

**COMMUNICATION – C45  
ITEM 1  
Special Committee of the Whole  
July 8, 2020**

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**From:** Board of Director <kvgdirector1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 2, 2020 10:52 AM  
**To:** Coles, Todd <Todd.Coles@vaughan.ca>  
**Cc:** Carella, Tony <Tony.Carella@vaughan.ca>; lafrate, Marilyn <Marilyn.lafrate@vaughan.ca>; Bevilacqua, Maurizio <Maurizio.Bevilacqua@vaughan.ca>; Jackson, Linda <Linda.Jackson@vaughan.ca>; Shefman, Alan <Alan.Shefman@vaughan.ca>; Racco, Sandra <Sandra.Racco@vaughan.ca>; Rosati, Gino <Gino.Rosati@vaughan.ca>; DeFrancesca, Rosanna <Rosanna.DeFrancesca@vaughan.ca>; Ferri, Mario <Mario.Ferri@vaughan.ca>; Clerks@vaughan.ca; KEEP VAUGHAN GREEN <keepvaughangreen@gmail.com>; Messere, Clement <Clement.Messere@vaughan.ca>; Bob Moroz <bobm@rfidcanada.com>; Reali, Mary <Mary.Reali@vaughan.ca>  
**Subject:** Re: [External] July 8 special COW

Dear Mr. Clerk and Members of Council,

Keep Vaughan Green is reaching out to you on behalf of our extensive membership to communicate that our community is anxious about the upcoming Special Committee of the Whole Meeting on July 8, 2020 at 7pm. The importance of this meeting for our community cannot be understated and was requested by the community. We believe that the outcome of the July 8 meeting will have a lasting effect on our community and our families.

Given the importance of this meeting, the Keep Vaughan Green community and its members are at a loss to understand why we continue to be restricted from attending a meeting of this importance and speaking to Council in person while adhering to physical distancing and gathering regulations. Or at the very least if the logistics of physical distancing does not seem possible, a deferral to when community members can engage with Council safely.

The province has reinstated the timelines stipulated within the Planning Act as of June 22 2020, however the average resident continues to be restricted from participating in a meaningful way on development applications. Online deputations are restricted to people who have the technical means to participate and even then online Power Point or video presentations are not possible. There is no doubt that those that do not have the technical means or know-how or do not feel comfortable providing online deputations are restricted and as a result their rights as citizens are undermined.

Moreover the chosen platform, Skype for business, has limitations of meeting size

depending on whether conferencing is hosted on a shared or dedicated pool. For the shared pool, which allows log in or dial in, up to 250 people, connection issues arise when the number of participants approaches the maximum attendees. The March 3 public hearing had MORE than 250 attendees. Additionally, testing with the Clerks office for those giving deputations will occur on the day of July 8. Will there be time to test with almost 50 people? As this was the approximate number giving deputations during the last meeting.

Pursuant to Ontario. Reg. 52/20: ORDER UNDER SUBSECTION 7.0.2 (4) OF THE ACT - ORGANIZED PUBLIC EVENTS, CERTAIN GATHERINGS public gatherings of up to 10 people is permitted. Vaughan City Hall is a public building and is owned by the taxpayers of the City where a gathering of 10 people does not violate any provincial laws or regulations. The City is not violating any provincial laws by allowing a gathering of 10 people. Not allowing any number of participants is a choice solely undertaken by the City of Vaughan.

Keep Vaughan Green is willing and able to manage increments of 10 people that are fully distanced from each other within Vaughan City Hall for the purpose of providing comments to Council in person on July 8 2020. This is not a challenge that cannot be responsibly managed. People are going to malls and grocery stores and taking precautions. There is no legal reason that we can see as to why we cannot manage ourselves accordingly within Vaughan City Hall.

We are requesting that we be allowed to attend the July 8 Special Committee of the Whole meeting at Vaughan City Hall in accordance with provincial law. In doing so we will be actively managing our participants while adhering to the laws afforded to us by the province.

Sincerely,

Keep Vaughan Green

[www.keepvaughangreen.com](http://www.keepvaughangreen.com)