request the honorable Premier Dalton McGuinty to donate this ORC land to the TRCA, so that (1) this land may be protected in perpetuity as part of the Bartley-Smith Greenway associated with the Don River Valley (a matter of natural heritage); (2) no intermodal hub be placed on this land and thus the cultural and social fabric of our community may be protected (a matter of cultural heritage); and (3) the traditional common law rights of our community to its greenspace be restored.

Sincerely,

Dr. Paulo Correa  
Chair Concord West Residents Ad Hoc Committee

Josephine Mastrodicasa  
President, Concord West Seniors Club

Maria Bacchin  
President, Concord West Ratepayers Association

cc L. Zappone, Project Officer  
R. Minnes, Project Manager  
D. McGuinty, Premier of Ontario  
P. Shurman, M.P.P. Thornhill  
M. Bevilacqua, Mayor of the City of Vaughan  
G. Rosati, Regional Councillor, City of Vaughan  
M. Di Biase, Regional Councillor, City of Vaughan  
D. Schulte, Regional Councillor, City of Vaughan  
S. Racco, Local Councillor, City of Vaughan  
B. Denney, CAO, TRCA  
P. Kent, Federal Minister of the Environment

**Objection submitted to the Ontario Minister of the Environment,  
the Honorable J. Wilkinson,  
by all three civic organs of the Concord West Community  
Regarding the Environmental Project Report (EPR)  
prepared by the MTO and Delcan/IBI  
and submitted on 23 December 2010**

"Let us beware lest democratic republics should reinstate despotism and render it less odious and degrading in the eyes of the many, by making it still more onerous to the few."

A. de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*, Vol. 1, Chapter XV

### **BRIEF INTRODUCTION**

From reading in sequential order Appendices 1 to 10 that are attached to the present Objection, the Honorable Minister will obtain the history of the current struggle of the Concord West (CW) community to regain its greenspace (ORC property under petition to be transferred to the TRCA, and identified by Land Registry pin number 032320650), and to protect (1) the social environment of the community, (2) the ecological pocket situated in that greenspace, and (3) the Upper West Don river valley at the sensitive point of confluence of two of its tributaries, where the Bartley-Smith Greenway is at its narrowest and most adversely impacted by the proposed Concept Design for the GO Barrie (Concord) Station and the associated intermodal hub.

In particular, *for background leading to the present Objection* to the Environmental Project Report (EPR) prepared by the MTO and private planners Delcan and IBI and submitted on December 23, 2010, the Honorable Minister is directed to Appendix 5, containing the formal Submission prepared for the MTO by the three civic organs of the CW community, and submitted to the MTO on September 27, 2010 (included in EPR, Appendix A). Also, *for an analysis of the Alternative Plan* developed by the CW community and unanimously approved by the same in General Assembly on August 24, 2010, the Honorable Minister is directed to Appendix 10, containing the December 10, 2010, response of the community to the MTO's rejection of our Alternative Plan.

Appendices 11 to 15 document the support unequivocally expressed by a majority of the members of the Vaughan City Council for the two requests made by the community: that the ORC land in question be transferred to the TRCA, and the Concord intermodal hub placed north of Highway 7, so that the CW community and the greenspace in question be both protected, and the community's access to this greenspace and the Bartley-Smith Greenway be restored. Appendix 16 is the letter sent to the MTO by our Local Councillor, S. Racco, during review of the EPR draft, where she expresses concern with the proximity and impact of this GO Concord intermodal hub, which is not in "keeping with this neighbourhood or the neighbouring valley lands".

As we do not seek to repeat ourselves, we shall, henceforward proceed to the many objections that stand against the EPR. Please note that all references to the Appendices of the present Objection are made in bold, and the Appendices are numbered so as to distinguish references to them from reference to the Appendices of the EPR.

## THE OBJECTIONS TO THE EPR

1. Objections regarding insufficient consultation of the Concord West community, as well as misrepresentation of its involvement and of the main function of the proposed GO Concord Station and intermodal hub

1.1 As to "Environmental Assessment and Consultation Process"  
Re. EPR, E. Executive Summary, subsection E2

Under this subsection the EPR reads: "Consultation was conducted with government review agencies, technical agencies, local municipalities, property owners..." (EPR, Executive Summary, p. 1).

Though the consultation process began back in 2007, no residents or property owners that we know of ever received a single notice by ordinary mail. We have repeatedly brought this up with the OMT officials (at the meeting of September 15, 2010; in subsequent emails with G. Ivanoff; at the meeting of January 10, 2011). The answer has been that a notice was mailed (in a batch of some 17,000) to all concerned stakeholders via Canada Post, even though no demonstrable proof of this has to date been produced.

The issue is of importance because the residents and stakeholders of the CW community only realized what was being planned for the petitioned ORC land in July of 2010, when our M.P.P. Peter Shurman arranged for a meeting with R. Minnes, 407 Transitway Project Manager. Thus the above-quoted statement in the EPR is simply *not* factual. Worse, the MTO has been aware of this since at least July of 2010. Yet, such inaccurate statement is made in the EPR.

Two Public Information Centres were held, but far from the community, and advertised in a few prescribed newspapers that, in this day and age, fewer and fewer people read.

1.2. As to the Concord West community's input into the EPR process  
Re. EPR, Section 3, p. 45, on "Additional Comments Received"

Several omissions of facts, factual imprecisions, errors and misrepresentations are introduced in this section, which was intended specifically to address the concerns of the Concord West

community and its opposition to the Concept Design of the GO Concord Station and associated intermodal hub.

What was submitted by the CW community to the MTO on September 27, 2010 (see Appendix 5; also EPR, Appendix A, pp. 376-402) was a formal objection and alternative proposal (not a "letter") to the then current Concept Design for the location of the intermodal hub. Our Submission provided the history of the fight of the CW community to preserve its greenspace, reported the finding of a protected species on the boundary of that greenspace, and proposed an Alternative Plan for the location and arrangement of the intermodal hub. This Submission followed the September 15, 2010, meeting in which the Alternative Plan was presented to the MTO, YRT/Viva and TRCA.

More importantly, the "Additional Comments Received" subsection of Section 3 of the EPR *misrepresents* this Submission and its context. For, the September 27, 2010 Submission *was a joint effort of all three civic organs of the CW community*: the Concord West Residents Ad Hoc Committee (CWRAHC), the Concord West Seniors Club (CWSC), and the Concord West Ratepayers Association (CWRA). Though the community's original petition to Minister Duguid was initially an initiative of senior residents made under the umbrella of the CWSC, the community has been united in its unanimous opposition to the MTO's Preferred Plan for the Concord GO/Metrolinx intermodal hub.

While Section 3 of the EPR makes it sound as if the September 27, 2010 Submission and the Alternative Plan proposed therein were an elaboration made by some concerned residents that formed the CWRAHC, the facts contained in that Submission (Appendix 5) show otherwise:

1. That the CW residents, on two occasions, *unanimously petitioned* Ministers Duguid and Chiarelli to have the ORC land (Land Registry pin number 032320650) transferred to the TRCA in order to protect it as a greenland that should be part of the Bartley-Smith Greenway.

2. That a General Assembly of all CW residents *unanimously voted*, on 24 August 2010, to reject the currently planned location of the Concord intermodal hub on the south side of Highway 7.

3. That the same General Assembly *unanimously voted* to approve the Alternative Plan presented at the September 15, 2010 meeting, the said Plan being the main subject of the September 27, 2010 Submission sent to the MTO.

The improper contextualization of the community's Alternative Plan serves, at the very least, as another factor contributing to its dismissal. Most poignantly, the misrepresentation totally disregards the active involvement of the community in rejecting the current Concept Design and location of the Concord intermodal hub, and in drafting of an Alternative Plan at its own effort and cost.

Moreover, the misrepresentation presented in the EPR disregards the unanimous will of the CW community. Given that this community is the sole residential island in the entire study area of the 407 transitway process (see EPR, Appendix J, p. 13), such decontextualization of its efforts and misrepresentation of its decisions and involvement is particularly offensive to the Concord West residents and property owners.

In keeping with this effective slighting of the aspirations and rights of the CW community, the EPR does not make a single mention of the efforts made by this community to have the ORC land in question declared part of the conservation belt protecting the Bartley-Smith Greenway – efforts which are detailed in Appendix 5 and of which the MTO was informed since at least July 2010.

### 1.3. As to whom the proposed GO Concord Station truly serves Re. EPR, Sections 4.2 and 6.2.3

As we pointed out to MTO officials and Delcan planners during the January 10, 2011 meeting, what is stated in the EPR concerning the transportation function of the Concord intermodal hub is a complete untruth. It is stated (EPR, Subsection 6.2.3, rubric "Transportation Function", p. 5) that "the main function of the GO Barrie (Concord) Station, however, will be to provide park-and-ride and PPU DO facilities for commuters from the surrounding residential communities located to the north and west of the station site in addition to local walk in access".

The untruths of this statement in EPR Subsection 6.2.3 are many. First off, we were told at the January, 10, 2011 meeting that the main users of the GO Barrie (Concord) Station will be an estimated 70% composed by commuters shuttling between the two stations, GO and Metrolinx. Nowhere is this stated in this subsection that addresses the main transportation function of the GO Barrie (Concord) Station. Rather, what the EPR states is that the main transportation function is to provide service for commuters from the surrounding residential communities located to the north and west of the preferred station site. Well, and secondly, the residential community *located to the west of the preferred station site* is our Concord West community, which has stated over and over again – to a variety of Provincial Ministers, to the Premier of Ontario, and to the MTO planners – that it does not need this GO Station, nor want it, period! Yet, the CW community has accepted, in a constructive spirit that has not been reciprocated, that such an intermodal hub be created, *just not that it be placed on the south side* of Highway 7; rather, the position of the CW community is that it should be placed on the *north* side of Highway 7, where it will comply with the true logic of its future necessity. This brings us to the third untruth of that passage of the EPR: for it follows that the only residential community which the GO Barrie (Concord) Station could serve, is a community located to the north of the so-called "preferred site". The small problem with this claim is that there is, as of yet, no residential community in that northern location! It is a virtual community projected for the future, *and its location lies within the Concord Floral*

*lands* whose rezoning from agricultural land to high-density mixed use has not yet been approved by the City of Vaughan. On this naked admission of the MTO's EPR, *the entire rationale* of the GO Barrie (Concord) Station is to serve the anticipated high-density occupancy of the Concord Floral lands. Thus, we are forced to conclude that *the real main function of the GO Concord Station is to serve the residential and commercial components of the planned development of the Concord Floral lands.*

Why then does the MTO persist in refusing to consider the logical implantation of the station site on those Concord Floral lands, ie north of Highway 7, when clearly the GO Barrie (Concord) Station is designed to serve the needs of the 'intensified' development anticipated for the same lands?

And how does this refusal of the MTO connect to the confidential agreement made between the Ministry of Infrastructure (the Ontario Realty Corporation), the City of Vaughan and the private owner to bundle up the publicly-owned parcel B of said lands, with the privately owned parcel A of the same lands, for immediate purposes of their joint sale and, ultimately, of development benefiting the present owner of said parcel A and the developer of these joint lands? Could the anticipated development of these lands not advantageously accommodate location of the GO Concord Station *north* of Highway 7 as suggested by our Alternative Plan? Should this solution not be actively pursued by all concerned, when the location *south* of Highway 7 that is presently preferred by the MTO clearly touches matters of community and provincial importance that have simply been disregarded?

#### 1.4. As to the omission of the community's traditional use of the petitioned ORC land as its greenspace, and the misleading description of the said land's vegetation

##### Re. EPR, Appendix G

The EPR neglects to mention the history of the traditional use of the petitioned ORC land as the greenspace of the CW community, despite the MTO and Metrolinx being extensively and repeatedly informed of it, from July 2010 onward (see Appendices 1, 2, 5 and 6). In effect, Honorable Minister, the ORC land in question is an essential component of the cultural heritage of this community, and this fact is the very reason why the initiative to fight for the preservation of this land has been led by the senior residents of our community.

