From: Diane Wilmot
To: Clerks Richmondhill
Sent: Mon 5/27/2019 7:44 PM
Subject: Member motion for Council of the Whole Meeting May 28, 2019

Please consider this email my opposition to the captioned Members Motion by Mr. Perrelli where there be only one sitting chair for the Council of the Whole meetings for the remainder of this term.

Mr. Perrelli states that maintaining consistency would be beneficial for staff and residents. However, consistency at the possible detriment of democracy and diversity is not, I believe, an enhancement in the advancement of policies, agendas and plans for a healthy and vibrant Richmond Hill.

He states that every Councillor has a different approach to chairing meetings. This is exactly the point that each Councillor represents their community in their own unique ways. They bring their own voice for their residents' benefit.

He indicates that "many Councillors have expressed that they do not wish to continue the custom of rotating Committee of the Whole Chairs", and " many Councillors have expressed that they do not wish to take a turn Chairing the Committee of the Whole". Many is not all. While I do not know exactly how/when this policy was implemented, nor do I know the effects of, or how an individual Councillor can "withdraw" from this role, I believe that if an individual Councillor wishes to withdraw, they can have that right if their ward residents agree, and the others who wish to continue to rotate, may do so. This role should be re-addressed at the beginning of each term.

Furthermore, in the interests of bettering the opportunity for advancement of all Councillors (should they choose), and the opportunity for the residents of Richmond Hill to have evenly experienced Councillors, it stands to reason that all Councillors should have the opportunity to learn from the experience of chairing various types of meetings, especially when they hear from and/or represent the diversity of their individual wards at these meetings.

Diane Wilmot

7 Timber Valley Avenue

Richmond Hill