From: Bob Waldon

Sent: December 8, 2020 8:21 AM

To: ZZG-RegionalClerk <zzg-regionalclerk@peelregion.ca>

Cc: Allan Thompson < mayor@caledon.ca>

Subject: Proposed By-Law to Change Regional Council Composition

December 8, 2020
REGION OF PEEL
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

RECEIVED

Council, Regional Municipality of Peel Clerk's Division 10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A, 5th floor Brampton, ON L6T 4B9

Attention: Kathryn Lockyer, Regional Clerk

Dear Clerk and Councillors:

Please receive this correspondence as part of the December 17, 2020 public meeting submissions in regard to the proposal to amend the composition of Regional Council.

Prior to moving forward with the proposed By-Law to amend Council composition, Regional Council must consider the manner (process) in which this proposal was tabled and the current timing of the proposal, prior to assessing the merits/detriments of the proposal itself.

Process

Although the issue of Council composition has been raised before, it is an issue of such importance that bringing it forward by a walk-on motion, does not serve the imperative of fair process. A fair process would include adequate notice to each Council and to members of the public to enable community awareness and participation (genuine engagement). The process before us does not do that.

Current Timing

Brining forward a motion of this importance should not take place in the midst of what - clearly to all - is a health crisis that, rightfully, is occupying the attention of the people who would be most directly impacted, or, who could have an impact on such a decision. Further, restrictions due to COVID-19 may limit what would normally be a public engagement process that meets the basic requirements of the Municipal Act. Again, this fails to meet the standard of robust, if not ethical, community engagement that we expect of our elected representatives and professional municipal staff.

As the saying goes, "We can do better!"

In submission, the proposal to amend Council composition should be deferred until a more appropriate time and brought forward in an way that serves public engagement. Ideally, the question of Council composition, should be part of a broader inquiry with genuine public dialogue regarding the effectiveness of the current regional system in effectively and equitably meeting the needs and aspirations of citizens in Mississauga, Brampton and Caledon, as well as alternatives for meeting those imperatives.

Sincerely,

R. D. (Bob) Waldon