

**C48**  
**COMMUNICATION**  
**COUNCIL – June 28, 2022**  
**CW (2) - Report No. 30, Item 38**

**From:** [Clerks@vaughan.ca](mailto:Clerks@vaughan.ca)  
**To:** [Adelina Bellisario](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [External] Please include for June 28th meeting as a response to C25 (CVHA Communication)  
**Date:** June-27-22 11:28:23 AM

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**From:** HP [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 27, 2022 11:28 AM  
**To:** Clerks@vaughan.ca  
**Cc:** Council@vaughan.ca  
**Subject:** [External] Please include for June 28th meeting as a response to C25 (CVHA Communication)

Dear Vaughan City Cleks,

I am responding to communication that was referenced by W4 councillor during June 21<sup>st</sup>, 1pm CW(2) meeting but was not available to the public until June 25<sup>th</sup> on city website.

**Response to Barry Harte of CVHA**

Barry Harte has not acknowledged in his C25 communication that my suggestion of creating three districts for house league all contained within borders of CoV is in the public interest instead choosing to provide irrelevant platitudes about CVHA's accomplishments. I also reject Gus Michaels comment that CVHA is a "thriving" organization on June 21<sup>st</sup> 1pm meeting. For further context please read below.

Hiten Patel response to C25 for June 28<sup>th</sup> from Barry Harte (representing CVHA) dated June 21<sup>st</sup> published June 25<sup>th</sup>

Barry Harte (BH): Having reviewed the submissions, I would like to address on behalf of the CVHA our history as CSO serving the City of Vaughan Residents and concerns over misleading representations submitted.

***Hiten Patel (HP): What exactly is misleading in communications C19 and C15?***

BH The CVHA was established in 1991 when the Associations of Maple, Thornhill and Woodbridge amalgamated coinciding with Vaughan becoming a city.

***HP: Vaughan's population more than tripled since 1991 to about 350,000 in 2022, it is important to have at least three districts for house league hockey in present day Vaughan. Amalgamation never meant to have one district or two districts. At least three districts are needed for such a high population fast approaching 400,000 well before end of this decade.***

BH Recognizing and responding to the needs of the city as a whole, establishing a constitution and democratic voting system for all of its representing executive board members, for which takes place at our Annual General meeting which is announced and

posted publicly. Ensuring full transparency and input from our membership.

***HP: When elections at 2023 AGM take place for President, who can challenge the seat? The constitution eliminates everyone but the three VPs who can challenge (provided they are Vaughan residents; I believe at least one is non-resident). The three Directors at Large cannot run for President. Why is that? And I believe the Treasurer and Ref-in-Chief would not be able challenge the President seat. So at best only 3 individuals qualify and they would have to give up their current seat to run for President. Correct? That is not democratic at all! Imagine if the only persons being able to run for Mayor of Vaughan were the three sitting local/regional councilors or only Ward councilors were able to run as local/regional councilors. Are you expecting to serve beyond 13 years?***

BH The CVHA participates in all 6 community arenas/facilities (Woodbridge, Al Palladini, Maple, Rosemount, Garnet Williams and the Sports Village).

***HP: This is exactly why three districts (one or even two districts at six locations is not house league) are needed so house league participants can stay in their district for practices/skills and half (if cross district games needed) or all (if enough teams to keep within district) of their games. Otherwise, Vaughan is too large to be one district. No other team sport or even figure skating has city-wide jurisdiction on ice permits. Vaughan has three federal/provincial ridings. Please don't mis-use your office as president to maintain only one district forever.***

BH is the largest minor hockey program in the greater Toronto area with over 2500 participants in our community based program, servicing the needs of all ages within our Learn to Play, House League, Select and Competitive level programs.

***HP: Of course CVHA it is the largest in the GTA having control over 350,000 residents. But if you break down the house league portion of the 2,500 players then not enough are playing within Vaughan. No other house league district in Canada has more than 150,000 residents.***

BH Registered within Hockey Canada and the Ontario Hockey Federation, for which our players participate within the GTHL (Greater Toronto Hockey League) and North York Hockey League.

***Okay, but why is Vaughan the only York Region municipality that cannot participate in York-Simcoe MHL? Why not cease membership with North York Hockey League and instead have a tiered league like Mississauga Hockey League?***

BH The CVHA is a representation of the entire community and strive to involve and introduce a greater participation of our diverse community.  
As recent as 2015 we introduced our CVHA programming to our Ahmadiyya Muslim community which led to the establishment of a Learn to Play program for the Ahmadiyya community, successfully introducing over 250 children to this game.

In the same year, our Jewish Community Centre program and CVHA embarked on a partnership and relationship that resulted in a House League and Select level hockey program for participants. This program has also been a very successful partnership in bringing hockey to more families within Vaughan.

We continue to create strategic plans to service our community. As well as seeking funding collectively to help offset costs and subsidize some of the programming needs.

***HP: All nonprofits need to be dynamic and have strategic plans. Should having three districts not be part of a strategic plan? Practices, skills, community engagement needs to happen at the local level based on geography first before ethnic or religious groups. Games can be played across districts within the three Vaughan districts if not enough teams within a district to have a proper league/division. Would it not be good for the Ahmadiyya Muslim community to have house league based out of only Maple Arena and maybe Sports Village as the second location. As you may know the city is looking to control and operate Sports Village so more CSO ice could be available soon as this upcoming season or 23-24 season. Would it also not be good to have JCC house league working together so that all along the Bathurst corridor can play and be integrated in the same house league in the Thornhill-Vaughan arenas. This way JCC and non-JCC teams can play in the same house league except JCC does not play during Jewish holi-days and Shabbat.***

BH We have the infrastructure and experience to continue to lead the community in an inclusive and strategic way to the benefit of all the members under our umbrella.

