

From:
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2019 2:55 PM
To: Clerks Richmondhill <clerks@richmondhill.ca>
Cc: David West <david.west@richmondhill.ca>
Subject: Regarding Nov20th Agenda - On Council Times

Dear Clerks of the Town of Richmond Hill,

I wish to express my person view as a taxpayer and voter of Richmond Hill Ward 4 regarding the permanent move to have council meetings at 9:30am as proposed as a motion by Councillor DiPaola. This view is not reflective of that of any group or organization, including the Richmond Hill Board of Trade, to which I am or may be associated and I make it entirely and completely on my own accord and for myself alone.

This motion, specifically to move Council meetings and Committees of the Whole to 9:30 am permanently, makes it impractical for residents who work for a living and pay taxes and for business owners who have to conduct business during regular business hours (both cases apply to me personally), to participate in the democratic process in Richmond Hill. Democracy is not just about voting once every four years. It is about being involved in the community, potentially making submissions to Council, and observing how our representatives conduct themselves. This move will put undue hardship on our democratic right to participate in the goings on at City Council. In my submission of February 25, 2019, I expressed these concerns. To reiterate, I find this move to the busiest time of responsibility for workers and business owners, to be even more difficult to rationally justify. The move to 9:30 will make participation virtually impossible. I find it obstructive to those who may wish to participate in the democratic process and hold our representatives to account. The move prevents awareness of positive support, and of criticisms and protest of items that may come up in future for which residents may wish to support or object. This motion restricts access and the ability to scrutinize the actions and decisions of our representatives, and as such, I am, in the strongest terms, against this permanent time move, and do not think it serves the City or its population in a positive way. I ask that this motion be summarily and immediately withdrawn from consideration.

Sincerely,

Randall S. Becker
Resident, Richmond Hill Ward 4
56 Theobalds Circle