WHEREAS, the Government of Ontario has announced a review of Ontario’s eight regional municipalities (Durham, Halton, Muskoka District, Niagara, Oxford County, Peel, Waterloo, York), the County of Simcoe, and their lower-tier municipalities by appointed Special Advisors; and

WHEREAS, the provincially appointed advisory body will develop recommendations for the Minister for the purpose of improving governance, decision-making and service delivery in the regions, Simcoe County and their lower-tier municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario informed its members that last August, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing began informal discussions, wishing to hear from people about how this system of governance is working recognizing it was established in the 1970s; and

WHEREAS, the provincially appointed advisory body has included in the review consideration of what reforms could be made to promote better representation.

WHEREAS City of Richmond Hill is committed to providing high quality services, keeping costs as low as possible for our residents and ensuring financial sustainability of our municipality; and

WHEREAS 96 per cent of residents are satisfied with the quality of City services provided according to a 2016 community survey; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the City of Richmond Hill endorse the current effectiveness of our two-tier municipal government as it has evolved on mutual agreement with our partner local municipalities and the Region of York since its foundation in 1971;
THAT the Mayor write to the Premier and Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing indicating Council’s support for the current Local and Regional structure and that a change to the structure in York by the Provincial Government would be disruptive and wasteful;

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Premier, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Richmond Hill Members of Provincial Parliament, Chairman of the Region of York, The Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the eight other Municipalities in the Region of York.

Moved by: Mayor Barrow
Seconded by: