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**DEPUTATION – MR. GARY SIM, REENA FOUNDATION
WITH RESPECT TO SIGN ON CLARK AVENUE WEST, THORNHILL**

The Committee of the Whole recommends:

- 1) That the deputation of Mr. Gary Sim, Reena Foundation, Promenade Circle, Thornhill, and Communications C1, dated August 28, 2012, and C5, dated November 1, 2012, be received; and
- 2) That Reena Foundation's sign located on the west side of Clark Avenue be grandfathered and granted permission to remain in its current location.

Magnifico, Rose

c 1
Communication
CW: <u>November 6, 2012</u>
Item: <u>Dep 3)</u>

Subject: Deputation: G. Sim, Reena Foundation

From: Gary Sim [mailto:gsim@reenafoundation.org]
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2012 4:38 PM
To: Clerks@vaughan.ca
Cc: Traub, Debi
Subject: Request for deputation

Jeffrey Abrams
City Clerk

Dear Jeffrey

I have been advised by Pat Dawson to write to you to request that I may appear in deputation before the Committee of the Whole on October 16 in order to present my case. The essence of my issue is that I represent a charitable organization, Reena, and I have received from the city a notice that I must secure a permit for a sign in a field on Clark Avenue West in Thornhill. The cost of such permit, both for the permit itself and the cost of securing drawings etc is prohibitive for a small organization. The sign in question is on private property. We received permission from the land owner ten years ago to erect the sign. We have used it every year to promote our various charitable fundraising events. The sign cost us nothing originally because a builder constructed it for us at no cost. When I received the notice I went to my Councillor who advised that if I could not get the sign grandfathered through Pat Dawson I could appear before the CW. I have spoken at length with Ms. Dawson and she has explained that she is bound by the by-law and cannot make exception. She then suggested that if I wanted to go to the CW I should write this note to you.

Would you please advise me as to next steps, if any that I should take.

Thank you

Yours truly

Gary E. Sim, MBA, CFRE

President, Reena Foundation
1 Promenade Circle, Suite 308
Thornhill, Ontario L4J 4P8
www.reenafoundation.org
905-764-1081 ext 29

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c 5
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:

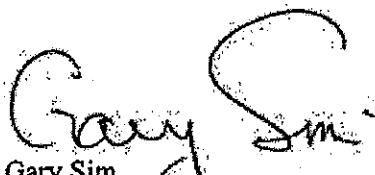
There have been no complaints about the sign sent to us or, the City of Vaughan in the past. When asked, firefighters at the hall next to the land said that they have never seen any vandalism or issues related with the sign.

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
Promenade Mall, 1 Promenade Circle, Suite 308, Thornhill, ON, L4J 4P8
P: 905.764.1081 ext. 29 F: 905.764.0595 E: gsim@reenafoundation.org