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Communication
CW: November 6, 2012
Item: Dep 3)

November 1, 2012

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

RE: DEPUTATION FOR SIGN OFFENCE NOTICE

Dear Members of Council;

Reena Foundation is a charitable organization that supports and works with those with developmental disabilities. Reena was established in 1973 and we provide services for over 1,200 people annually.

On May 4, 2012 we received an offence notice for a sign that we have had in place since 2004 on the south side of Clarke Avenue West (CON 2 PT LOT 3). This sign and the permission to place the sign on their property was provided to Reena by the Zimmerman family, at no cost to the charity. We use this sign to promote upcoming fundraising events that support the people we serve:

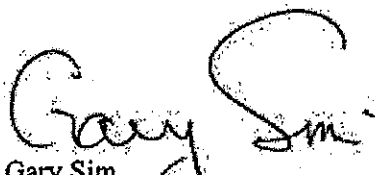
There have been no complaints about the sign sent to us or, the City of Vaughan in the past. When asked, firefighters at the hall next to the land said that they have never seen any vandalism or issues related with the sign.

The notice states that the sign is placed on agricultural land without a permit. The cost of securing engineers' drawings to a gain a permit, as well as the cost of a permit itself would make the sign prohibitive. It is the only sign we have in the GTA and to lose it would end up costing the charity in lost revenues for our fundraising events.

I acknowledge that the sign contravenes a City by-law. However, given that it was put in place by well-meaning volunteers eight years ago and is doing no harm, I respectfully request that council grant Reena Foundation permission to keep the sign on the property as it now sits. We will continue to update it and maintain it.

I will be happy to answer any questions that you may have when I appear on behalf of Reena Foundation at a deputation before council on November 6, 2012.

Thank you for your consideration,

  
Gary Sim  
President, Reena Foundation

Reena Foundation  
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