

From: Mark H. Goldberg <mark@mhgoldberg.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2013 10:51 AM
To: Abrams, Jeffrey
Cc: Bellisario, Adelina; McEwan, Barbara; Uyeyama, Grant; MacKenzie, John
Subject: Re: Palladini Centre petition

c	21
Item #	8
Report No.	42 (CW)
Council - October 29/13	

Dear Mr. Abrams -

I had not realized that this was going to council today... in that case, please go ahead and put my email before council, with the following as an attachment (the text from my blog post on the safety of cell towers, referenced in the email)

Thanks

Cell towers aren't hurting you

While CBC may attract lots of visits to its website through **articles warning of wireless radiation**, it neglected coverage of an important release from a public health official. Toronto's Medical Officer of Health has recommended that the City of Toronto eliminate its policy of Prudent Avoidance, a 5-year old policy of asking wireless carriers to keep RF emission levels 100 times below Health Canada's public exposure guideline, Safety Code 6.

The **summary from the Medical Officer of Health** says:

From its review of recent health evidence, TPH [Toronto Public Health] notes that the majority scientific opinion indicates that the health risk to the public from cell towers and other telecommunications sources of RFs is low.

...

Based on a review of evidence and TPH's experience implementing the policy, continued application of the [Prudent Avoidance] policy in the form of a stricter exposure guideline is no longer necessary as it does not confer a health benefit to the residents of Toronto.

In a **more detailed report**, Toronto Public Health sharply criticized the opposing viewpoints.

The most vocal opposing view has been put forward by scientists contributing to the **BioInitiative Report**. This report has been evaluated by a number of health scientists and public health agencies as being characterized by biased and selective interpretation of scientific data, leading to unscientific and alarming conclusions about a range of health conditions.

Among the most damning critiques of the Bio-Initiative Report, incorporated in the Toronto Public Health report by footnote, was **an article in Science-Based Medicine** that refers to the BioInitiative Report as "an egregiously slanted review of health and biological effects of electromagnetic fields (EMF) of the sort that are produced by power lines, cellular telephones, Wi-Fi, and other mainstays of modern life."

Toronto Public Health addressed the question of non-specific symptoms – symptoms that some have called environmental sensitivity to RF and other electromagnetic fields.

There is, however, growing evidence that the perception of exposure is associated with experiencing symptoms and as such, that a nocebo effect with respect to cell towers is likely contributing to individuals' reporting of such health complaints. (This conclusion in no way diminishes the serious nature of these complaints which some individuals experience as severe and debilitating.) The nocebo effect refers to the observation that people may experience adverse symptoms because of their negative expectations or concerns about cell towers. In particular, people tend to feel more at risk from environmental health hazards when they lack control over their exposure or have little perceived benefit from exposure.

While CBC chose to give unwarranted attention to some well meaning but ill-informed junk science, Toronto Public Health noted that broadcast antennas, not cell towers, were the major contributors to RF levels in Toronto. It is unclear whether the authors of the CBC articles understood that CBC's own radio and TV transmitters have been beaming radio frequency energy for decades before the cell phone was introduced.

The Toronto Public Health report cites a **review by the British Columbia Centre for Disease Control and National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health** for a helpful explanation for why RF levels would not increase over time:

Although intuitively, one may assume that an increase in base stations means higher ambient exposure, mobile phones do not need to use as much power (due to adaptive control) to communicate with the base stations due to shorter distances. As a good connection translates into lower output power levels, urban centres with higher base station densities often experience lower RF than rural centres.

I wrote about that effect last year in a blog post called "**We need more towers.**" CBC did a disservice to Canadians in promoting purveyors of junk science while failing to cover the important report from Toronto's Medical Officer of Health that recommend the elimination of its prudent avoidance policy. The **full report** is worth reading.

-Mark Goldberg

Mark H. Goldberg

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On 29/10/2013 10:37 AM, Abrams, Jeffrey wrote:

Mark, is your email below intended to be placed before Council at its meeting today? The one referenced below will be circulated in reference to Committee of the Whole Report No. 42, Item 8, relating to a tower in the vicinity of Napa Valley and Rutherford Road.

I need to know asap.

