

From: Clerks@vaughan.ca
To: [Adelina Bellisario](mailto:Adelina.Bellisario@vaughan.ca)
Subject: FW: [External] TRCA Memorandum of Understanding to be considered on December 12 2023 Council meeting: Report 52 item 7 Memorandum of Understanding with TRCA from Committee of the Whole
Date: December-11-23 11:43:26 AM

From: John MacKenzie <John.MacKenzie@trca.ca>
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2023 11:42 AM
To: Council@vaughan.ca; Clerks@vaughan.ca
Cc: Nick Spensieri <Nick.Spensieri@vaughan.ca>; Vince Musacchio <Vince.Musacchio@vaughan.ca>; Jamie Bronsema <Jamie.Bronsema@vaughan.ca>; Wendy Law <Wendy.Law@vaughan.ca>; Victoria Kramkowski <Victoria.Kramkowski@trca.ca>
Subject: [External] TRCA Memorandum of Understanding to be considered on December 12 2023 Council meeting: Report 52 item 7 Memorandum of Understanding with TRCA from Committee of the Whole

Mayor Del Duca and Members of Vaughan Council,

I am writing to you to request your support for the City of Vaughan staff recommended MOU with TRCA being considered at Vaughan Council tomorrow. As many of you know from your direct work with staff in our organization, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) and the City of Vaughan have partnered on many recent initiatives and we continue to work productively with your staff to advance numerous projects of mutual interest. Some of these projects include work on the Humber River Trail, upgrades to the Bartley Smith Greenway, and the Thornhill SNAP. The majority of TRCA's staff, which numbers over 600 contract and permanent employees, as well as our Head Office, Boyd Restoration Center and associated nursery, the Kortright Center for Conservation, Boyd Conservation Park, and other facilities are in Vaughan. Our landholdings in Vaughan are expansive and are often interwoven with City properties. TRCA has appreciated and supported opportunities to advance Vaughan priority projects on our holdings or in some cases, on shared City and TRCA holdings such as work on the Vaughan Hospice project, the Black Creek Renewal Project, Nashville Conservation Lands, North Maple Regional Park, and erosion management and restoration work across the City through the services we provide.

As a public not for profit agency, TRCA is also able to leverage levy funds from York Region and funds from senior levels of government and private sector partners including grants, and ecological compensation funding to support our joint initiatives with the City.

We are supportive of the staff recommendation to Committee and Council that the City enter a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with TRCA for municipally requested services, particularly given that there are no financial commitments attached to the MOU and any specific project agreements would go through normal City approval processes. We were surprised by the deferral at Committee but have since worked with City legal staff on some revised wording of the MOU to reflect discussion at the Committee. Not endorsing the MOU tomorrow could complicate our ability to deliver future community-based activities and infrastructure components that are beloved by residents and stakeholders alike. In addition, if approval is delayed, Vaughan would be the only York Region municipality in TRCA's jurisdiction to not approve the enabling MOU within the required timeframe as set out by the Province.

I or our staff would be pleased to answer any questions about the advantages of the City entering such an MOU to further improve our already strong working relationship.

We appreciate our existing relationship with the City of Vaughan on projects and programs of mutual interest and we hope to continue to strengthen this partnership through approval of this enabling MOU and future agreements that help us achieve our joint objectives.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

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