This omission of the ORC land as the CW community's traditional greenspace is all the more glaring in the EPR Appendix G, prepared by McWilliam and Associates, where, on page 7, it reads that the proposed GO Concord Station "will be located on some vacant land adjacent to the Don River valleylands". Photograph 5 of the same Appendix G is totally misleading, as it does not show any part of the ORC land where the intermodal hub is to be implanted.



McWilliam and Associates go on to say that "the only area where there is any significant vegetation is located in the vicinity of the Don River valley, where there are a few groupings of mature vegetation". These consultants seemingly have never visited the land in question, as the vegetation in the valley portion of the land (up to some 30m deep westwardly from the river) is thick, and continues as the land rises to the same altitude as that of the contiguous Concord West neighbourhood, to form the existing woodlot that spreads to over an estimated 120m westward from the river, coming as close as a few meters from the existing railway tracks.

The real vegetation and its quality in this entire area is documented and available, at a mouse click, at:

<http://saveconcordwest.wordpress.com/a-walk-through-the-orc-greenspace/>

and the vegetation directly by the river is documented at:

<http://saveconcordwest.wordpress.com/greenspace-water-a-visit-to-the-don-river/>

A visit to this website should suffice for the Minister to realize how objectionable is that entire EPR Appendix G report. As with other studies in the EPR, it lacks in our view the quality of reporting and factual accuracy which a study of this scope should demand. Perhaps one should be grimly amused by its suggestions, amongst which are "to develop landscape related 'Green' initiatives" (EPR, Appendix G, p. 19), and the planting of "salt-tolerant trees, shrubs, perennials and grasses" along the "transit corridor" (ibidem).

#### 1.5. As to the completely misleading characterization of the isolated Concord West residential community as an Urban Centre

Re. EPR, Appendix A, pp. 268, 284

The two Public Information Centres mischaracterized entirely the residential nature of the Concord West community. On both maps that describe the role of the 407 Transitway in the GTA (EPR, Appendix A, pages 268 and 284), the Concord West community that lies south of Highway 7 is integrally color-labelled as an "Urban Centre"; in fact, as *the* Urban Centre associated with the GO Barrie (Concord) Station. The apparent reason why our community has been so grossly distorted, is that the criterion used to establish station nodes or hubs was the location of the node within 500m of an Urban Centre (EPR, Appendix A, p. 269).

The term 'Urban Centre' connotes a growth nucleus with a high density of occupancy: so, we must wonder whether this signals the fate slated for our community, after it and the greenspace it seeks to protect have been destroyed by the Preferred Plan for a station node?

## 2. Objections regarding the impact of the EPR's GO Concord Station and intermodal hub upon the natural environment

2.1. As to the claim that the preferred plan of the GO Concord Station preserves the woodlot in the petitioned ORC land, and as to the destruction of the meadow part of this land

Re. EPR, Sections 3; 7.2.1; and Appendices I and H

The claim reiterated in Section 3, p. 45, that "the preferred design also maintains the woodlot" is *not really correct*, if for no other reason than because the transitway proper and the transitway bridge, together with the hub access road, will run right through, and then over, a substantial portion of the existing woodlot (not to mention the necessary destruction of the woodlot required for the construction of the road, transitway and the long bridge recommended by Delcan in EPR, Appendix AA, p. 51, no. 11). Further, the claim is *incorrect* because a surface parking lot will be placed adjacently to whatever woodlot portion will remain after construction and, in effect, over a part of it (north-west portion), so that the remaining woodlot will be exposed to all the salt, chlorides, oil, rubber and sand runoff and atmospheric pollution emissions from a parking lot, bus stop and PPUDO areas.

Furthermore, the contemplated intermodal facilities (parking lot, bus stop and PPUDO areas) will also obliterate a meadow, as if meadows were not worth protecting for ecological reasons, and had no role in water retention. Effectively, the EPR downplays the significance of successional growth in a natural environment, entirely neglecting the fact that it was the hand of man that largely created the meadow, and that nature is dynamic, as meadows become forests. Moreover, according to a botanist (Richard Aaron) who visited the site, the meadow in question serves as stopover point in the yearly migration of the Monarch butterflies (*Danaus plexippus*), as they extract from milkweed necessary nutrients for their caterpillar stage. For the adult Monarchs, the meadows also provide the critical flower nectar (eg, from Asters, abundant in this ORC land) to help them in their long fall flight to Northern South America. The meadows also support the swallowtails, admirals, checkerspots and skippers. They provide feeding and nesting areas for songbirds such as the bobolink and meadowlark. They provide shelter for frogs and small mammals, which in turn attract hawks and owls.

The ecological role of meadows is emphasized in the TRCA comments of November 18, 2010 (EPR, Appendix A, p. 178), which draw attention to the fact that meadow habitats, even "cultural" ones, include potential habitat for species at risk. The TRCA adds: "There are also a significant number of meadow dwelling species recorded within the study area that utilize the cultural meadow habitats that dominate the Parkway lands" (EPR, Appendix, p. 179).

Replacing the meadow immediately adjacent to the woodlot with a large impermeable asphalt surface is not only retrograde in this day and age, but will substantially reduce the groundwater recharge to the subsurface, displacing water drainage to the lower level woodlot where it will increase soil erosion, and ensuring that runoff water will be contaminated with rubber, oil, salt, chlorides and sand. It is worth remarking that in one option (Site Plan Option 1, Sheet No. 6.1, p. 391, Appendix H, EPR) the contemplated residual woodlot is completely surrounded on 3 sides by the parking lot (future expansion). Also noteworthy is the fact that the option marked Preferred in the same Appendix H (Site Plan Option 4 Preferred, Sheet No. 6.4, p. 394, Appendix H, EPR) does *not* match in many of its critical features the final drawing of the MTO's Preferred Plan (the Black Alternative) in the EPR, folder entitled "Station Layours", Plate 37. We note that incongruities such as these further introduce uncertainty into what it is that the MTO exactly calls the Preferred Option or Plan.

Be that as it may, placing a large parking lot, bus station(s) and PPUDO facilities in close proximity (<<100m) to the point of confluence of the two tributaries of the Upper West Don river, should not be acceptable. What will remain of the woodlot after the construction of the 407 Transitway along the route of the Preferred Plan, will be destroyed by the constant emission of solid, particulate and gaseous pollutants steadily emanating from the intermodal hub and its parking and transportation facilities.

## 2.2. As to the EPR's disregard for the fact that the ORC land where the Preferred Plan locates the Concord intermodal hub is land that falls within the Don Watershed Plan

We draw the attention of the Honorable Minister to the fact that the TRCA has stated that the land in question falls within the TRCA's masterplan for acquisition for the Don River watershed (Appendix 3), and that in its November 18, 2010, Comments on the EPR (EPR, Appendix A, p. 178, point 7), the TRCA unequivocally stated with respect to the "GO Barrie-Concord Station": "the station is proposed on lands currently designated as part of the natural heritage system within the Don Watershed Plan and the TRCA's regulated Area". The Minister should know that the CW community is entirely solidary with this position of the TRCA.

## 2.3. As to the claims that the Preferred Plan of the GO Concord Station and intermodal hub, and the 407 Transitway route, will minimize impact upon what is considered as "poor quality" wildlife and wildlife habitat

Re. EPR, Sections 3, p. 45; 4, p. 6; and 7, p. 5

Section 7, p. 5 of the EPR states that "most of the available wildlife habitat affected by the 407 Transitway can be characterized as being of poor quality (...). The exception would be the valley systems associated with the West and East Don rivers." Thereby, one would

expect that the ORC land currently under petition for its transfer to the TRCA would be considered as part of the exception. But, alas!, this is not really the case, since the EPR goes on to mention that despite the documented presence "in the West Don River" of a Blanding's Turtle individual, a member of a Threatened species, "this area does not contain habitat considered suitable [f]or this species" (EPR, Section 7, p. 5).

Aside from the imprecision with which the sighting of the Blanding's Turtle is reported – since, per its GPS location (Appendix 5), the Blanding's Turtle individual was found on land at the border of the ORC greenland under petition! – the EPR neglects to mention that the Blanding's Turtle is *a landscape animal* that typically forages some 600m per day. In fact, landscape requirements for the threatened Blanding's turtle include a terrestrial migration distance from its aquatic site of 650 -900meters (according to Rowe & Moll, 1991, cited in "Biological Criteria for Buffer Zones around Wetlands and Riparian Habitats for Amphibians and Reptiles", by Raymond D. Semlitsch and J. Russell Bodie). The EPR claims that "habitat for Blanding's Turtle is not believed to be present in this location" (EPR, Section 3, p. 45), but in our view this incorrectly reduces the concept of habitat to the location of nesting, entirely disregarding the fact that habitat encompasses foraging territory and travelling corridors. These facts are even more significant for a landscape animal. In this context, the official letter from the Toronto Zoo (Appendix 4) - which, incidentally, was sent following *the only visit to the site* (that we know of) *made to date by a scientist* (biologist Brennan Caverhill, MSc, an expert on the Blanding's Turtle) – refers to the ORC land in question as a "habitat pocket" immediately adjacent to "an important corridor" for the Blanding's Turtle. Caverhill also suggests this should be investigated "more thoroughly come springtime". Further, he orally advised members of the community that the habitat near the confluence of tributaries may likely be suited for Wood Turtles, an Endangered species.

We also want to draw the attention of the Minister to the fact that, as observed in the Kejimikujik Area Stewardship Program, the greatest danger to the Blanding's Turtle is habitat loss or fragmentation caused by human development (please consult: <http://speciesat risk.ca/stewardship/BlandingsTurtle.html>).

The very notion that much needed factual, empirical studies of the existing natural ecology of the ORC greenland under petition should be postponed to the Detailed Design Stage (EPR, Section 3, p. 45) – as the EPR repeatedly advises the Minister is the right course of action – will most likely prove to be a patent waste of taxpayers' monies that placed the cart ahead of the ox. By its logic, we may as well start walking on our heads. Your own Ministry concurred with this, when it advised the MTO to the effect that "the characterization of potential impacts (...) are key parts of the transit regulation project planning process" and "these studies should be included in the final EPR as opposed to being deferred to detail design" (EPR, Appendix A, p. 155, November 5, 2010).

The petitioned ORC land which the community is seeking to protect was, in fact, before the advent of Highway 407, contiguous with the "narrow wetland pocket" (Section 4, p. 6) that the EPR recognizes is located south of Highway 407 and between Keele Street and Centre Street, and "of significance for the native riparian species and wildlife" (ibidem). The contiguity that has remained now is constituted by the narrow corridor under the Highway 407 overpass. More importantly, the petitioned ORC land directly abuts the junction of tributaries 1 and 2 of the West Don River, so that it is the sensitive valley area near the confluence that has been slated to be occupied by the support structures for the long 407 Transitway overpass (see the current modified Concept Design of the GO Concord Station layout in the EPR, folder entitled "Station Layouts", P[late 37]).

The MTO orally assured us that the preferred transitway route, which twice crosses the Upper Don watercourses, was the only one prescribed by the TRCA; but, we are yet to see the TRCA's letter where this is suggested, though we requested it from the MTO at the January 10, 2011 meeting and in a follow-up email to R. Minnes on the next day. Contrary to this, it seems, the TRCA Comments of November 18, 2010 (EPR, Appendix A, p. 178) stress that "it is staff opinion that impacts to wildlife and wildlife habitat can be negatively affected by additional watercourse crossings".