Jeffrey A. Abrams
City Clerk
City of Vaughan
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
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Tel: (905) 832-8585 Ext. 8281
Fax: (905) 832-8535
jeffrey.abrams@vaughan.ca



From: Mark H. Goldberg [<mailto:mark@mhgoldberg.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2013 10:15 AM

To: Britto, John; 'Ahmed, Mubarak'; 'Catalano, Tina'; 'Chaleunsouk, Von'; Ciampa, Gina; Colosimo, Ann-Marie; 'D'Agostino, Stephen'; DeFrancesca, Rosanna; Lavery, Colin; Michelle Vivar; Schulte, Deb; 'Sgro, Christina'; Tamburini, Nancy

Cc: Abrams, Jeffrey; Bonsignore, Connie; Jalilli, Farhad; Marrelli, Carmela; McEwan, Barbara; Squadrilla, Dorianne; Uyeyama, Grant; Woolfson, Daniel; Ciafardoni, Joy; Abrams, Jeffrey; Bevilacqua, Maurizio

Subject: Re: Palladini Centre petition

John -

Thank you for forwarding the petition.

It is unfortunate that these residents have apparently not had access to correct information about the state of science and research that is readily available. As Stephen indicated in his email late yesterday afternoon, the Toronto Medical Officer of Health has released an important report to accompany the recommendation to discontinue Toronto's "Prudent Avoidance" policy because the science simply cannot support a requirement to have RF emissions 100 times lower than safety Code 6.

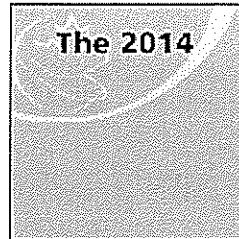
I have summarized the report in a blog post with links to the relevant documents:

<http://t.co/uRIDaFr4nC>

Regards

-Mark

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On 29/10/2013 9:53 AM, Britto, John wrote:

Please see attached for your information. Thank you.

Assistant City Clerk



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"Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new." ~Albert Einstein~

"Success is the ability to go from failure to failure without losing your enthusiasm."

~Winston Churchill~

From: Abrams, Jeffrey
Sent: Tuesday, October 29, 2013 9:48 AM
To: Britto, John
Cc: McEwan, Barbara; Bellisario, Adelina
Subject: FW: Asking for your support (petition)

John, please forward the attached to the Task Force members for their information.

Jeffrey A. Abrams
City Clerk
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jeffrey.abrams@vaughan.ca



From: Ciafardoni, Joy
Sent: Monday, October 28, 2013 5:27 PM
To: 'Lena Streletska'
Cc: DeBuono, Michelle; Abrams, Jeffrey; Liscio, Alexandria
Subject: FW: Asking for your support (petition)

Hi Lena,

On behalf of Mayor Bevilacqua, I am acknowledging receipt of your e-mail and petition and wish to thank you for contacting our office. I have provided our Clerk's Department with a copy of your e-mail.

As always the Mayor welcomes correspondence on this and any other matter.

Kind regards,

Joy Ciafardoni
Executive Assistant to
Hon. Maurizio Bevilacqua, P.C.
Mayor, City of Vaughan
905-832-8585 #8787
joy.ciafardoni@vaughan.ca
www.vaughan.ca

From: Lena Streletska [<mailto:olena.s@sympatico.ca>]
Sent: Monday, October 28, 2013 5:10 PM
To: Bevilacqua, Maurizio; Ciafardoni, Joy; DeBuono, Michelle
Subject: Asking for your support (petition)

Dear Mr. Maurizio Bevilacqua,
Attached, please find the petition against the Al Palladini cell tower, signed by 270 people.
We are really need your support tomorrow!
Thank you,
Lena Streletska

From: olena.s@sympatico.ca

To: maurizio.bevilacqua@vaughan.ca; joy.ciafardoni@vaughan.ca;
michelle.debuono@vaughan.ca

Subject: Asking for your support on May 15th Committee of the Whole

Date: Thu, 3 May 2012 17:45:27 +0000

Dear Mr. Maurizio Bevilacqua,

Please find the letter attached.

Thank you,
Olena Streletska

This e-mail, including any attachment(s), may be confidential and is intended solely for the attention and information of the named addressee(s). If you are not the intended recipient or have received this message in error, please notify me immediately by return e-mail and permanently delete the original transmission from your computer, including any attachment(s). Any unauthorized distribution, disclosure or copying of this message and attachment(s) by anyone other than the recipient is strictly prohibited.