

Subject:

FW: Plans for Arena

From: Umesh Rao

Sent: September-26-13 4:44 PM **To:** Contact Centre Customer Service

Subject: Plans for Arena

To: The Management team,

Markham City Council,

Markham, ON.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing this to express my disapproval of the proposed plans to fund an NHL size arena in Markham. This needs to be fully funded by private equity, the tax payers should not be burdened with one red cent of these costs.

The Markham civic leadership team has done an outstanding job in containing cost increases as evidenced by the very reasonable increases in our our annual House taxes. I thank them for their excellent management and leadership. Please do not ruin this well earned reputation by indulging in such high-risk projects at the tax payers' cost. We do not want a repeat of the "Big O" experience of Montreal following the 1976 Olympics. Perhaps they are still paying for it.

Sincerely,

Umesh

N. Umesh Rao

(3)

Subject:

FW: Arena.

From: margarita carcamo

Sent: November-27-13 12:06 PM

To: Bavington, Kitty **Subject:** Arena.

Hello! Kitty,

Having just spoken to you on the telephone, I proceed to write an e-mail to you hoping it's formal enough to be read and listen to.

I realize that comments made over the phone have little value.

Unable to take part of the meeting to expose my views on the proposed building of the ARENA, as no longer drive at night, I would just like to say, that apart from objecting to the congestion of traffic the construction of this arena would bring, I am not prepared, as a senior citizen, to contribute WITH MY TAXES to such an enterprise.

Do this with pri ate moneys? Go ahead but please think of the major calamity you are creating. Traffic in Markham is already half a calamity.

Yours sincerely,

Margarita Cárcamo

3

Subject:

FW: Markham arena

From: Eleanor Parr

Sent: November-27-13 12:42 PM

To: Bavington, Kitty **Subject:** Markham arena

Thank you for your update.

I know there are many people in my situation, perhaps you can add my comments to another speaker.. I will be there if the driving conditions are safe.

I am a retired senior citizen, living in Thornhill since 1974. . I will never use the arena. I am not a sports fan. I do not have any family who will use it. I do not want to subsidize it.

It will eventually become a "white elephant" for Markham and be taken over by a private company at quite a discount and major financial loss to Markham and the taxpayers.

The electricity, heating/cooling system alone will be staggering. There will be many unexpected expenses, plumbing, repairs, things worn out, interior fittings, seating, various insurances, etc. that will come up and who will pay. Contracts do not cover all the possibilities and I am sure the partners to this proposition are very smart and cunning and have done this before, and will not be paying for anything they can avoid. Who will pay for delays in construction or cancelled contracts or any other expenses not yet thought of..

I have been paying for schools for almost 40 years though I had no family in the school system for about 30 years -- now I have to pay something for the new sewers eventhough I did not have any flood damage from the torrential rains.

I pay for a lot of things in my taxes that I do not use. The economy is bad, many families live with large debt -- and it is time to rethink taxpayers needs and priorities.

My income is fixed – my living expenses are not—I do not want to add or subsidize any more additional expense for things I will not need or use

I am sure you've read this all before, perhaps we should name a park and couple of streets after our mayor and forget about the stadium.

(Landara)

Subject:

FW: arena

----Original Message----

From: Lynn Withers

Sent: November-27-13 1:05 PM

To: Bavington, Kitty

Subject: arena

Hi Kitty,

Unfortunately, we will be out of town. Please register my vote as a "no." I don't know if this is possible.

Thank you for your hard work in preserving our community.

Lynn Withers



Subject:

FW: Arena

From: Anthony Wong

Sent: November 27, 2013 1:15 PM

To: Tari, Alida Subject: Fw: Arena

Unfortunately, I am not able to attend the Dec.2 meeting in person. Mr. Shore is the councillor representing my area. In the past, he happened to vote yes. I sent the following text to him late last September to convey my position about the propose arena and reasons why it is a bad deal all around. I am very disappointed he did not respond in a meaningful way other than just a simple thank you. I hope someone will use the five minutes allotted to bring up those points.