Be this as it may, the EPR acknowledges that habitats along Highway 407 (east-west axis) are fragmented and that, "since most have been disturbed, the few remaining natural areas have become more significant" (Section 4.1.7, p. 6). Accordingly, this should be one more reason not to further disturb the remaining contiguity of the petitioned ORC land with the acknowledged wildlife pocket to the south of it (along a north-south axis), or with the Bartley Smith corridor (along an east-west axis), at the point of confluence of tributaries to the Upper West Don river and where the Bartley-Smith Greenway is narrowest. We respectfully submit to the Minister that *only the community's Alternative Plan for the location of the intermodal hub satisfies this very basic criterion of preserving intact what is left of the contiguity and integrity of the two ecological pockets* – to the north and south of Highway 407. The MTO's Preferred Plan does *not*.

Not only does it not, but the EPR buttressing this Preferred Plan refers to the wildlife pocket in the ORC land under petition as being of "poor-quality" or "overall poor quality" and "low structural diversity" (EPR, Section 7, p. 5), all of these being unsupported statements designed to conclude that this purported poor quality "reduces the level of significance attributable to the loss" (ibidem).

In this context, the same Sections 4.1.7 and 7.2.1 of the EPR also misrepresent the mammalian population that inhabits the petitioned ORC land, solely mentioning "small mammals", to claim that "wildlife species present in these areas are represented primarily by small mammals (...)" (EPR, Section 7.2.1, p. 5). At the very least, in what concerns the ORC greenland under petition this is a patent untruth. As documented in the CWRAHC website, entire white-tail deer families use this ORC greenland to nest and forage, and thus

as their habitat. This fact was repeatedly conveyed to OMT officials, and the link to the evidence was also provided. It can be found at:

[www.saveconcordwest.wordpress.com/03-greenspace-plants-and-creatures/](http://www.saveconcordwest.wordpress.com/03-greenspace-plants-and-creatures/)

and at:

[saveconcordwest.wordpress.com/03-greenspace-plants-and-creatures/white\\_tailed\\_deer2/](http://saveconcordwest.wordpress.com/03-greenspace-plants-and-creatures/white_tailed_deer2/)

Despite this freely available documentation provided by the residents of Concord West, there is not one mention of this evidence for large mammals in the EPR. We ask the Minister - how can you, Minister, and how can we, CW residents, owners and taxpayers, have any trust in our publicly hired planners and subcontracted costly private planners when they so wantonly disregard the facts and replace them by fictions?

The woodlands that surround and abut the riverway are also a landbird migratory stopover area for numerous birds species (again, a proper and complete inventory has not been attempted), including birds of Special Concern, such as the Great Blue heron (not mentioned in the EPR). The same woodlands have been reported as a raptor winter roosting area. Notably, they are characteristic of the type of woodlands used by numerous species of breeding migratory birds. The common nighthawk, another Special Concern species, has been sighted in the greenspace. As the Minister undoubtedly knows, there is a very narrow ecological tolerance of such threatened and endangered species. The construction of a transportation hub right in the middle of the woodlands/meadows will grossly overstep that narrow tolerance.

The only poor quality in all this is that of the planning and analysis involved in placing the GO Concord Station on land that should be protected – land that contains at least one Threatened species and large mammals, may contain an Endangered species, and encompasses woodland, meadow and wetland zones near a sensitive confluence of Don river tributaries. Scrapping the Preferred Plan for the GO Concord Station will surely be no loss to the CW community, the threatened ecology and wildlife of this land, or the entire Province of Ontario. Even the ORC which, in all of its communications to the MTO – even as late as October 29, 2010 – never once drew the MTO's attention to the fact that our community had unanimously petitioned Ministers Duguid and Chiarelli for this land to be transferred to the TRCA, nevertheless emphasizes that it is "concerned that additional consideration of environmental impacts is required in particular to ensure natural heritage features" (EPR, Appendix A, p. 110, August 12, 2010). Its main concern centered on the "proposed parking and large storage areas surrounding the stations". It is worth noting that these large storage areas are apparently for Viva/YRT bus and vehicle storage, that they are located right on top of the junction between the two Upper Don tributaries, on private land to be expropriated; and that their contribution to pollution in all forms is nowhere assessed in the EPR. The TRCA comments on these maintenance and storage facilities: "Vegetation,

wildlife habitat and fish habitat are also potentially affected by the proposed maintenance and storage facilities" (EPR, Appendix A, p. 178, TRCA Comments of November 18, 2010).

The EPR seems to proceed on the basis that the impact of the Concord intermodal hub on the natural environment will be insignificant, because this is already a heavily urbanized area and there will only be minor losses to flora and fauna. It also seems to expect that, somehow, wildlife will use the Bartley-Smith Greenway in the same manner that we use Highway 407. In contrast, the City of Vaughan, in its comments to the EPR, has emphasized that the proposed GO Barrie Station will adversely impact the natural environment of the West Don River Valley. While Delcan/IBI and the MTO claim in their response to the City to have addressed this concern in the EPR, our Objection argues that they most certainly have *not* – and we can only hope to have convinced the Minister that they have not. In fact, when considering the overall impacts of the stations, storage facilities, and additional watercourse crossings on wildlife and wildlife habitats, including cultural meadows, the TRCA states that "these are permanent impacts related to the project footprint, and it is staff opinion that this has been understated in the EPR" (EPR, Appendix A, p. 178, TRCA Comments of November 18, 2010).

Minister, it is incumbent upon you and your sole responsibility now to put a stop to this "poor quality" planning that so cavalierly treated the natural environment immediately adjacent to our community.

### **3. Objections to the identification of alternative GO Concord Station sites and alternate 407 transitway routes, and to their lopsided evaluation process, including the negative impact upon the social environment of the Concord West community**

#### **3.1. As to the preferred route of the 407 Transitway in the Preferred Plan**

Re. EPR, Section 5.4.2.2 and the December 8, 2010, letter from R. Minnes to Dr. P. Correa, attached herein as Appendix 9 of the Objection

The EPR considered different paths for the 407 Transitway. But the parameters under which alternate routes were rejected were improperly evaluated. A case in point is the rejection of the transitway route hugging Highway 407 on its south side, considered as segment B5 in Figure 5-7 (EPR, Section 5p. 19). Route B5 was rejected because "placing a transitway station on the south side of highway 407 is not feasible due to the limited available and accessible space within and north of the hydro corridor" (EPR, Section 5, p. 16). The fallacy in this justification, however, is readily apparent: there may well not be enough space for locating the transitway (Metrolinx) station on the south side of Highway 407, but this does not mean the alternate route B5 along the south side of Highway 407, or at least a portion of it, should be discarded. Indeed, even though in our Alternative Plan we proposed a transitway route segment that would hug Highway 407 on its north side (see for

example Figures A and B of Appendix 10), our Alternative Plan is *perfectly compatible* with a transitway route segment B5 *hugging Highway 407 on the south side*, for the simple reason that our Alternative Plan places the transitway station, not on the south side of Highway 407 (just north of the hydro corridor), but *north of Highway 407*, near the intersection of Centre Street with Highway 7.

The chosen trajectory of the 407 Transitway path in the plan that is preferred by the MTO and Delcan/IBI, not only destroys the ORC land under petition, but also crosses the West Don River *twice*, and in our view unnecessarily so. Conversely, the path of the 407 Transitway in our Alternative Plan (the Real Red Alternative in Appendix 10) crosses the river *only once*. This is so *irrespective* of whether the transitway route hugs Highway 407 on its north or its south side. Indeed, let us again emphasize that our Alternative Plan, though shown with the 407 Transitway running along the north side of Highway 407, is perfectly compatible with a path that would run, instead, on the *south side of Highway 407*, and would only cross over this highway *to the east* of the West Don river. If such a crossover point would require, in our Alternative Plan, that the transitway station be built with a higher elevation, this may actually be an added bonus which would likely permit the suspended walkway we have proposed to be entirely level with the transitway station. Such a location of the 407 Transitway route on the south side of Highway 407 as is shown in route segment B5 would be in keeping with the fact that its planned further westward continuation crosses over Keele Street *south* of the existing Highway 407 interchange (this is not shown in Figure 5-7 of Section 5 of the EPR, but can be seen, for example, in EPR, Appendix J, p. 13). We emphasize this fact because the EPR itself admits that "B5 is the alternative route with less complex infrastructure to mitigate intrusion on the flood plains of the West Don river" (EPR, Section 5, p. 16).

Lastly, on this subject of alternate transitway routes, we should mention that the EPR entirely neglects to consider how a variation of segment B5 of the transitway may be advantageously placed over Highway 407 (say, from east of Keele Street to just before Centre Street). Such a solution is directly compatible with our Alternative Plan and would mitigate nearly completely the problems that arise from the transitway's negative impact on the flood plain and the West Don river valley (including the enhanced rates of erosion and sedimentation caused by the contemplated intermodal hub), not to mention that it would spare entirely the ORC greenland under petition.

Even more to the point, the TRCA Comments of November 18, 2010, begin by asking the MTO to "please provide a brief summary response as to why integration [of the transitway] with the existing Highway 407 is not an option" (EPR, Appendix A, p. 177). We also made the same question at the January 10, 2011, meeting with MTO and Delcan, since this option would indeed resolve many problems. The response we got was that it would be too costly. We can only wonder whether such a cost analysis has actually been carried out.



3.2. As to the failure to identify and analyse the Alternative Plan submitted by the CW community, its misrepresentation in the "Identification of Alternatives", and the main argument invoked by the MTO to reject the community's Alternative Plan

Re. EPR, Section 5

In Appendix 10 we explain at length how the EPR actually fails to identify and analyse the Alternative Plan submitted to the MTO on September 27, 2010 (Appendix 5). In effect, the EPR misrepresents our Alternative Plan in the form of what it calls the "Red Alternative". In the same Appendix 10 we proceed to the actual analysis of our Alternative Plan - the "Real Red Alternative", as we call it therein. The correct comparison between our Alternative Plan (Real Red Alternative) and the MTO's Preferred Plan (Black Alternative) is carried out in the evaluation matrix presented in the form of a table on page 8 of Appendix 10. This should be contrasted to Table 5-8, on pages 23 and 24 of Section 5 of the EPR. It is worthwhile to repeat the main features of the Alternative Plan shown on that page 8 of Appendix 10, that differentiate the Alternative Plan from the MTO's Preferred Plan. In contrast to the latter, the Alternative Plan that we proposed:

- preserves the social, cultural and urban integrity, and function, of the Concord West community
- preserves the local ecosystem, including at least one Threatened species
- complies with the rights and aspirations of the Concord West community and adjoining residential communities
- complies with the desire of the TRCA to acquire the ORC greenland (see Appendix 3)
- does not interfere with the Upper West Don River flood plains
- better serves the future Concord Go Centre development, and the commerce and industry located on the north side of Highway 7
- fully complies with the GO/Metrolinx objectives
- minimizes walking distance between each station and Park-and-ride or PPUDO facilities (see matrix on page 8 of Appendix 10).
- proposes an acceptable distance between GO and Metrolinx platforms
- does not require mitigation of noise and visual effects
- does not place idling cars and Diesel buses near the Bartley Smith Greenway or near the Concord West residential community
- does not require any expropriations of private land on the the south side of Highway 7, between Baldwin Avenue and Centre Street.

So why has the Alternative Plan been so glibly rejected by the MTO and Delcan/IBI?

In essence, the community's representatives were told at the January 10, 2011, meeting with MTO and Delcan, that the reason why instead of evaluating the community's Alternative Plan they had to evaluate the obviously faulty modification they called the Red Alternative (see R. Minnes letter of December 2010, Appendix 9) was two-fold: (1) the 'impossibility'

of locating a parking facility north of Centre Street along Highway 7 because of its reserve usage for a Highway 407 interchange; and (2) the unacceptably long 380-500m walkway for commuters travelling between the GO Concord station and the Metrolinx station (located near Centre Street along the route of the 407 Transitway).

