

**From:** Alexis San

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 5, 2022 11:53 AM

**To:** Clerks Richmondhill <[clerks@richmondhill.ca](mailto:clerks@richmondhill.ca)>

**Subject:** Regarding member motion 14.1- Land Acknowledgement

Dear City Staff and Council,

I have been following the progress (or lack thereof) of creating a Land Acknowledgement for the City of Richmond Hill council meetings. First off, it is embarrassing, to say the least, that it has taken this long. Secondly, after paying close attention to the progression of events since November of last year where it was referred back to staff that the steps forward would include consultation with the IAC and other Indigenous community members.

That brings us to last month's meeting where the IAC submitted a Land Acknowledgement that was inclusive and respectful of the Indigenous people that were here before us and it was somehow decided that the city of Richmond Hill go on to consult with Shared Path paying a fee of \$18,000? I am wondering if that fee is somehow collected from your salaries because if not that decision is utterly appalling and frankly disgusting. In today's world (or any world really) how would you think that paying an exorbitant fee to another agency when the IAC is/was willing to consult with you for free is remotely an acceptable decision? My mouth literally dropped as I watched this unfold. I can only infer that you feel that Richmond Hill is somehow in a class of its own and does not need a Land Acknowledgement, this has turned into a pissing contest amongst the councillors, there is a personal grudge against members of the IAC for calling out that the originally proposed land acknowledgement was, in fact, a Treaty Acknowledgement, that you don't value the voices of your Indigenous community members in this matter and that you have a blatant disregard for taxpayers money. I am not sure which of the above holds true but let it be known as a resident, taxpayer and human being that is the way the actions and decisions regarding this matter are appearing. I can only appeal to you to fix this because it is nothing less than unacceptable.

Regards,  
Concerned Resident,  
Alexis Sang