

C4
Communication
CW (WS) – May 5, 2021
Item(s) # - 2

From: Clerks@vaughan.ca
To: [Bellisario, Adelina](#)
Subject: FW: [External] Item 5.2 Ward Boundary Review
Date: May-04-21 11:42:09 AM
Attachments: [Ward Boundary Review.docx](#)

-----Original Message-----

From: alexandra ney [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, May 04, 2021 11:41 AM
To: Clerks@vaughan.ca
Subject: [External] Item 5.2 Ward Boundary Review

Good morning,

Please find my attached letter for the Committee of the Whole Meeting Agenda Item 5 (2) Ward Boundary Review, Effective Local and Regional Representation.

Kind Regards,
Alexandra Ney

Vaughan City Council
City of Vaughan
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Vaughan, ON
L6A 1T1

May 4th, 2021

Mayor Bevilacqua, and Councillors,

**Re: May 5, 2020 Committee of the Whole Meeting Agenda Item 5(2)
Ward Boundary Review, Effective Local and Regional Representation**

I'm writing today as a resident living in the rural area of the City of Vaughan. Vaughan has changed and progressed over the years, population has increased. At the same time, I'm not seeing our composition of representation by Local Council or Regional Council changing to better suite our needs. It seems the sentiment from Residents is reflective, the system as it is, is not working. The rural areas differ greatly from urban areas. Farming, rural properties, services –for example the quality and scope of internet supply and even the quality of telephone service. We need and would benefit greatly by having more of a voice! This can only happen with not only our dedicated Local Councillors, but by having a Regional Councillor who is elected by a Ward and as such is responsible and accountable to the Ward. With the addition of another Regional Councillor, the dynamics of Local Council voting changes, possibly leaving local interest under represented. To this end, I would ask that Vaughan consider the following, which is more important than moving boundary lines on a map:

- Dedicated Regional Councillor's elected by Ward, thereby being accountable and representative to each Ward, creating effective local and regional representation

Communications

There is a complete lack of communication. To-date, we do not receive information from Regional Council about upgrades or improvements slated for the area on a Regional level. We do not receive any information regarding budgets or any other important information, which may affect residents. In the past my understanding was that Regional Councillors not only represented their Citizens at the Municipal level, but represented us at a Regional level. We have a need for this to be the reality, in an open, accountable, transparent and effective representative manner at the local and Regional level. For example – was there Public Consultation about adding another Regional Councillor?

Vast Area and Representation

The City of Vaughan is a vast area, with many different needs to be met from dense urbanization, commercial zones to rural residents and farming. There is a real need for Vaughan Council's local representation to be updated to better represent its Citizens. We will have 5 members on Council who vote on broader Public interest, and only 1 Council vote for each of the Wards that represent local interests unique to each Ward.

Regional Issues

To-date I've not been informed or asked for input regarding any proposed Regional projects. Have we as Residents, been asked what we would like to see in regards to roads or other projects? Nor have we felt our voices represented when we have approached our Regional Councillors regarding issues, such as the GTA West Corridor/Hwy 413. People need to be heard to be invested. People need to have their largest investment their homes and property represented at both the Municipal and Regional level in a real and accountable manner. Only then I believe, we will have true democracy. Being elected at large with little accountability to any area or community is not effective or working. To this end I feel, Ward boundaries should include Regional Councillors.

Rural areas need more of a voice, I feel we are left behind, on a Regional Level we lack real representation that understands, fights for, and speaks to our profoundly different local needs from high urban areas.

In closing this is not a criticism of Local Council, Ward Boundary review should not be about lines on a map. It should be about representation on all levels of our Council with input from the public. This is democracy. When we all work together; Citizens have an input, Local and Regional Councillors represent the residents input, there is a far better social and economic environment.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kind regards,
Alexandra Ney
Resident of King Vaughan Road