We addressed at length the first objection in our December 16, 2010, response to R. Minnes (Appendix 10), not only showing that the projected Highway 407 interchange at Centre Street has long been rejected by the Vaughan City Council and planning officials, but, more importantly, that parking, bus and PPUDO facilities could be advantageously located in 3 distinct zones (numbered 1 to 3 on our Real Red Alternative maps, Figures 1A and 1B of Appendix 10) directly associated with each station.

In the same December 16, 2010, response we also addressed in detail the second objection. Accepting the 'impossibility' of eastwardly curving the track south and north of the GO station (or of placing the Station platform in a curve), the distance travelled by inter-station commuters is not  $\approx 500\text{m}$  as generally claimed by the MTO, but  $\approx 380\text{m}$ , since we propose a slight westward displacement of the Metrolinx (transitway) station, and – as already discussed above – a very different route for the 407 Transitway. However, the EPR refers to this distance in Section 5, p. 23, as "380-500 meter", and we will henceforth refer to it as "380-500m", for ease of reference.

Moreover, we draw the attention of the Minister to the fact that our proposal of a suspended walkway connecting the two stations, GO and Metrolinx, also has the added virtue of resolving entirely the problem of pedestrian crossings at one of the worst intersections in the City of Vaughan, that of Highway 7 and Centre Street, by freeing the timing of the traffic lights from the pedestrian flow, and thus permitting its dedicated use for regulating vehicular traffic.

This distance of  $\approx 380\text{m}$  (or supposed  $\approx 500\text{m}$ ) appeared to acquire a disproportionate negative value that became practically determinant of the rejection of our Alternative Plan (the Real Red Alternative), and served as a reason to misrepresent our plan in the form of the so-called Red Alternative. Since all the other parameters considered in the specifications of all the contemplated site plans favor the Alternative Plan (see matrix on page 8 of Appendix 10), the negative overvaluation of the 380-500m inter-station walking distance appears even more excessive.

If we take a step further and compare the role of the 'long inter-station walkway' to its corresponding element in the MTO's Preferred Plan and location, the brandishing of the long walking distance parameter as being decisive in the determination of the best location for the intermodal hub simply becomes an absurdity. Indeed, consider what is the corresponding element in the MTO's Preferred Plan and location: *it is not simply a linear distance of some 100m*. No, the commuting is made via a system of elevators that connect the very different elevations of the transitway and the GO line. This solution will constantly

consume electric power. The elevator complex will be placed on the southeast corner of our community, and it will necessarily contain some stairs (a notorious problem for public hygiene and criminal transactions), or escalators (more energy expenditure). The elevator solution is obviously prone to immense lineups, frequent breakdowns, stoppage in brownouts and blackouts. When the elevators become congested or break down, commuters will have to go up or down the stairs. At least, in our suspended walkway solution, the path will be level and not form a congestion node either during a potential breakdown of the electric sidewalks or during hours of peak traffic. Moreover, outside of peak hours, the electric walkways can be turned off, or those in operation reduced in number. Triggered activation could also be utilized.

Placed in its proper planning context, we submit that, all else aside, it is better to have a 380-500m long walkway that also resolves the problem of pedestrian crossing at Highway 7 and Centre Street, than to have a 100m distance mediated by a very problematic elevator/stairs complex. Our analysis hardly warrants the negative overvaluation of the walking distance parameter, let alone to a point where an abstract 100m distance is valued more highly than the integrity of the human or ecological communities impacted by the so-called Preferred Plan.

Now, we have already above drawn the attention of the Minister to the fact that the contemplated intermodal hub, contrary to what is stated as its main function in the EPR, is neither wanted nor needed by the CW community. Further, that therefore it can only serve the high-rise residential community projected for the Concord Floral lands, the associated commercial GO Centre and the existing industry located on the north side of Highway 7. Thus we have argued over and over that the best location for the GO Concord Station should be north of Highway 7. But now let us consider this simple fact: that the intermodal hub really is designed to serve the flux of people to the north side of Highway 7. Well, in light of this, the Preferred Plan and location imposes on all these users a walking distance of well over 500m, if they are to reach either the GO Station or the Metrolinx station! That is a pretty weighty objection against the MTO's Preferred Plan and location, entirely and conveniently glossed over by the EPR... The hub is designed to serve the future residents of the Concord Floral development, yet the Preferred Plan makes them walk the longest distance to either the GO or the Metrolinx stations. Eminently logical.

Likewise, commuters changing from the Viva/YRT system to either the GO or the 407 Transitway lines in the MTO's Preferred Plan, will also have to walk ≈500m, as is mentioned in the EPR, Section 5. Should the CW community not be comforted with the fact that it alone will have the two stations right at its doorstep, with a tunnel to better access them?

The EPR fails entirely to address the comparison and contrast of all these features relating to the parameter of the distance between the two stations of the Concord intermodal hub, such as they are presented in our Alternative Plan (see Appendix 5 and the Real Red

Alternative in Appendix 10) vs the MTO's Preferred Plan (the Black Alternative, in Appendices 9 and 10, as well as in the EPR, Section 5, with reference to Figure 5-10, and pages 23 and 24). The EPR's approach is simply to treat the two distances (100m vs 380–500m) as if they permitted a direct *quantitative* comparison, when they do *not* and involve instead all sorts of *qualitative parameters*. Such obfuscations of what is at stake are underhanded. They underline the fact that there are no technical considerations which are absolute, and all such considerations devolve to political choices. Herein lies the profound injustice of sacrificing real human and natural communities to decontextualized, abstract technical merits.

Finally, we also want to emphasize that Metrolinx itself, in its comments to the EPR (EPR, Section 3, p. 39), notes that the GO Barrie (Concord) Station was not identified as a mobility hub in 'The Big Move'. Appendix 8, which contains the email correspondence with Metrolinx, shows that Metrolinx did not appear, until very recently, to be wedded to the location of the intermodal hub on the south side of Highway 7, where the Preferred Plan places it.

### 3.3. As to the misuse of the Rockview Gardens pedestrian underpass to create an unacknowledged PPUDO and destroy the integrity of the CW community

#### Re. EPR, Sections 4 and 5

The social and environmental injustices built into the Preferred Plan defended in the EPR belie, with derision, the stated objectives of the overall report, which claims – under the rubric "socio-economic and cultural environment" – that its purpose is "to link urban areas (...) without disrupting community integrity and function" (EPR, Section 4, p. 10). Nowhere is this claim made more ironic than in the Preferred Plan's proposal to build an east-west tunnel or overpass (EPR, Section 5, p. 20) to cross the railway at the eastern end of Rockview Gardens, the underpass being the preferred method. As discussed in detail in Appendix 5, p. 10, the community saw this proposal as a "tainted gift" – for, though overtly presented at the 15 September 2010 meeting as a means to satisfy the community's desire to restore its access to the greenspace (across or around a parking lot...), it is apparently designed to provide commuter and walk-in access to the GO station. At any rate, this would certainly be its obvious usage if the Preferred Plan is accepted. The tainted nature of the gift becomes apparent when, for example, one reads in the EPR, Section 5, Table 5-3, that the "Rockview Gardens Avenue Neighbourhood (East) supports transit-oriented development"; or, when the EPR Appendix B, prepared by IBI, describes Baldwin Avenue as "extending from Southview Drive in the south with Highway 7 in the north" without mentioning that Baldwin Avenue is interrupted at the intersection with Rockview Gardens Avenue, at the request of the community, to prevent traffic from cutting through the residential area. Similarly, in Exhibit 7-2 of EPR, Appendix B, the traffic volume estimates for vehicles entering and leaving our community at Baldwin Avenue, south of Highway 7,

seem to take into account increases that are only attributable to this unacknowledged use of the eastern end of Rockview Gardens Avenue as a PPUDO.

These examples leave little doubt as to the intended usage of the underpass, a usage for purposes of transportation and foreign to the function of our community, that will transform the eastern end of Rockview Gardens Avenue, along with Hartley Court, into another PPUDO and parking zone. Moreover, subject to such usage, the underpass in question will undoubtedly pose problems of hygiene and serve as a focus for street criminal activity. It is evident how such usage of the underpass will precisely disrupt the integrity of the community and of its function, contrary to the stated purposes and guidelines of the EPR. We draw the attention of the Honorable Minister to pages 18-21 and Figure 10 of the community's September 27, 2010, Submission (Appendix 5), where we have detailed the concerns of the community regarding the various factors which, in the MTO's Preferred Plan, will threaten the integrity and function of the Concord West community.

From the map presented in the EPR, Appendix J, p. 13, it is readily apparent how the CW community is particularly vulnerable to the impact of the 407 Transitway, as Concord West forms the only residential island in the entire Study Area - isolated in a sea of commercial and industrial employment areas (shown in blue on the map of the EPR, Appendix J, p. 13). To us it is evident – and so should it be to you, Honorable Minister – that a vulnerable community disrupted socially and ecologically in its fabric is a community slated for degradation and, ultimately, destruction. We submit that you have a duty to protect this community and reject the location of this intermodal hub on the south side of Highway 7.

4. Objections as to the quality of the studies in the EPR, in particular concerning the multiplicity of negative impacts upon the Concord West community, the West Don river ecology and the ecological pocket in the ORC land under petition

4.1 As to the veracity and adequacy of the "undertaken study activities"

Re. EPR, Section 1, p. 4, and the various Appendices

In Section 1, p. 4, we read that, "following the MTO Functional planning report dated November 2010", the "Ministry's decision to follow the TPAP process" included further study activities "to identify the existing natural environment, social environmental conditions...", etc.

We have reviewed the EPR, and unless techno-fiction based on modelling carried out with imaginary data qualifies as a study, we must object and simply state that no such field identification or field study of the natural environment appears to have been undertaken (which, after all, seems to be merely a consequence of the special dispensation from carrying

out actual scientific studies during the environmental assessment that was afforded to transportation planning by Ontario Regulation 231/08).

Nor has the EPR identified the social environmental conditions that stand to adversely and irreversibly affect our community – which is the only existing residential community negatively impacted by the preferred location of the intermodal hub.

Therefore, we submit to the Minister our strong objection that no real studies have been performed "to identify the existing natural environment" and "social environmental conditions" affected by the preferred location of this intermodal hub. That a report like the EPR, so heavy in gigabytes and number of pages, fails to cite a single set of actual data or a single scientific study of environmental conditions (*latu sensu*), is and should be unacceptable, and can only be taken to show the EPR as an exercise in marketing at best, or as a waste, at worst.

#### 4.2. As to noise and vibration impact being improperly studied Re. EPR, Appendix H

Once again, the noise impact analysis is not based on any study that gathered hard data. This is unacceptable, especially for a community that has been under a constantly increasing noise assault from the CN rail yards for the past 20 years, from Highway 407 in the past 16 years, and from the constant intensification of traffic volumes along Keele Street and Highway 7.

Without hard data, Appendix H of the EPR goes on to compare modelled imaginary data for future sound levels resulting from the projected intermodal hub with future ambient sound levels without it, only to conclude that "the impact due to the parking lot [of the Concord intermodal hub] was minimal in comparison to background noise and noise from the 407 Transitway". Over and over this strategy seems to pay off in the reports generated by the private consultants hired by the MTO; the strategy seems to be: do not gather or present data; elaborate on estimates, and model them so that whatever impact will be computed, will be less (and thus negligible) than that which one can project will be the background. Modelling is not a scientific activity, nor separable from a bias that selects the best numbers or outcome.

Incredibly enough, this Appendix H (page 5-4) discards the problem of idling buses in the GO Concord Station hub, by failing to list it as an intermodal station! Thus we can be assured that the GO Concord station "will not have any significant stationary noise" (*ibidem*).

