

From: Cheryl Lewandowski
To: Clerks Richmondhill
Sent: Fri 5/24/2019 10:41 AM
Subject: May 28 meeting, plastics motion

Dear City Clerk,

Unfortunately I cannot attend the council meeting on May 28, 2019. Please accept this note in my absence. I would like to voice my support of the Single Use Plastics Motion. It is high time the City of Richmond Hill develop strategies to deal with excess plastic waste in the community. It adorns every walkway and hangs like ugly Christmas ornaments on trees. It has been estimated that nearly 80 percent of plastics in water ways come from the land. It has been found in our drinking water and is negatively impacting our wildlife. There are many examples of plastic's negative impacts and many solutions being implemented by various agencies and other municipalities.

It was a proud moment in March 2015 when "Town" council unanimously supported its citizen's right to a healthy environment. It is also encouraging that many Councillors say that they support Richmond Hill citizen's environment as indicated by the following quotes....

Beros "Our residents safety and the environment protection is why we were elected."

Perrelli "..., thank you for caring about our environment.

It is clear that you and I have the same values as they pertain to the environment.

I am a strong supporter of both the Oak Ridges Moraine and the Greenbelt."

Joe DiPaola "I have long been active in fighting for environmentally sensitive lands in Richmond Hill, dating back to February 2000 when, as a councillor, I voted against any development in the Oak Ridges Moraine. At that time Richmond Hill froze all development in the north end of Richmond Hill and asked the provincial government to step in. The result was the creation of the Oak Ridges Moraine Act.

During the election, at the Regional Councillor's Forum, each candidate was asked what their most important issue was. My answer was the preservation of the 1000 Acres of protected lands that we are fortunate to have in Richmond Hill."

I find it disappointing that the City has taken so long to address the plastics issue. It is time for words to translate into action. This motion can only be seen as a positive step forward and should be passed unanimously. If my memory serves me, I believe it was Mr. Beros and/or Mr. Muench that said the "Town's" declaration for the right to a healthy environment does not go far enough. It is reasonable, and in my opinion imperative, to request a staff report to explore options and recommend solutions in a timely manner, to reduce plastic in our community. Adopting this motion will address an additional step the City of Richmond Hill needs to take to ensure a healthy environment. Let us try to maintain Richmond Hill's image as "A little north, a little nicer".

Best Regards,

Cheryl Lewandowski

17 Gallacher Avenue,

Long-time resident of Richmond Hill