On Thursday, September 26, 2013 9:13:21 PM, Anthony Wong:

The mandate of the municipal elected officials is to deliver essential services to its residents at the most cost efficient manner and be very prudent in all decisions to maintain a sound financial footing long term. The financial framework of the arena does not meet its mandate. Any sane councillors should vote against it. This is a pie in the sky project. It is a nice to have but we can't afford. From my prospective, the city has wasted both time and money on something it should not get involve in the first place. Does anyone has nothing better to do at city hall? Given our slow growth economy and oversupply condo inventory, the city will take forever to collect 160 plus millions worth of development fees from builders. When condo prices increase disproportionately, buyers go somewhere else. In the meantime, the city has to keep paying interest on this huge amount. All 300,000 of its residents share this unnecessary financial exposure. Services will be cut and property taxes will go up disproportionately to service the debt. There are plenty of unknowns and pitfalls. The complexity is beyond the financial capability of the city. Where is the upside? The city can continue to develop just as well without this arena. It will be a different scenario when the city's population reaches well over one million residents. I certainly hope that you are going to vote NO next time around and convince your fellow councillors to vote NO and get back to the business of running the city.



Subject:

FW: Proposed Arena!!

From: Jim Dunlop

Sent: November 29, 2013 10:20 AM

To: Tari, Alida

Cc: Mayor & Councillors Subject: Proposed Arena!!

To whom this request will be heard:

We (cannot attend the meetings scheduled) but want you to know that we want this facility to be privately owned and operated and <u>MUST</u> not be owned by the City.

Do not use my tax dollars for any part of this project!!

Sincerely, Jim and Elaine Dunlop

Sent from my iPhone

Subject:

FW: Against the new arena

From: IanCollins

Sent: November 29, 2013 10:39 AM

To: Tari, Alida

Cc: Mayor & Councillors

Subject: Against the new arena

If this arena is really financially viable why are the taxpayers getting involved? The only reason for taxpayers to be on the hook is because the risk is too high for the people who know what they're doing.

Don't be suckers, they would pay for it themselves if it made sense.

Thanks,

lan Collins



Subject:

FW: Arena

From: Robert Davidson

Sent: November 29, 2013 10:39 AM

To: Tari, Alida

Cc: Mayor & Councillors; Scarpitti, Frank; Campbell, Colin

Subject: Arena

I have been in business for about 45 years both in public accounting and industry and commerce as Chief Financial Officer of major corporations and what is proposed for the Markham Arena is wrong. If it is a worthwhile investment the private sector would not need taxpayer funding. Their insistence on public money shows they believe there is too big a risk to invest 100% themselves.

Mayor Scarpitti and the other Councillors who support public funding obviously know little or nothing of business or they would not fall for this game. By the time Markham MAY get an NHL team this arena will be obsolete and of no use to an NHL team. If it can be successful for concerts and junior hockey tournaments great, let the private sector benefit from the profits and Markham can benefit from the taxes and other revenues

There is no need for one cent of my tax money to go to what should be a private enterprise venture, including special deals on land and development taxes

Robert Davidson CA, CPA, TEP

1

Subject:

FW: Proposed Arena

From: Ron Thiel

Sent: November 29, 2013 11:03 AM

To: Tari, Alida

Subject: Proposed Arena

The new arena should be funded entirely from private funds. I am against the city owning the Arena.

regards, Ron Thiel

Subject:

FW: Private Markham arena

From: Andy Niu

Sent: November 29, 2013 11:16 AM To: Tari, Alida; Mayor & Councillors Subject: Private Markham arena

I think the proposed Markham arena must be privately owned and operated and MUST not be owned by the City. You always lose if you gamble.

Sincerely,

Anfu Niu

Subject:

FW: GTA Centre

----Original Message----

From: Bill Kovach

Sent: November 29, 2013 12:30 PM

To: Tari, Alida Subject: GTA Centre

Hi Alida:

I am unable to attend the session.

The issues that really irritate me are:

The individual that we would be dealing with. The Toronto Star has clearly pointed out this individual's failures in other arena deals and, I believe that they have pointed out that he has been CONVICTED of fraud in the U.S. Is this the best we can do?

If this individual is that good, why was his offer not accepted for the Montreal Canadiens, other than the fact that, apparently no one in the Montreal organization has heard of him.

Why did it take an upheaval for this individual to come up with his present deal? His Original proposal seemed to involve no private money.

What kind of deals have the organizations that have agreed to rent the GTA Centre been given? Are they "going rate" prices typical of the area facilities or below to make a sale?

If this is such a good deal, why do we need to put public money into the project at all. Why do these people not finance the whole thing and reap the "mega profits "themselves? I sure would not want to share my own profits with the City of Markham. Oh, there will not be any profits. WOW!

The whole concept will only put a financial load on the tax payers with no concrete benefits. Will my taxes go down with all of the profits we will reap?

Good luck!

Bill Kovach

(12)

Subject:

FW: GTA Arena

From: Al Falcao

Sent: November 29, 2013 12:27 PM

To: Tari, Alida

Cc: Mayor & Councillors Subject: GTA Arena

We agree that the GTA Arena be built only if it is privately built, owned and operated and 100% without any funding from the City of Markham and its stakeholders

Al & Marg Falcao

(12)

Subject:

FW: Proposed arena

From: Gord MacBride

Sent: November 29, 2013 1:08 PM

To: Tari, Alida

Subject: Proposed arena

Re: the upcoming meeting

I will not be able to attend the meeting but I would like to speak against the proposal and in favour of Deputy Mayor Heath's motion to remove the city from any financial participation in this PRIVATE SECTOR endeavor. I will vote against anyone on either the region or city councils who supports using the tax payer's money to finance this deal. The stink from Ottawa and Queen's Park is spreading into Markham.

Gordon MacBride



Subject:

FW: proposed GTA arena

From: Sam Maduri

Sent: November 29, 2013 1:46 PM

To: Tari, Alida

Cc: Mayor & Councillors; Hamilton, Don

Subject: proposed GTA arena

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

I'm writing to you with regards to the proposed GTA Centre Arena and the upcoming vote on Deputy Mayor Jack Heath's motion to remove the city from the financial framework as currently proposed.

I urge Council to vote in favor of Mr. Heath's motion.

This facility should be privately owned and operated and must not be owned in any part by the City of Markham. We did not elect you to spend hundreds of millions of dollars of public funds, be it via loan guarantees, special levies or other City orchestrated funds, on a project that should be paid for entirely by the private sector, because this will only benefit the private sector, not the citizens of Markham.

Sincerely, Sa**m** Maduri

(15)

Subject:

FW: The Markham Arena

From: Chuck Holliwell

Sent: November 29, 2013 2:26 PM

To: Tari, Alida

Subject: The Markham Arena

Businesses are in business to make money.

Municipal governments are elected to provide services.

Businesses don't provide services.

Governments have difficulty governing themselves and being accountable.

So how would it make sense to mix these two groups? It doesn't.

If the arena was such a wonderful idea, businesses would go it alone, and keep all of the profit.

If the arena was such a great idea, it would stand the test of time, so let's vote on it at the next municipal election.

Charles Holliwell, Markham

(16)

Subject:

FW: Deputation: No financial involvement or ownership by the city of Markham

From: NORMAND

Sent: November 29, 2013 2:39 PM

To: Tari, Alida

Cc: Mayor & Councillors

Subject: Deputation: No financial involvement or ownership by the city of Markham

Mayor & Councillors,

I am not against the arena, I am against any financial involvement or ownership by the city of the Arena. The Arena proposal has been inappropriately developed in secrecy with the intention of using public money to support what is going to be a private company. Mayor & Councillors, using new and future property owners special development fee and forfeited property taxes by making the arena city owned for a private venture is simply wrong.

Mayor Scarpitti, you stated, in the local paper, you were proud that the city of Markham won an award for fiscal transparency and management. You do know, this award must exclude the GTA arena dealing. You acknowledged this when you statement: " If I didn't know what I Know, I might have answered the way other residents have answered"(97% against public funding and ownership). Please live up to the transparency award the city has won. Release all information and reports about the GTA arena for transparency.

Mayor & Councillors, many residents are looking forward to the next election!

Thank you,

Normand Breton Markham, Ontario

Subject:

FW: Arena

From: shafic kara

Sent: November 29, 2013 3:38 PM

To: Tari, Alida

Cc: Mayor & Councillors

Subject: Arena

Attention: Karen Rea

Re: Markham Centre Arena

I as a Markhamite since 1982 strongly oppose funding or partial funding or for the Markham City to carry any contingent liabilities.

We are not in the business of financing private enterprises, especially the party involved in this project has questionable record.

If the investors think it is a good idea, let them build it and reap the profits if there are going to be any for years to come.

I think most of the councillors have taken upon themselves to make decisions on behalf of their constituents, especially Alex Chui whom I have never seen since 1982, nor has he ever asked us for our opinions. MY big answer is big NO.



Subject:

FW: Arena

From: Bob Zeleny

Sent: November 29, 2013 4:08 PM

To: Tari, Alida; Mayorandcouncillors@markham.ca

Subject: Arena

The mayor and councilors of the city of Markham are elected to represent the wishes and needs of their constituents. Although the recent survey was not "official", it still indicated, with resounding emphasis, that the taxpayers of Markham do not wish the city to be involved in the purchase and ownership of this arena. The taxpayers are not stupid. At worst, we can be construed as "conservative". At best, "responsible". If the city owns the arena, it will be responsible for the "white elephant" gathering dust after the Roustans, et al make their escape after a few years without an NHL team. Who's responsible for the arena then? Us!

As I have stated to our councilor, Mr. Shore, there are numerous kinds of gamblers. Those who gamble on hunches, those who gamble on "sure things" and those who gamble with other people's money. Please don't gamble with my money.

Sincerely,

Bob Zeleny

(19)

Subject:

FW: Proposed Arena Opposition

From: don grant

Sent: November 29, 2013 4:31 PM

To: Tari, Alida

Subject: Proposed Arena Opposition

I wish to express my strong Opposition to the proposed Arena. The proposed business & financial numbers are incorrect, understated and undeliverable. Markham's tax revenue should not be contributing to the proposed Arena but be better and more beneficially utilized for Markham infastructure, Community services, etc.

Markham City should absolutely & totally be removed from the Financial Framework of the proposed Arena.

I would only favour an arena if it were totally privately built, owned & operated.

Thank you. Don & Marie Grant

(90)

Subject:

FW: Arena

From: Daniel Roy

Sent: November 29, 2013 6:05 PM

To: Tari, Alida

Cc: Mayor & Councillors

Subject: Arena

Mr/Ms, I would like to express my displeasure with your intentions to use our tax money to finance an arena, a venture that should be ENTIRELY financed from private investors' pockets. Please do the right thing and do not use our money for this.

Regards

Daniel Roy 57 Saffron St., Markham, 905-209-9156



Subject:

FW: 20,000 SEAT PUBLICLY FUNDED ARENA

From: Kala selvadurai

Sent: November 29, 2013 4:47 PM **To:** Tari, Alida; Mayor & Councillors

Subject: 20,000 SEAT PUBLICLY FUNDED ARENA

The proposed project must remove the city from any financial framework and it has to be funded 100% by private investors. If not, those councilor and major who supported should be thrown out of the city hall. Send them home.