The noise and vibration associated with the expanded GO rail line, the construction of the same (eg with or without pylon driving, etc) and the projected much greater frequency of

scheduled trains are not even mentioned in this Appendix H, nor anywhere else in the EPR - not that we have found.

#### 4.3. As to the atmospheric pollution impact being improperly studied Re. EPR, Appendix I

The same strategy of modelling upon estimates without hard data taken at or near the CW community appears to have also been used for Appendix I, prepared by Delcan, IBI and LGL. It begins with a 'positive note', as it states that "the study identifies that compared to existing conditions (2008), air quality will slightly improve for gaseous pollutants due to newer engine technologies and fuels, despite increases in traffic"(p.1). We would like to ask where, in 2011, is the evidence for this statement ("identifies")?

Continuing to build a castle in the air without hard facts, the EPR Appendix I report concludes to "negligible changes in gaseous and particulate matter concentrations when station parking for passenger pick-up and drop-off emissions are considered", and that it is "expected that particulate matter concentrations at sensitive receptor locations will be within MOE standards" (p.2). The same study, on the same page, concludes that "particulate matter emission estimates may have been overly conservative". Yet, your own Ministry cautioned Project Officer L. Zappone on November 5, 2010, that estimated particulate matter concentrations are "slightly underestimated, and should not be considered conservative" (EPR, Appendix A, p. 154).

Measurement data for nitrous oxides, carbon monoxide and particulate matter were taken from the period 2004-2008, at locations near Yonge and Finch, and Bay and Wellesley, both of which are remote from the location of the Concord West community. The diurnal variation of the pollution indices was not looked at, nor the time of year when measurements were made. Given the growing awareness of the adverse health impact of transportation-associated pollutants, including poisonous byproducts such as low level ozone, other free radicals and the well-proven cancer-causing benzene and derivatives, the Minister should request that a proper scientific study of the present levels and daily variation of all major vehicular pollutants be carried out at the location of Concord West. Measurements of pollutant indices - and free radicals in particular - without attribution of time of day and period of the year are arguably subject to substantial fudge factors. The necessity for a scientific study of actual air pollutants and how their concentrations vary to be carried out *in situ* before the Preferred Plan should ever be deemed "preferred" is underlined by the recognized fact that "benzene and 1,3-butadiene concentrations already exceed applicable criteria" (EPR, Appendix I, p. 5-3). Yet, the background estimates for these chemicals and other carcinogens (EPR, Appendix I, p. 2-16) are considered to be likely too high "since many of the measurements originated from larger US cities in the mid-1970's"... How is this reasoning buttressed against the currently accepted claim that climate change has intensified in the last 10 years?

The EPR Appendix I acknowledges, at least, that the background values employed "are not inclusive of the Highway 407"; accordingly, values for the latter were simply "modelled" (EPR, Appendix I, section 3, p. 3-1). It also states "that bus idling emissions were not considered in this assessment" (EPR, Appendix I, section 3,p. 3-2). These are significant omissions in a study which includes reams and reams of computer-generated results at imaginary (virtual) "sensitive receptors".

#### 4.4 As to how the health hazard resulting from the Diesel emissions from trains and buses associated with the GO Concord Station and intermodal hub is totally omitted in the EPR

Surrounding the CW community with two GO lines and a GO station employing Diesel trains, and a Metrolinx station and a two-way transitway with Diesel-producing BRT cannot be taken lightly as to its impact on the health of the community and its residents, even if BRT is considered a low emission vehicle technology (EPR, Section 5, p. 3). This disregard of Diesel emissions reaches what we view as heights of insanity, when one realizes that the two stations and the elevator system, as well as the train lines and bus lanes all converge in the immediate eastern and southern vicinity of what is the community's children's parkette. At the very least, the only GO and transitway vehicles that should be considered in the context of a 407 Transitway and a Concord intermodal hub are electrically propelled ones. Even without low or zero emission energy-generation methods, and thus despite a greater energy loss or "carbon footprint", the HRT contemplated for a much more intensely travelled Barrie GO line should be electric-propelled and not diesel-powered. The same criterion should stringently apply to the transitway buses, even if existing battery technology does not yet permit them to travel at the high velocities ultimately contemplated for the transitway. LRT would definitely be an option to consider for the transitway. The health of the neighbouring population affected by these services should be paramount, and the energy loss involved in operating electrically-propelled vehicles should be tolerated and displaced to the energy grid for as long as a grid continues to be necessary. If the costs associated with implementing these criteria are considered to be overriding, then these projects, including the Concord intermodal hub, should be shelved until new energy breakthroughs take place, to the benefit of a greater concentration of resources in developing alternate means of transportation, such as the planned subway extension into Vaughan.

#### 4.5. As to basic mistakes made in the EPR that betray improper review and either decontextualize existing problems and/or invalidate modelled solutions

Aside from all the foregoing, there are also serious errors that unfortunately further confuse the assessment and the object of the various analyses presented in the EPR. These errors show that the EPR was *not properly and carefully reviewed*. We limit ourselves to mentioning only the most egregious:



1. The Concord GO/Metrolinx hub is incorrectly treated as not being intermodal: in Appendix H, Section 5, p. 5-4. Accordingly, Appendix H does not treat or evaluate the GO Concord Station as it would a station that is considered intermodal. Yet, right from the get-go in the EPR Executive Summary, page 3, it is stated that "GO Barrie (Concord) station" is an "Intermodal Station", in fact the most important of the entire transitway Area of Study.
2. Recurring misidentification of the West Don river as the East Don river: Appendix K, Table 1, p. 22; Appendix K, p. 36, rubric "Indirect impacts"; Appendix L, Section 3, p. 11.
3. The data used for modelling "future background condition" (and, implicitly, "total future condition") in the EPR, Appendix B – prepared by IBI and exclusively concerned with the GO Barrie (Concord) Station - describes the Concord GO Centre that will occupy the Concord Floral lands as a mixed-use development that "will consist of 510 residential units and 91,000 square meters of retail and commercial space". The latest application we know of for this development, as of February 24, 2010, is described instead as a proposal for high density and mixed use, including 2535 residential units and 25,000 square meters of Commercial Gross Floor Area. Up until at least 2009, IBI was the planner for this development. So, we ask the Minister:

How can a model or plan based on one set of parameters be considered valid for future predictions, if the values of these parameters can change as diversely as, for example, the number of residential units and the area occupied by retail and commercial space in the Concord Floral lands have changed in the span of just one year??

**5. Objection as to what is perceived as a conflict of interest by a private planner, and is of concern to the CW community in the context of the Preferred Plan for the GO Concord Station and associated intermodal hub**

Lastly, we should draw the Minister's attention to the apparent fact (to the best of our knowledge) that one of the private planners (IBI) hired by the MTO to develop the Concept Design of the Preferred Plan for the Concord intermodal hub, and to produce the EPR and several of its appended studies, is also a partner of the York Consortium for the YRT Plan, and, at least up until recently, the planner for the development of the Concord Floral lands. Whether or not this legally constitutes a conflict of interest is not clear to us, but it is a situation which the community views with concern, and which it felt should also be brought to the attention of the Minister.

## CONCLUSION

Honorable Minister, we submit to you that the right and courageous course of action is to declare the ORC land under petition as being part of the Terrestrial Natural Heritage of the Province of Ontario and the Concord West community, to whose stewardship it should be entrusted. This will prevent the location of any intermodal hub on this land, and ensure its future protection. Terrestrial Natural Heritage includes *all the plants and animals associated with land-based natural habitats*, as opposed to purely aquatic environments. *It also encompasses species associated with shoreline and wetland habitats that require dry land for at least a part of their life cycle, which is the case with the Blanding's Turtle.*

York Region's Official Plan (ROP), adopted by Regional Council in December of 2009, was ostensibly developed in the context of the "guiding principles found in the York Region Sustainability Strategy". Listed among its key elements is "*a natural heritage legacy based on a linked and enhanced Regional Greenlands System*" and explicitly connected to lands surrounding the Don river (Report No. 2 of the Planning and Economic Development Committee Regional Council Meeting of March 25, 2010). All three Concord West community organizations call on the Minister to honor this natural heritage, embodied in the ORC land under petition for its transfer to the TRCA.

The map on page 23 of EPR Appendix F, entitled 'final 407 Transitway Natural Heritage Report December 17 201.pdf' marks out, in broad terms, certain of the natural diversity elements of the ORC greenspace under petition: its dry moist old field meadows, its deciduous plantation areas, its mineral cultural thicket and woodland ecosites, its fresh-moist deciduous forest ecosites, its submerged shallow aquatic areas, and its deciduous swamp and minerals meadows. This description however, does not begin to convey its beauty as the seasons roll across it, the multitude of its wild inhabitants, nor the joy and critical association with nature that it affords our community.

This land has been for generations, and still is, profoundly connected to the cultural and social community of Concord West. It is, both historically and ecologically, a contiguous section of the corridor which connects the Bartley Smith Greenway system to the Marita Payne Park. Many of our residents have walked in its green expanse for over 45 years. Treasured not only by the Concord West and Glen Shields communities, this natural corridor is considered to be amongst Vaughan's most beautiful and cherished park systems, projected to eventually span all the way from Steeles Avenue up to Teston Road. As the Bartley Smith Greenway website notes: "We now recognize that these natural corridors are vital to the health of many animal species, since they allow intermingling of local populations, which is necessary for ensuring that genetic diversity is maintained. Restoring and protecting these natural areas will help to conserve and enhance biodiversity in this most heavily urbanized part of Ontario. In this way we can continue to experience the richness and variety of plant and animal life that has evolved here over millions of years." (at: <http://www.bartleymithgreenway.org/naturalheritage.html>)

We remind the Minister that it is the Concord West Seniors Club that has spearheaded our community-wide efforts to save this ORC greenland, and who has repeatedly stated in all meetings and communications with Viva, Delcan, MTO and GO/Metrolinx its opposition to the location by the Preferred Plan of the Concord intermodal hub on this land. Although, obviously, Concord West is not an aboriginal community, our elders, many of whom have lived here for generations, have all concurred with the rest of the community, that this land is part of our (and of Vaughan's and of Ontario's) essential natural heritage and have called for our local, provincial and federal representatives to ensure that it is respected as such.

Our Seniors Club, Ratepayers Association and Ad Hoc Committee to save Concord West have been actively engaged in studying the feasibility of soliciting grants and initiating rehabilitative Stewardship programs in conjunction with the TRCA and/or the MNR to regenerate those areas of the greenspace already negatively impacted by previous developments (eg Highway 407 construction). TRCA biologists have only very recently selected a survey area within the Bartley Smith Greenway "to develop an inventory of the wildlife and plant communities present in the upper West Don watershed. From this information they can assess the overall quality of existing habitats and the enhancements needed to encourage wildlife colonization."

(at: <http://www.bartleymithgreenway.org/naturalheritage.html>)

Our residents, in conjunction with the Toronto Zoo, have already met - and have agreed to meet again in the spring - with Mr. Caverhill, the Zoo's Species at Risk Stewardship Biologist, to try to gather more information about turtle populations along this portion of the greenway corridor system. The stewards of the Bartley Smith Greenway have not yet conducted such an investigation. We suspect there is much still to be discovered in this long-sheltered habitat located on the ORC land under petition. Our community has, for years, actively pursued protection of this extraordinary natural heritage treasure, in keeping precisely with the TRCA's view that this land is an integral part of the Don River Watershed (Appendix 3). Our community has also been documenting the extraordinary diversity of life in the ORC land under petition, on one of its websites ([saveconcordwest.org](http://saveconcordwest.org)), through which it hopes to introduce others to the irreplaceable habitat that this threatened ORC land provides to so many of our most treasured wildlife neighbours.

The Concord West community has argued repeatedly against the fragmentation of the adjacent greenspace and greenway system. We remind the Honorable Minister that The United Nations Environment Program (1997:1) has concluded that "world-wide habitat loss and fragmentation, the lack of biological corridors, and the decline in biological diversity outside protected areas constitute primary threats to overall biodiversity." (<http://casiopa.mediamouse.ca/wp-content/uploads/2010/05/PRFO-2001-Proceedings-p123-132-Wilkinson.pdf>). Ecosystem fragmentation is known to be a serious problem in Ontario and we would suggest to the Honorable Minister that it is particularly serious in

Vaughan, where development in urban and intensification areas has virtually eliminated greenspace from its maps. Only a few tenuous threads now remain. The fragmentation which, in the MTO's Preferred Plan, the Bartley Smith ecosystem is bound to suffer at this point of confluence of the Upper West Don tributaries, can and should be interpreted as being of "Provincial Interest", and the ORC land contiguous with this confluence of the tributaries should be regarded as an essential component of "ecological systems", as outlined in Ontario's Planning Act (R.S.O. 1990, Part 1, Provincial Administration).

Moreover, given the negative impact of the Preferred Plan upon the social and cultural fabric of the Concord West community, we also submit to the Honorable Minister that protection of public health and safety, as well as rational criteria for urban growth and development, further demand that the Preferred Plan for the Concord intermodal hub and its location on the south side of Highway 7 be rejected. Any location to be contemplated for the Concord intermodal hub should fit, precisely, the criteria proposed by the TRCA in its November 23, 2010, response to the Draft EPR: "a sound environmental site implementation" that should be "consistent with provincial objectives and the expectations of the local communities" (EPR, Appendix A, p. 175).

Honorable Minister, we submit to you that the Preferred Plan for the Concord intermodal hub (GO Barrie-Concord Station, Metrolinx Transitway Station and associated Viva/YRT station and storage facilities) put forth by this EPR is not a sound environmental plan, and its location is not a sound environmental site. Furthermore, the Preferred Plan is not consistent either with provincial objectives or the expectations, the integrity and the function of our community.

In light of all the foregoing considerations and the multiple objections we have voiced to the MTO's Preferred Plan for the GO Concord station and associated intermodal hub, statements such as are made in the EPR – that "the preferred alternative allows opportunities to mitigate effects on the surrounding communities" (Section 3, p. 45) – sound somewhat cynical and totally hollow to our community: not only are the contemplated mitigations based on imaginary results devoid of hard data, that may even seem to have been selected so as to minimize the effort at mitigation, but, more importantly, there can be no mitigation for the preferred location of the Concord intermodal hub when this location and hub will have the effect of destroying (1) the social and cultural environment of our community, (2) the fragile ecological community, including threatened or endangered species, present in the ORC land under petition and in the Don river valley, and (3) the integrity and continuity of the Bartley Smith Greenway.

Honorable Minister, the Concord West community calls on you to protect its integrity and function, and to protect the ORC land under petition by supporting its transfer to the TRCA as an integral part of both the natural heritage and the community heritage of the Province of Ontario, the City of Vaughan and the Concord West community.

Thank you for your kind attention to this sensitive matter.

Dr. Paulo Correa  
Chair Concord West Residents Ad Hoc Committee

Josephine Mastrodicasa  
President, Concord West Seniors Club

Maria Bacchin  
President, Concord West Ratepayers Association

C6 - CW - Feb 1/11  
Dep b).



*Enhancing the quality of life for individuals and families facing life-threatening illness or grief*

## WHAT IS HOSPICE THORNHILL?

- Since 1987 has been serving over 3,000 residents within the Thornhill communities of Markham and Vaughan.
- Our non-profit services are delivered free of charge through professional staff and highly trained volunteers to support those dealing with a life threatening illness, palliation, grief and bereavement.
- Only 25% of our annual budget is funded through the Ministry of Health, the remainder of revenue is realized through donations, fundraising and events.
- Our programs and services work to support the clients, families, caregivers and loved ones who can be your children, teenager, family, mother/father or grandparent.
- Hospice Thornhill offers individualized care that stresses living fully until the very end of life, with dignity and in comfort, surrounded by their loved ones, in the setting of their choice.
- We work to ensure that we are there when people need us most, making a very difficult life passage both manageable and meaningful.

## THE CHALLENGE:

- Government funding of community-based hospice palliative care has not increased proportionately, leaving a significant gap in the health care system
- Inadequate government support for hospice palliative care programs results in a significant additional burden on informal caregivers
- Ability to raise funds in a troubled economy has impacted upon our capacity to increase awareness and reach into a community in need.

## FACTS:

- Each year more than 248,000 Canadians die and more than 160,000 of these annual deaths require access to hospice palliative care services.
- Statistics Canada projects that the rate of deaths in Canada will increase by 33% by the year 2020 to more than 330,000 deaths per year.
- Currently only four provinces (not Ontario) have designated palliative care as a core service under their provincial health plans.

## WHY HOSPICE?

- Hospice palliative care programs allow patients to gain more control over their lives, manage pain and symptoms more effectively, and provides support to informal caregivers.
- There is a growing trend (8 of every ten) Canadians to want to die at home or in a home-like setting.
- As a result of health care restructuring, the number of institutionally-based palliative care beds has been cut and care has devolved to community-based agencies such as Hospice Thornhill.

**HOSPICE PALLIATIVE CARE IS NOT A LUXURY; IT IS A NECESSITY!**



MEMBER HOSPICE ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO MEMBER PALCARE OF YORK REGION  
220 CHARLTON AVENUE, THORNHILL, ONTARIO L4J 6H2 TEL: (905)764-0656 FAX: (905)764-6963 EMAIL: INFO@HOSPICETHORNHILL.ORG



Spring/Summer  
2010 Edition

*Ensuring the highest quality "end of life" care to individuals & their families in the Thornhill Community*



Timely,  
Compassionate  
Support

## News from Hospice Thornhill

### Message from the Chairman of the Board

*Allan Goodman*

My name is Allan Goodman & I am the recently appointed Chairman of the Board of Hospice Thornhill. Firstly, on behalf of everyone at Hospice Thornhill, I would like to express our sincerest thank you to our outgoing Chairman, Craig Mauchan for his dedication & commitment to Hospice for the past 5 years. Under Craig's leadership & direction, Hospice Thornhill has continued to be well positioned to provide passionate & caring palliative care services to the Thornhill community. We are grateful for his contributions & hope he will continue to be a true friend of Hospice.

My involvement in Hospice Thornhill is quite personal. Not only have I lived in or near the Thornhill community my whole life, I endured the loss of my mother almost 20 years ago. In the final stages of her life, after a terribly difficult year long battle with cancer, she made it very clear she wanted to be at home. It was a challenge for our family to ensure she would be able to find peace & comfort at home in those final days. However, through access to community resources, we were able to grant her last wishes & allow her to pass in a most dignified manner. I know that watching a loved one in their final days is painful, but having compassionate, caring & quality end of life help to assist the family is a comfort that cannot be quantified. Ensuring that all Thornhill residents & their families affected by a life threatening illness continue to have access to timely, compassionate, caring & quality end of life, grief & bereavement support is the mission of Hospice Thornhill & a cause to which I am deeply committed.

We are living in a difficult & uncertain economic time. Governments are cutting back on many fronts & individuals & corporations are closely monitoring their charitable commitments. This makes our work more challenging than ever before. Now, more than ever, with the stresses in society, we need to ensure the services of Hospice Thornhill continue to be available. Shortly we will be embarking on an intensive community campaign to ask for your financial support. We hope you will find it in your heart to make whatever contribution you can to ensure that Hospice Thornhill will be there to support you, if & when you need it. Having experienced first hand & the comfort such resources provide, I can tell you that you will be grateful you did.

*Allan*

### Community Member Gives Back

In February 2010, Mitra Jam along with her husband Bahrm walked into Hospice Thornhill with a generous donation. Neither of them had ever set foot into Hospice Thornhill, though they were both very familiar with the hospice community and philosophy. A month earlier Mitra's father Dinyar died at the age of 78 from prostate cancer in North London Hospice in Finchley, London. He left behind many loved ones, including Mitra, her husband and her three young daughters.

Historically, the three girls had organized numerous fundraisers for the Children's Aid Society; Malaria Nets Prevention Group. This year their focus changed for allocating where their funds would go which they raised.

After witnessing the extraordinary care & compassion their grandfather & family received back in the UK the girls decided to direct the funds raised to a hospice in their community. The eldest, Nadia 13, the middle Tara 12 & the youngest Roxana 10 held a 2-hour concert at Thornhill Community Centre. Funds were raised by charging an entrance fee for the concert, as well as some individuals attending also made personal donations.

On July 9th a Memorial Garden will be opening at Hospice Thornhill. A portion of this donation has been allocated to the purchase of a stone for the garden which will be inscribed with the word "Serenity". As Dinyar was an avid gardener, this allocation of funds to the creation of the garden is very fitting. Mitra has also expressed an interest in joining our Gardening Committee which will take care of the garden & grounds at Hospice Thornhill. Clients, volunteers & staff at Hospice Thornhill are very appreciative of contributions like Mitra Jam.

*Thank you!*

A graphic announcement for a dinner show at Hospice Thornhill. It features a large, stylized "HOLD THE DATE!!!" at the top. Below it is a banner that says "WELCOME TO Fabulous VEGAS IN VAUGHAN Dinner Show". The main text reads "HOSPICE THORNHILL GOES VEGAS!" in large, bold, outlined letters. The date "November 4TH, 2010" is prominently displayed. The location is "Paradise Conference & Banquet Centre, 7601 Jane Street, Vaughan, ON." The event features "Gourmet Dinner & Show, Las Vegas Tribute artists, Casino-style games, Silent Auction, Live band and so much more!" and tickets are "\$90.00/PP on sale now!"

**HOLD THE DATE!!!**

**WELCOME**  
TO *Fabulous*  
**VEGAS IN VAUGHAN**  
*Dinner Show*

**HOSPICE THORNHILL  
GOES VEGAS!**

**November 4TH, 2010**

**Paradise Conference & Banquet Centre**  
7601 Jane Street, Vaughan, ON.

**Featuring Gourmet Dinner & Show,**  
**Las Vegas Tribute artists,**  
**Casino-style games, Silent Auction,**  
**Live band and so much more!**

**Tickets \$90.00/PP on sale now!**

# Hospice Thornhill Calendar of Events

- ◆ Serenity Garden Planting & Ceremony Friday July 9th, 2010 11:30 AM Hospice Thornhill  
Please join us at Hospice Thornhill at 12:00 pm when Karen Binch our Grief & Bereavement Coordinator will facilitate a Ceremony of Remembrance for all the people in our lives who have died & touched us. Come out to plant an annual or perennial in memory of a loved one. Angelo's Garden Centre has assisted us with a donation of a lovely stone bird bath along with the much needed planting materials. Beaver Valley Stone has also contributed to this garden by donating a beautiful stone bench and stepping stones for the garden.
- ◆ Welcome Back BBQ Lunch & Volunteer Appreciation Tuesday, September 14th, 2010 Noon, Hospice Thornhill  
Please come out to join us as we welcome back our Day Program clients. The BBQ will also serve as a time to recognize & thank all of our wonderful & dedicated volunteers.
- ◆ Multi-Faith Organ & Tissue Awareness Evening Tues., Sept. 28th, 7:00 PM Heintzman House, 135 Bay Thorn Drive  
An educational panel of multi-faith clergy will be discussing organ and tissue donation. The evening is being hosted by Hospice Thornhill in partnership with Trillium Gift of Life. The panel will discuss the benefits of becoming an organ and tissue donor, as well as break down the many myths and stereotypes associated with becoming a donor.  
If you are interested volunteering for this event please contact the office.
- ◆ Hospice Thornhill Goes Vegas! Thursday, November 4th, 6: 30 PM 2010, Paradise Banquet Hall, 7601 Jane Street  
The evening will feature live performances by "Vegas in Vaughan" Las Vegas tribute artists, an orchestra, comedian, casino-style games of chance, a silent auction, and a gourmet dinner, tickets are now on sale for \$90.00. We are still looking for companies to sponsor the event, as well as in-kind donations for the silent auction. Please contact the office for more information.
- ◆ Hospice Thornhill Presents "Our Kinda Gift Show" Sunday, November 28th, 2010 10:30-3:30  
North Thornhill Community Centre, 300 Pleasant Ridge Avenue (in Thornhill Woods)  
Come out to support Hospice Thornhill while shopping for that perfect holiday gift. Vendors will be selling a variety of novelty & one-of-a-kind items. Interested vendors can contact Joy Levy 905-764-0656 x224 or jlevy@bellnet.ca.

