



*"Informed citizens organized for constructive action!"*

May 12, 2008

City of Vaughan  
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive  
Vaughan, ON L6A 1T1

cc: Mayor and all Members of Council

## **OPEN LETTER**

Ladies and gentlemen:

Let me state how disappointed I am with what transpired today at Council. I know very well that people are not to speak on an item before Council however, when staff is allowed to make incorrect and misleading statements and name individuals, those particular individuals **MUST HAVE** the right to rebuttal. Being accused of lying is something I do not take lightly, and I should have been afforded the opportunity to clear my name. This is not the first time staff has failed miserably in their task to notify us of upcoming studies. The Kipling Corridor Study is the first that comes to mind.

As I have stated, it was staff that clearly stated that the West Woodbridge Homeowners Association was **NOT** part of the list of groups and/or particular individuals involved with O.P.A.661. Anyone that calls the Clerks Dept. asking for our contacts will be given the name and address of our contact. What does that prove?

For more than twenty years at the helm of the W.W.H.A. I have always stood up for my community. Why not this time? Why is it that none of the politicians questioned our absence from the process? Who was worried about what? I expect a written apology to be published in all the local papers from both the Commissioner of Planning and by the Mayor for allowing it to happen.

Furthermore, let me state how embarrassing it was to witness members of Council asking questions of staff that, had they read the document in the first place, they should have known the answers. Thus, clearly demonstrating that some members of Council voted on O.P.A. without reading it. What a shame!!

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In addition, speaking of voting it is my understanding that when O.P.A.661 was voted it was by a unanimous vote. Is that true? If it is I will strongly suggest that one councillor should have declared a conflict of interest. Moreover, that same councillor should have done so today as well. I guess this will be the first test for our Integrity Commissioner unless that councillor does the honourable thing and resign.

Unfortunately, that was not the end of embarrassing moments. The grand standing and the love of listening to themselves made some members look really foolish and most of the public, which had never attended a Council meeting before, could not believe what they were witnessing.

The failure of councillor Carella's motion to carry was not only a disappointment for the residents, but it was also a serious declaration by Council of its abdication of any and all decision making powers it has in favour of any and all developers that may come along. To justify the "games" played by some Council members, the O.M.B. was demonized in an attempt to generate fear among the residents. I believe the Board, if ever gets that far, will not have many pleasant comments about the O.P.A and of Vaughan Council for approving such a document. How will anyone justify sending a document to a higher level of government that contains misinformation?

Ladies and gentlemen, if this is the modus operandi adopted by this administration then it is time for "mutatis mutandis" in other words it is time to change and that change can only come by your resignations. At least it will save the taxpayers of Vaughan some money.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nick Pinto', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Nick Pinto.  
W.W.H.A. President