Kala



Subject:

FW: Special Council Meeting - Dec 2 2013 - Arena (GTACentre)

From: David McBeth

Sent: Sunday, December 01, 2013 01:11 AM

To: Chiu, Alex; Heath, Jack; Jones, Jim; Scarpitti, Frank; Landon, Gord; Hamilton, Don; Kanapathi, Logan; Moretti, Carolina; Burke,

Valerie; Kitteringham, Kimberley; Li, Joe; Shore, Howard; Campbell, Colin; Ho, Alan

Subject: Special Council Meeting - Dec 2 2013 - Arena (GTACentre)

Mr Mayor/Frank, Members of Council, City Clerk

I will be in attendance at the subject Special Council meeting on Dec 2 in support of Deputy Mayor Jack Heath's motion. I will however not be stepping to the podium to make a deputation.

I do however want to put forward what can best be described as a request to each of you, as members of Council and representatives of the residents of the City of Markham, askings that when considering your vote on the motion that you in all conscience ensure that you fully understand and consider the impact of your vote/decision on the future of the City of Markham and the interests/concerns of the residents that you do represent.

By the time voting occurs you'll have heard from both sides (for and against) with all of the reasons tabled; none of which should be new to you.

In public meetings held on the GTACentre (I attend two (Unionville and Box Grove)... At the Box Grove meeting I did make a deputation and stated quite clearly that it all comes down to thirteen (13) individuals casting their votes - that is you.

I was unable to attend the recent sub-committee meeting (Nov 29) but have been able to review the presentation materials of that meeting.

I also attempted to attend the press conference held Nov 30 at the Hilton Suites. I say "attempted" simply because I was not, as a resident, allowed admission as I did not carry media credentials and the press conference was restricted to media. Note that website posting announcing the press conference did not, repeat did not, indicate that the event was media exclusive. I was at the site well in advance of the scheduled start time and know for a fact that non-media individuals were in attendance and allowed access.

My personal reasons for supporting of the motion tabled for this Special Council meeting are as follows:

- after reviewing the latest presentation materials I remain uncomfortable with the financial structure proposed and both the immediate and long-term impact
- I am not convinced that the GTACentre can/will be a viable operation without a major and significant tenant (NHL franchise)

In closing, when considering your vote at this Special Council meeting whether it be on Dec 2 or Dec 3; seriously consider the future impact this decision will have on the City of Markham and the residents you do represent.

Regards,

David McBeth

This e-mail contains information that may be privileged and/or confidential. If you are not the intended recipient, any disclosure, distribution, copying or other use of this e-mail or the information contained herein or attached hereto is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify this sender immediately and delete this e-mail without reading, printing, copying or forwarding it to anyone. Thank you for your co-operation.



November 26, 2013

Mayor Frank Scarpitti and Members of the City of Markham Council

Frank, I am writing this open letter for the purpose of its submission to Council for consideration regarding the GTA Centre matter. Unfortunately I will be out of the country until December 4 and am unable to attend the public meetings on December 2 and 3.

I have been a resident of Unionville since 1986 and have experienced the transformation of the Town of Markham into a City while at the same time the preservation of the special places within Markham such as the charming jewel of York Region, the Village of Unionville. The City has demonstrated time and time again that developmental growth and opportunity does not require the loss of unique identity. While I write this as an individual resident and in no way represent the views of others, I have spent many years involved in community activities including the Executive of the Unionville Men's Hockey League, Chair of Hockey with Heart, Founder of Thursday Nights at the Bandstand, Executive of Unionville Village Festival, Hockey Helps the Homeless, Pathways 360, Children's Wish, Markham Food Bank to name a few.

Frank, I wrote you earlier this summer that a small group of like minded community colleagues met with Graeme Roustan to hear directly from him what his plans were for a successful conclusion for the GTA Center project. He reached out to us for objective input. Our discussions focussed principally on the public perception of the so-called financial framework at that time. The discussion also focussed on the significant public relations matters, on all sides, hampering the potential success of a project that with little argument from most of the community could be an outstanding opportunity for Markham Centre and the City of Markham provided that the project was privately funded.