## Hospice Thornhill Programs & Services

If you or someone you know has a life-threatening illness, Hospice Thornhill can help.

The following services are offered free of charge:

- |  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| In-home client visitation                          | Non-medical assistance with meals  |
| Telephone support                                  | Help with shopping, medical visits |
| Weekly day respite program - "The Gathering Place" |                                    |
| Complementary therapies                            | Caregiver support group            |
| Anticipatory grief support                         | One-on-one bereavement support     |
| Respite care for family & friends                  | Bereavement support groups         |

## Board of Directors 20010-2011

- |                  |                                       |                 |          |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|----------|
| Allan Goodman    | Chairman of The Board                 |                 |          |
| Hangmei Chen     | Secretary                             | Richard Venerus | Director |
| Deanna Perkins   | Director                              | Kauskik Vyas    | Director |
| Marcia Meyer     | Director                              |                 |          |
| <b>Staff:</b>    |                                       |                 |          |
| Terry S. Winston | Executive Director                    |                 |          |
| Bettina Bros     | Client Services & Program Coordinator |                 |          |
| Joy Levy         | Volunteer & Event Coordinator         |                 |          |
| Karen Binch      | Grief and Bereavement Coordinator     |                 |          |
| Rivka Alal       | Administrators                        |                 |          |

## New Office Administrator

☆ In April Hospice Thornhill welcomed ☆  
☆ Rivka Alal ☆  
☆ as the new Office Administrator. ☆  
☆ Rivka brings with her many years of ☆  
☆ office experience after running a family ☆  
☆ owned and operated business with her ☆  
☆ husband. ☆  
☆ Welcome to Hospice Thornhill! ☆

## What Our Volunteers Are Doing at Hospice Thornhill

- Support clients, caregivers & families at home, hospital or retirement residence
- Assist with transportation of clients to and from medical appointments
- Assist with caregiver respite or bereavement support groups
- Assist with administrative duties
- Serve on the Board of Directors
- Assist with fundraising events/committees/special events

Hospice Thornhill was established in 1987 as a non-profit organization, meant to provide community-based palliative care to ensure that all residents & their families, affected by a life threatening illness, have access to timely, compassionate, caring & quality end of life support.

**E-mail:**

info@hospicethornhill.org

**Website:**

www.hospicethornhill.org

*Our sincere apologies for any errors or omissions .*



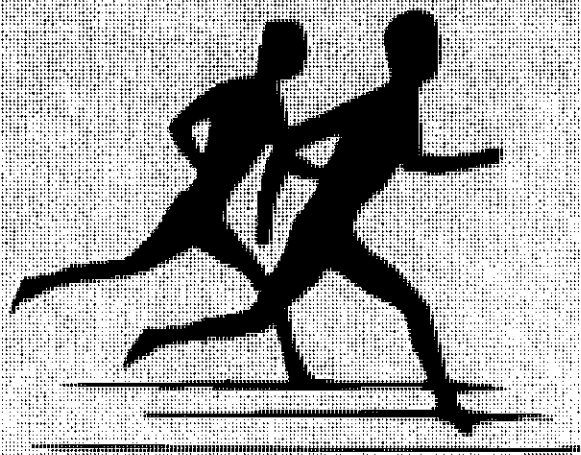
Chairman of the Board Allan Goodman  
Executive Director Terry S. Winston



220 Charlton Ave. Thornhill, ON L4J 6H2 Phone: 905-764-0656 Fax: 905-764-6963



Hospice Thornhill Presents...  
Run For A Loved One

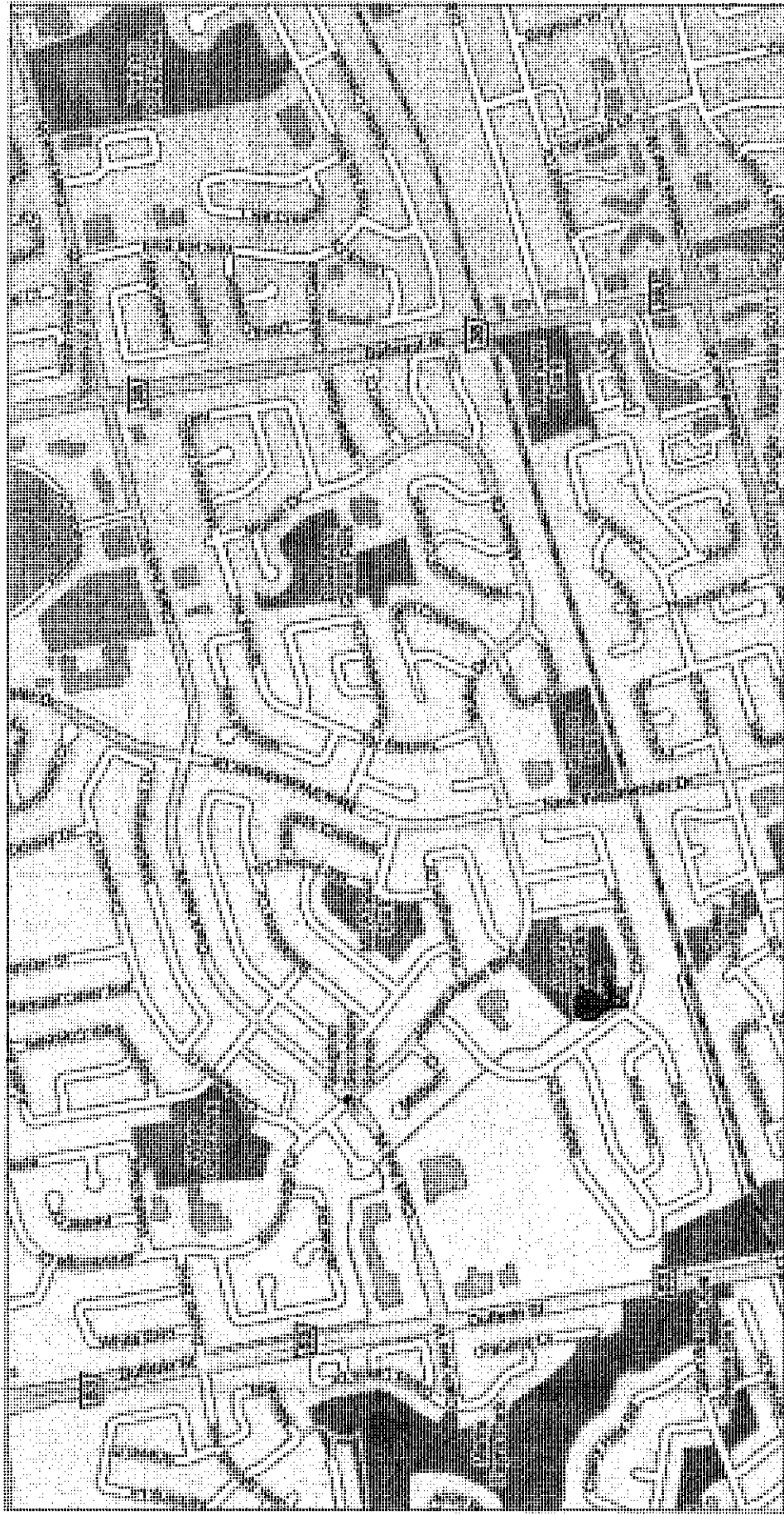


5K Run  
2K Family Run/Walk  
Sunday, May 1, 2011

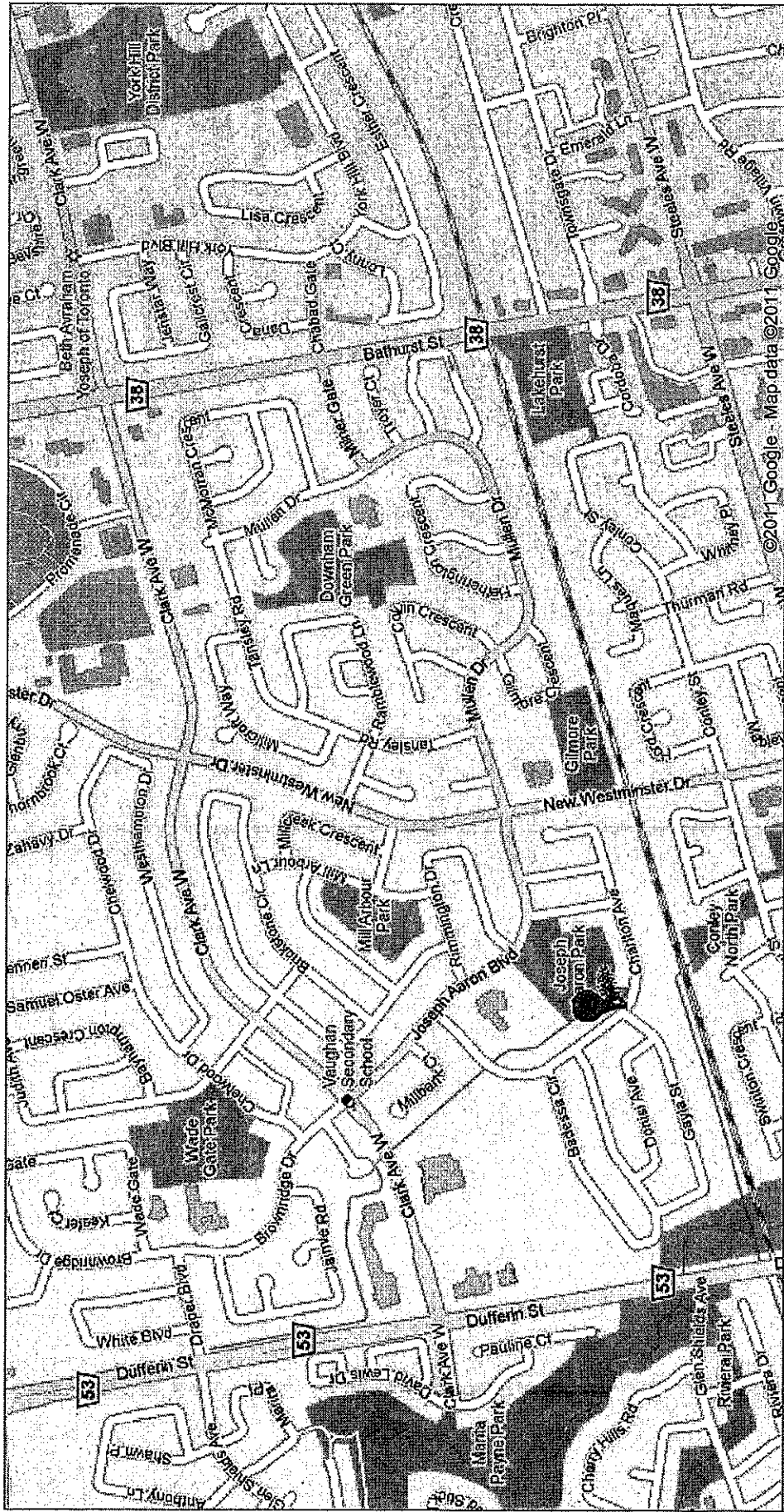
For registration information visit <http://www.events.runningroom.com/site/?areaid=6419>

Email Joy at [jlevy@bellnet.ca](mailto:jlevy@bellnet.ca) or call 905-764-0656 for further details.

