

To: All Councillors, Acting Mayor, the clerk

From: Pat Pollock

Re: Council Meeting, October 13.2021

Item 13.2 [SRCM.21.12 - Clarification on Regional and Local Councillor Enviro Day Event Exemption](#)

I am a resident of Richmond Hill for 45 years, a leader of a Residents Association and a taxpayer. I am very concerned about the actions of certain members of this council right from the inception of this term of office. Who knows what will happen today?

Because I am concerned about behaviour, I turn to the Richmond Hill Code of Conduct for guidance as to what is appropriate and what is inappropriate and punishable. Over this term and more recently in the context of the Enviro Day Event, Regional and Local Councillor Perrelli has contravened at least three sections of that code:

7.5: No Member shall: (a) publicly criticize individual Staff in a way that casts aspersions on their professional competence and credibility; this happened at the last Council meeting when we note between timestamp 1:40 and 1:42 an altercation between the City Manager Mary Ann Dempster and Regional Councillor Perrelli, comments that contravene the Respect in the Workplace Policy and the Human Rights and Workplace policy. The Chair ruled against Perrelli and in favour of the City Manager. This is a breach of the Code of Conduct as well as two other policies.

7.6: The content of any Member's communications, regardless of method of communication, shall be accurate, honest and respectful of other persons, including other Members, Staff and the public. We have had 2 printed flyers for the Enviro Day Event where Perrelli has given information that is incomplete and therefore not truly honest. At Council on May 5, 2021 when the Events Policy was discussed, Perrelli stated that he was committed to people and couldn't change his event. Now we find out that his sponsorship does NOT cover all of the expenses of exchanging green and blue bins, hence it is not a FREE exchange. Since the taxpayers of Richmond Hill are footing the bill this should have been a City initiative, not an exercise in self-aggrandizement by one Councillor.

9.2: Members are required to adhere to all other by-laws, policies, procedures and rules (collectively "policies") that govern the behaviour of Members, including, but not limited to, those policies set out in Appendix B. Perrelli claims that he was exempt from this Events policy. My interpretation of the discussion on May 5, 2021 is that it is the timing that he was concerned about, not the sponsorship, as indicated above.

Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, sections 2, 3, and 5 indicates that Perrelli must recuse himself and declare pecuniary interest for the discussion and debate of item 13.2. If he does not, he is in contravention of the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act.

As illustrated, Regional and Local Councillor Perrelli has breached many Code of Conduct items as well as the Respect of the Workplace Policy and the Human Rights and Workplace Policy. And if he does not declare pecuniary interest today he is in breach of the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act. Why does he feel that he is above those policies, procedures and Acts? Is there not a recourse for his misbehaviour? In Councillor Muench's terms, this is not "good governance".

I request that this submission be made part of the Public Record.

Pat Pollock
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