The announcement a number of weeks ago that Cannacord Genuity and Jefferies had stepped up to provide \$162.5M as a component of a new financial framework option certainly increased the financial credibility of the project with the resulting reduction of the City's borrowing requirement by \$162.5M financed by future development fees. However, regardless of the reasonable expectation that the City of Markham will continue to develop and that the consequent development fees will be realized in the foreseeable future to fund the borrowing, it is likely that members of Council and a significant component of the community will continue to see this revised financial framework option as insufficient.

It is my understanding that the development community have fully endorsed the incremental development fee structure for new development units as a method of participating in the financing of the project, a financing component now of \$162.5M. The issue of the City borrowing this \$162.5M funded by future unsecured development fees, arguably, would go away or at least the political and public debate would be significantly reduced from a fiscal exposure perspective, if the Developer community were to step up with irrevocable letters of credit or bonds securing, ideally, the whole of the \$162.5M, if not a significant portion of it. The Remington Group, it would appear, has the greatest to gain with the prospect of a first class sports and entertainment centre built within the lands they are developing as Markham Center. Perhaps that is where the largest component of security can be considered. Other significant community developers, Tacc Group, Metrus, Kylemore/Angus Glen Developments, Flato and others, as well serve to gain significantly from development opportunities with a facility of this nature within the City that their development projects are planned on property they currently own. While it may be a significant ask of the Developer Community by the City, it is not without significant upside for the Development Community, particularly, I believe, Remington to help move their Markham Centre development project forward at a quicker pace.

Frank and members of Council, I encourage you to rally the key Developer leaders together to put together a form of security syndicate to provide the necessary secured guarantees to make this GTA Center proposal a reality. I think your leadership alone is needed to pull this together. The public and political debate on the whole project has cast a somewhat poor light on our City. The debate can end, for the most part, with Developer secured financing.

This, perhaps, is a one time opportunity for our City to host a first class sports and entertainment centre.....the only one of its kind in the GTA outside of the City of Toronto proper. An opportunity that can further enhance Markham as a World Class City. A City with the integrity to preserve history and charm with growth. If this opportunity is missed as a result of a lack of public and political support of a viable financial structure, it or others following could look elsewhere in the GTA for potential location.

Regards.

Bill Dawson

cc: W. Graeme Roustan

(24)

Subject:

FW: Proposed Arena in Markham: GTA Centre

From: Emeka Okongwu

Sent: November 30, 2013 5:01 PM

To: Mayor & Councillors

Subject: Proposed Arena in Markham: GTA Centre

Dear Mayor and Councillors:

This is to let you know my views on the proposed arena.

The City of Markham should not construct, own, nor operate the proposed area. This facility should be 100% built, 100% owned and 100% operated by the private sector.

Thanks.

Emeka Okongwu



Subject:

FW: URGENT! MARKHAM ARENA - DEPUTATION

From: Neeraj Rastogi

Sent: November 30, 2013 8:55 AM

To: Tari, Alida

Cc: Mayor & Councillors

Subject: URGENT! MARKHAM ARENA - DEPUTATION

Nov 30, 2013

To whom it may concern

My name is Neeraj Rastogi, We have been living in Markham for the last 24 years.

Markham Residents/City should not be responsible for the financial burden of any kind whatsoever for this arena. If the private sector can not own, maintain and support this arena then the project should be scrapped.

We love Markham; we want our elected politicians to listen to the residents of Markham and do the right thing, and not waste our money in something that a private sector should be responsible for..

Thank you.

Neeraj Rastogi & Family. Markham

Subject:

FW: Stop Please

From: Christine Gerwlivch

Sent: November 30, 2013 10:02 AM

To: Mayor & Councillors **Subject:** Stop Please

Having lived through Montreal's - the Olympics won't cost us a cent era - I am asking Council to step away from involving Markham taxpayers in this scheme - If there are private entrepreneurs who want to run with building this arena in the hopes that "if you build it, they will come, fine and dandy - but please leave us out of it.