***HP: Infrastructure? Yes, you have exclusive control of hockey ice time and there is no ice allocation that would re-calibrate allocations with other CSOs. Also there is no control to ensure house leagues get their fair share of ice times. So when house league participation drops which has happened drastically last ten years, that subsidized ice is given to select/rep teams who each get 3+ hours per team per week at the same rate as house league programs are charged. This is why CVHA has low ice costs for select/rep teams.***

BH We are proud of the establishing of our Diversity, Equity and Inclusive Committee within our program, to positively reflect and promote hockey within this community, maintaining a safe, enjoyable and welcoming environment for all. Our committee is comprised of former players of ethnicity and genders, member of our Ahmadiyya Muslim Community program, member of our Jewish Community Centre program and are extremely fortunate to have Laura Stacy (Vaughan Alumni –Member of Team Canada Woman's Hockey Team) accept the invitation to be a part of our committee.

***HP: Creating three districts would ensure these programs can stay within their local area for all practices/skills and half or all games. That is the best way to build and support DEI values and initiatives. Keep things at the local level so that various ethnic and religious communities can integrate locally with those outside of their social groups.***

BH It was a pleasure to take part in the Community Service Organization and Facility Allocation Policy Review. The open dialogue with our other community hockey program representatives, Al Doria (Vaughan Kings), Toros Assadourian (Vaughan Panthers) and the city representatives was very constructive and respectful of each other's programming needs, as well as discussing the successfulness of some of the community programming initiatives for which we have undertaken.

***I was at that meeting. There was no open dialogue. Was I not respectful? Why not***

**mention me? What was so successful about the meeting since CVHA had nothing to lose. Why do you always need to claim that you are a volunteer?**

BH I have personally been involved with hockey in the Vaughan Community for over 30 years, which has given me great pride to be a part of and look forward to better years ahead, developing a broader enjoyable program for all.

**HP: Yes, but you have ties to NYHL and City of Toronto, correct? Do you believe CVHA Select teams playing non-CVHA Select teams that need to play house league creates a fair playing field? You do realize that Select leagues tap into house league where players in clubs outside of CVHA have to play on house league to play Select. It appears to be in the MOU with NYHL.**

BH: Kids can play in any jurisdiction without restriction of residency, for which is a good thing. We are proud of the ability to retain participants within our program, for which we well exceed our CSO residency requirement and are averaging over 90% residency.

**HP: House league already has no residency restriction under Hockey Canada. Too many Vaughan residents are displaced outside Vaughan for all levels house league/select/rep. There is plenty of ice but instead it is being used for 3-4 hours per rep/select for practices alone.**

BH As president of the CVHA one of the largest and most successful CSO's in the COV I have a question as to the standing of a non-Vaughan CSO, specifically THC, in this Committee of the Whole Report. I seek to better understand the rational of including a non-Vaughan CSO in this discussion.

**HP: What is "THC"? I take it you mean TCHL (Markham CSO). I agree with you on this as TCHL already get extra ice on Markham side for L4J residents so no need for them to get ice on Vaughan side of Thornhill. But the question is why do they get extra ice time in Markham for Vaughan L4J? It is because very few Vaughan L4J kids play in CVHA. They go to neighbouring clubs like TCHL (Markham), Goulding Park as well as Richmond Hill, and King Township as their house leagues are in one location (or two close together).**

BH Our membership does include participants from all the varying communities in Vaughan and our programming is established to ensure local participation.

**HP: Again vast majority of Thornhill (both upper and lower Thornhill east of Dufferin) residents don't play in CVHA other than those who need Shabbat accommodations will play with JCC house league. JCC HL is only offered once per week (they don't have separate days for practice/skills and games). Otherwise they must go to Avenue Road house league in mid Toronto to gain Shabbat accommodation.**

BH The level of experience and development that our Association offers its participants is 2<sup>nd</sup> to none. We ensure the quality of development and coaching meets the highest standards established by Hockey Canada.

**HP: What does this mean? Each rep/select teams operates as a separate unit governed by the head coach of the team. How can you ensure such a high**

**standard?**

***Let's work together to build three districts completely within Vaughan borders for house league. This will not impact Vaughan Rangers rep nor select teams except maybe they will need to take less than 3 hours of ice to support house league growth for each district. But more CSO ice is likely at Sports Village once fully under city control. Also do house league teams not also deserve full-ice practices even one hour per week if rep teams get 3+ hours of full-ice practice per wee? If three districts are created then players on the teams would be living a lot closer to each other and the arenas. This way weeknights and even after school ice can be used by house league teams and groups of participants who want extra ice time.***

***In closing, all I ask is to create three districts. It is easy to keep the status quo as you have the leverage and power to do so. Please have the courage to improve the CVHA as Vaughan's population and urban intensification continues to grow fast rendering city-wide house league not feasible nor efficient. J Cohn can be the VP for Maple-Concord district. A Magagna can be the VP for Woodbridge-Kleinberg district and for Thornhill-Carrville it could be one or a combination of L Morris, J. Blustein or me. Each division may have to be two birth years but that is how house league should work. There is no reason to have single birth year divisions like select and rep hockey.***

***Respectfully,  
Hiten Patel  
Thornhill Woods Drive***