

From: Thomas Santoro <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, May 20, 2020 4:25 PM
To: Clerks@vaughan.ca
Subject: [External] Irresponsible use of taxpayer money

To whom it may concern,

I recently became aware of the City of Vaughan's proposal of a by-law vote that would hold taxpayers responsible for covering a politician's legal fees for an ethics complaint.

As citizens of Vaughan, we rely on our government to conduct themselves, and their business, in the manner that best serves the citizens it represents. To learn that our leaders would consider using our hard-earned money for instances such as a breach in ethics indicates a complete lack of respect for us citizens. It causes citizens such as myself anxiety to learn that our leaders are trying to use us citizens as a safety-net if an ethics complaint is made. It's almost as if the government is hinting that there are many complaints to be dealt with, are desperate to find funds to cover these complaints, and are deferring the responsibility to the taxpayers, rather than the politicians that are actually responsible for such complaints.

How are we to confidently act civilly, responsibly, with authenticity and respect - the Canadian way - if we can't trust our leaders to do so and lead by example?

It is deeply disturbing to learn this, especially during a pandemic where so many people are struggling to stay financially afloat, that our government would consider using our hard-earned money so irresponsibly, and with such disrespect to its citizens.

I sincerely hope that the government will dispose of this proposed by-law.

Thomas