

MEMBER MOTION

Section 5.4.4(b) of Procedure By-law

Meeting: Committee of the Whole **X** Council

Meeting Date: December 11, 2018

Subject/Title: Closure of Buttonville Airport Air Traffic Control Tower

Submitted by: Mayor Barrow

Whereas NAV CANADA announced in November 2018 the closure of the Buttonville Airport Air Traffic Control Tower, effective January 3, 2019 and will replace it with a mandatory radio frequency; and

Whereas located in close proximity to the Town of Richmond Hill and running parallel with Highway 404, one of Ontario's busiest highways, Buttonville Airport lies in a built up residential and business area; and

Whereas Buttonville Airport is also located on the busiest north/south and east/west air route in Canada and on the main approach to two runways at Toronto Pearson International Airport, Canada's largest and busiest airport by aircraft movements (it is approximately 14 nautical miles north of Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport and approximately 16 nautical miles northeast of Toronto Pearson International Airport); and

Whereas it was previously understood that there would be a decline in operations and a full closure of the airport in the coming years, Buttonville Airport will remain open for at least five more years and this has caused air traffic volume to increase; and

Whereas with an increase of aircraft movement, as well as the existing high amount of air traffic in the region due to two nearby international airports, it would pose a safety risk to cease any air traffic control operations at Buttonville Airport;

Now therefore Be It Resolved that the Town of Richmond Hill deems the closure of the control tower unacceptable and is concerned with the safety risks posed by a closure of the air traffic control tower and would have preferred to have been consulted in the decision by NAV CANADA; and

(continued)

Be It Further Resolved that the Town of Richmond Hill advise The Honourable Marc Garneau, MP, Minister of Transport, that the Town of Richmond Hill does not support the closure of the control tower at Buttonville Airport and asks him to intervene to reverse the decision before the closure of the control tower on January 3, 2019; and

Be It Finally Resolved that a copy of this resolution be circulated to The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister, as well as local MP's and MPP's.

Moved by: Mayor Barrow

Seconded by: