

Kleinburg and Area Ratepayers' Association

P.O. Box 202, Kleinburg, Ontario, L0J 1C0
Email: kara@kara-inc.ca Website: www.kara-inc.ca

March 21, 2014

Attention: Clerk's Department; Mr. Abrams; Mayor; Members of Council
City of Vaughan
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Vaughan, ON L6A 1T1

C 5
COMMUNICATION

SP CW (WORKING SESSION)

May 20, 2014

ITEM: 1

Re: KARA Comments on Ratepayer Policy Review

Dear Mr. Abrams, Mayor and Members of Council,

The Kleinburg and Area Ratepayers' Association (KARA) is a corporation with the purpose to represent, protect and promote the general interests of residents within Kleinburg, Nashville and Area. KARA was constituted in 1971 and currently has over 800 members on its membership register.

KARA is an organization led by community volunteers, working on behalf of residents. We are currently a registered Association within the City of Vaughan. For the record, KARA is supportive of the City's current Registered Ratepayer Policy, and many of our members participated in the City's resident survey on this matter.

Please find KARA's position statements regarding the City's Registered Ratepayer Association Policy below:

- KARA supports the current City Policy
- The current City policy does not preclude any group, incorporated or not, from forming, meeting, gathering memberships, or petitioning the City with their concerns/issues -Ideally City-registered groups should be incorporated entities with established corporate by-laws, constitution, regular meetings, Annual General Meetings etc.
- Memberships should be in a traceable format with a signature - Corporations and groups should be allowed to establish their own rules for membership i.e. yearly, bi-yearly or lifetime -Should the City entertain overlapping boundaries (which we do not support), there must be an acceptance that residents may choose to be members of multiple organizations, and a grandfathering clause should apply. This respects residents and prevents them from being "bullied" at the door by a forceful applicant. This will also prevent the City from being the adjudicator on deciding upon an individual's Association membership.
- Boundary disputes cannot be left up to the decision of non-City entities.

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- Directors and Officers of registered groups need to be members of the group, and reside within the geographic boundary
- KARA does not support the recommendations of the group of "interested parties"

KARA would like to request a meeting with the City Clerk on this matter over the coming weeks. One of our directors will be contacting you, Mr. Abrams to arrange a mutually acceptable time.

With thanks,



Ken Schwenger
President, KARA