

C5.
Communication
CW(2) – December 5, 2023
Item No. 11

From: Clerks@vaughan.ca
To: [Assunta Ferrante](mailto:Assunta.Ferrante)
Subject: FW: [External] Agenda Item 11
Date: Monday, December 4, 2023 11:20:26 AM

From: IRENE FORD [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, December 04, 2023 10:15 AM
To: Clerks@vaughan.ca
Cc: bylaw.licensing <ByLaw.Licensing@vaughan.ca>; Gloria Marsh <gloria@yrea.org>
Subject: [External] Agenda Item 11

Hello,

Long Grass and Weeds can be very subjective term. There is a difference between neglect of ones lawn versus trying to support a native or drought resistant lawn. The idea of a one species green grass garden is water intensive and doesn't support biodiversity. If there are others willing to support more diverse lawns, especially ones that might require less water, they should not be penalized because their neighbour does not understand or views this type of lawn negatively. That being said as an allergy sufferer if someone planted a lawn of golden rod it would be hell. I havne't read the bylaw so my concerns may be unfounded but recalled this article when I saw this staff report. [This ecologist was told she could keep her natural garden. Here's why she's fighting city hall anyway | CBC News](#)

The City of Toronto appears to have updated their [by-law](#) recently and created a schedule of prohibited plants (most invasive). Safety is also paramount, sidewalks must be kept clear, sightlines must be maintained. The only point of this email is to ensure that enforcement is balanced not subjective and those who may be willing to go that extra step for a drought resistant, pollinator friendly garden are not unfairly penalized because our by-law only reflected a uniform non-native, water intensive mowed grass lawn.

<https://pub-vaughan.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=154831>

Thank you,
Irene Ford