

June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

To: All council/committee members and staff

Re: June 23<sup>rd</sup> Council Meeting, Agenda item 14.2 - Member Motion -  
Councillor Muench - Mayor Dave Barrow Return

I find Councillor Muench's motion to rescind the resolution granting Mayor Barrow Medical Leave of Absence, passed at the February 24, 2021 Council meeting (Agenda Item 15.1) , and confirmed by By-law 29-21, particularly galling.

During those February 24<sup>th</sup> discussions, Member Perrelli went as far as to say: *"Your chair will stay vacant **forever** until you decide sir that you're ready to come back. That's my commitment to you."* However, at a May 26<sup>th</sup> meeting, Member Perrelli stated: *"That at no time when I voted on this did I ever anticipate that this would be a carte blanche unlimited timeless motion to extend for **a year and a half**."* Hearing this makes me wonder how it is that *"forever"* is less than *"a year and a half?"*

When Council members unanimously granted the resolution, council members were fully aware that they were doing so for **medical reasons** and that it was for an **undetermined amount of time**. This was clearly identified in paragraph one of the adopted minutes for this motion.

What I find particularly galling about this motion coming before council is the assertion that the original resolution should be rescinded because Mayor Dave Barrow was seen out and about, was talkative and appeared to be in fine health. To this I say there are many people suffering with medical conditions who, from the outside, appear happy or content to others. However, on the inside they may be experiencing all kinds of distressful symptoms. Councillor Muench's motion is an affront to anyone who has suffered with a long-term illness.

It is further galling that Councillor Muench would downplay the relevance of someone else's medical need when he cites "medical reasons" for his travel outside of Canada amid a province-wide lockdown during the pandemic.

It will be another sad day in Richmond Hill municipal politics should someone actually second this motion let alone forcing council members to have to vote on it.

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