To see all the details that are visible on the screen, use the "Print" link next to the map.



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LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ POSTAL CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY. TAX RECEIPTS ISSUED FOR PLEDGES \$10.00+

SPONSOR NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	PHONE	AMOUNT	REMARKS
<i>i.e. Ms. Julie Smith</i>	<i>7777 Bathurst St, Thornhill</i>	<i>L4J 7V1</i>	<i>905-123-4567</i>	<i>\$40.00</i>	
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Total Money Collected



*Enhancing the quality of life for individuals and families facing life-threatening illness or grief*

## **Heartlines Bereavement Programs**

*Find: support, comfort, compassion.*

### **Grief & Bereavement Support**

- ☼ **Closed 8 week Psycho-Educational groups for the Newly Bereaved**
- ☼ **Ongoing open groups addressing specific loss: i.e. spouse, child, youth, suicide**
- ☼ **One-on-One Companionship Support**
- ☼ **Informal activities for Bereaved i.e.: Gardening Club, Knitting Circle**
- ☼ **Wheelchair accessible**
- ☼ **Safe & Friendly Environment**
- ☼ **Free of Charge**

*Heartline Programs are by registration only*

## **Volunteers**

- ☼ **In-home client visitation**
- ☼ **Specialized core-concept training for all volunteers & bereavement facilitators**
- ☼ **Fundraising, special event & governance committees**
- ☼ **Volunteer appreciation events**
- ☼ **Ongoing training & education**
- ☼ **Providing an assortment of hands-on volunteer opportunities**

*All participants require an assessment by Hospice-Thornhill.*



**Hospice Thornhill**  
220 Charlton Avenue  
Thornhill, Ontario L4J 6H2  
905-764-0656 Fax: 905-764-6963  
Email: [info@hospicethornhill.org](mailto:info@hospicethornhill.org)  
Website: [www.hospicethornhill.org](http://www.hospicethornhill.org)  
Charitable No. 11896 3792-RR0001

*Ensuring the highest quality of end-of-life care to individuals & their families facing life threatening illness or grief.*

***Serving the Thornhill Community since 1987***



*Enhancing the quality of life for individuals and families facing life-threatening illness or grief*

## **The Gathering Place**

*Together we can make a difference.*

### **Day Respite Program**

- ☼ Free of Charge to those dealing with a life-threatening illness
- ☼ Special Guest Speakers & Programs
- ☼ Complementary Therapies
- ☼ Outings, special holiday & celebration events
- ☼ Art & Music Therapy
- ☼ Transportation to and from program available
- ☼ Wheelchair accessible
- ☼ Safe & Friendly Environment
- ☼ Nutritious snacks & small meal provided

*The Gathering Place is by registration only*

## **Palliative Support**

- ☼ In-home client visitation
- ☼ Non-medical assistance with meals, shopping etc.
- ☼ Transportation to & from medical appointments
- ☼ Telephone support
- ☼ Complementary Therapies

*All participants require an assessment by Hospice-Thornhill.*



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*Ensuring the highest quality of end-of-life care to individuals & their families facing life threatening illness or grief.*

***Serving the Thornhill Community since 1987***

There is NO charge for any of our services. Operating costs are funded through:

- Individual donations
- Hospice Thornhill special events and programs
- Bequests
- Memorial donations
- Corporate donations

## Annual Events

We offer the following programs and events:

- On-going volunteer training and education
- Annual volunteer appreciation events
- Annual Hospice Thornhill Gala and Silent Auction
- Memorial services
- Community outreach information
- Awareness/Education programs

For up-to-date event details please visit us at [www.hospicethornhill.org](http://www.hospicethornhill.org)

## Referrals

Requests for our services are welcomed and may be made by the individual, the family, friends, clergy, physicians, other healthcare professionals and community agencies.

*If you would like to become a volunteer please contact us.*



## Office Hours

Monday - Friday  
9:00am - 3:00pm

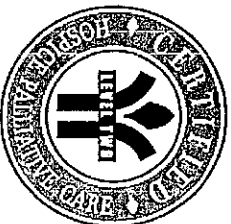
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HOSPICE ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO



HOSPICE ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

*Member of PALCARE of York Region  
Accredited Member of Hospice Association  
of Ontario*



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**Compassionate Care  
and Bereavement  
Support**

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*Enhancing the quality of life  
for individuals and families  
facing life-threatening  
illness or grief*

## Mission Statement



Hospice Thornhill provides palliative, community based care to ensure that all residents and their families, affected by a life-threatening illness have access to timely, compassionate and caring 'end of life' and grief support.

## Service Area

We provide services to the Thornhill communities of the Town of Markham and the City of Vaughan.

## Cultural & Religious Awareness

Clients of Hospice Thornhill reflect the multiculturalism of our community. We strive to recognize and be sensitive to our diversities while serving our clients with dignity, compassion and respect. Any questions or requests in this regard are always welcome.

## Community Awareness

A key focus of Hospice Thornhill is to inform, educate and increase awareness of palliative and hospice care in our community. This includes residents, businesses, religious organizations, service organization, the medical community and political leaders.



*Hospice Thornhill is a non-profit agency founded in 1987 to serve the people of Thornhill. Services are provided by trained volunteers.*

## Services

If you or someone you know has a life-threatening illness, Hospice Thornhill can help.

The following services are offered free of charge:

- In-home client visitation
- Non-medical assistance with meals, telephone support, shopping, etc.
- Transportation to and from medical appointments
- Weekly day respite program - "The Gathering Place"
- Complementary therapies
- Caregiver support group
- Anticipatory grief support
- One-on-one bereavement support
- Respite care for family & friends
- Bereavement support groups
- Partnership in a multidisciplinary team of caregivers



## Volunteers

- Support clients, caregivers and families at home, hospital or retirement residence
- Assist with transportation of clients to and from medical appointments
- Assist with caregiver respite or bereavement support groups
- Assist with administrative duties
- Serve on the Board of Directors
- Assist with fundraising events/committees/ special events
- Promote public awareness

## Hospice Thornhill Needs Your Help!

Enclosed is my donation of:

- \$18  \$25  \$50  \$100  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Visa  Visa # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry / Name \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make a monthly donation of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make an annual donation of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make cheques payable to:

Hospice Thornhill

220 Charton Avenue

Thornhill, Ontario L4J 6H2

Please send me additional information about Hospice Thornhill and its services.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Charitable Tax Receipts will be issued upon receipt of donation. Registration Charity #11896 3792 RR0001





Joy Levy

Volunteer Program Coordinator

220 Charlton Avenue  
Thornhill, Ontario L4J 6H2

Phone: 905-764-0656 ext. 224

Fax: 905-764-6963

E-mail: [jlevy@bellnet.ca](mailto:jlevy@bellnet.ca)

Website: [www.hospicethornhill.org](http://www.hospicethornhill.org)

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CARIBANA™

# CARIBANA™ NORTH

*“Bringing the Caribana™ Festival to the city of Vaughan”*





CARIBANA™

The Caribana™ North Festival is an inaugural event that aims to extend the Caribana brand that has been a yearly event in the city of Toronto to the Regional Municipality of York.

The Festival supports the ECONOMIC and CULTURAL priorities in Vaughan and will have a major developmental impact upon the region and communities in the area.

ECONOMICALLY:

The Toronto Caribana™ parade and events brings in over 430 million dollars each year to the local economy (hotels, restaurants, city venues, small business, corporations, shops, malls).

CULTURALLY:

Caribana™ North supports the diversity strategy of Vaughan and provides an opportunity for different cultures to enjoy the rich history of the Caribana™ parade and festival and culture of the Caribbean, Latin America and Africa in their own backyards.



## **The Caribana™ North Planning Committee:**

Winston La Rose, Co-Chair, Caribana™ Cultural Committee

Shernett Martin, Executive Director Vaughan African Canadian Association

Dennis Keshniro, Executive Director, BELKA Enrichment Center

Lionel Howell, Vice President, Vaughan Basketball Association

Sandi Folkes

Beverly Samuel



## **2010 City of Vaughan Diversity Strategy**

- *To invite cultural groups to partner with Council to proclaim days of recognition for significant holidays and events and encourage community displays and celebrations of cultural diversity associated with such events.*
- *To integrate activities showcasing the cultures and traditions of diverse groups and include cultural activities in events and celebrations by the city or in partnership with groups and associations, in key community and corporate events and celebrations.*
- *To develop programs that facilitate cultural expression and invite groups and citizens to participate in these programs to foster community pride and participation.*



## **2005 Vaughan Tourism Strategy**

### **Strategic Directions**

**To promote Vaughan to outside sports, cultural and corporate event planners.**

### **Caribana™ North promotes Vaughan's Tourism Strategy:**

Vaughan will see an influx of residents from York Region, Peel, Toronto and across the GTA who will take part in the Caribana™ festivities. This will provide our city with an opportunity to promote its signature attractions.



## **2005 Vaughan Tourism Strategy**

**To Facilitate Best in Class Community Events & Festivals by Providing technical and planning support to community event organizers. Ensure that City resources are adequately deployed.**

### **Caribana™ North promotes Vaughan's Tourism Strategy:**

The Caribana™ North planning committee will work in partnership with the City of Vaughan, Vaughan Police and Fire Department, local businesses and community organizations to ensure this inaugural event exceeds expectations.



CARIBANA™

## **Proposed Events:**

The Caribana™ North Events will take place from July 1, 2011 to August 6, 2011. Events will take place across the city of Vaughan at various locations.

### **Event #1**

Saturday, July 2, 2011

Caribana™ North -Vaughan Opening Gala (Dinner/Dance Banquet Hall)

### **Event #2**

Sunday, July 3, 2011

Caribana™ North Community Festival: Food, Culture and Music (Outdoor)





CARIBANA™

### **Proposed Events:**

The Caribana™ North Events will take place from July 1, 2011 to August 6, 2011. Events will take place across the city of Vaughan at various locations.

#### **Event #3**

Saturday, July 16, 2011

Caribana™ North Youth Day (Vellore CC)

(3 on 3 basketball tournament with the Vaughan Basketball Association, Vaughan Idol, “Teach me how to Dougie” dance contest, Cultural performances, Steel pan drumming)

#### **Event #4**

Saturday, July 23, 2011

Caribana™ North Fashion Show and Dinner/Dance (Banquet Hall)



CARIBANA™

## **Proposed Events:**

The Caribana™ North Events will take place from July 1, 2011 to August 6, 2011. Events will take place across the city of Vaughan at various locations.

### **Event #5**

Saturday, July 30, 2011

Caribana™ North Speaker series, International Colloquialism, Black history museum (Francis Jeffers) Artisan and Community group displays (Vellore CC)

### **Event #6**

Saturday, August 6, 2011

Caribana™ North Live performances (Soca, Calypso, Reggae artists Outdoors)



## **Projected Needs:**

- City of Vaughan support and sponsorship
- Funding
- City Resources
- Networking with various stakeholders across city
- Staff to assist with planning/volunteering on committee
- Facilities bookings
- Security & Policing
- Corporate sponsorship
- Marketing/Advertising
- Media outreach
- Attendance at events/Ribbon cutting at Opening Gala
- Ongoing meetings and updates with the City



**Thank you for your support.**

Caribana™ Cultural Committee

Vaughan African Canadian Association

BELKA Enrichment Center

Vaughan Basketball Association

Jane and Finch Concerned Citizens Association