Christine Gerwlivch

(91)

Subject:

FW: GTA Centre - deputation

From: burnsj

Sent: November 30, 2013 11:40 AM **To:** Mayor & Councillors; **T**ari, Alida **Subject:** GTA Centre - deputation

I DO NOT SUPPORT the GTA centre arena.

This is NOT the business of the City of Markham.

If a company wants to build an area - they can do it. We should have NO involvement in this Private Enterprise. The City should not own the building.

To all elected members - listen to your constituents!

In my experience, I have **not met anyone who is in favour of this** - (except the mayor & Alan Ho). I curl at multiple curling clubs and usually raise this as a discussion point after our game - with 8 people each time & of the~ 150 people I have spoken with, there is ZERO support.

Either STOP it or make it a vote at the next election - if > 50% of the population of Markham vote for it, then you have credibility to proceed.

John Burns

(28)

Subject:

FW: Markham Arena

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Wendy Heuts

Date: Sat, Nov 30, 2013 at 2:24 PM

Subject: Markham Arena To: atari@markham.ca

I would like to make a deputation saying that I do NOT support the building of the new arena unless it is fully funded and fully operated by private funds .

Thank you,

Wendy Heuts Markham, ON



Subject:

FW: Proposed Arena

From: Eric Tuori

Sent: November 30, 2013 3:12 PM

To: Mayor & Councillors **Subject:** Proposed Arena

I have written numerous letters to the editor of the Economist & Sun regarding the proposed Markham arena. I have no issue with the positive economic spinoffs (including job creation), increased tourism, a first class venue to host sports, entertainment, community group events, and so on.

I do very much oppose any financial commitment by Markham Council on behalf of Markham taxpayers. If this venture is such a great proposal and investment opportunity, then it should easily attract private investment monies for all of the costs to build and maintain such a facility, and not rely on municipal government guarantees or contributions. Let the private investors commit their funds and reap the investment returns, or suffer the losses in the event the project falls short of the "business case". Markham taxpayers will not reap potential financial returns other than a "promise" of no increase in our taxes because of Markham Council's financial involvement in the arena.

Markham Council needs to focus on their elected duties and not get into partnering with private investors and assuming financial risks on behalf of Markham taxpayers.

One only needs to look at the history of the SkyDome which was funded by the federal, provincial, and municipal levels of government and a private consortium at an original cost \$570 million (per Wikipedia). Later the SkyDome was sold to a Rogers at a fire sale price of \$25 million or about 4% of the original construction costs. The land may well be worth more now that what Rogers paid for the SkyDome, or should I say, the Rogers Centre. Markham taxpayers are not venture capitalists, nor should we be committed to be such by our elected officials. If governments cannot learn from history, they are doomed to repeat the failures, but please not at the taxpayers' expense.

If Markham Council believes they have the legal protection and strategy to avoid a potential "white elephant" if the private partners declare bankruptcy at some point in the future, then they must share that with the public. So far the communication of the financial and legal arrangements have been a better kept secret than the federal and provincial fiascos headlining the news for the last year, which we all know resulted in billions of dollars of wasted taxpayers monies, and all of that as the country was grappling with a recession, lost jobs, and wages lagging inflation in many cases.

Eric Tuori

(39)

Subject:

FW: Submission on the Markham NHL Arena for Dec 2 2013

From: Mebs R

Sent: November-29-13 7:05 PM

To: Bavington, Kitty

Subject: Submission on the Markham NHL Arena for Dec 2 2013

This is from Amir and N. Karimbhoy

Re: We do not want the city to have ANY participation in the CONSTRUCTION or FUNDING of this Arena.

Markham's infrastructure is a priority and not the Mayors tax payer financed White Elephant - NHL Arena

The mayor wants to defer all essential infrastructure works so he can brag about 0% tax increases and can build and gold plate the dog house (NHL arena) when the house & roof markhamites live under is crumbling. His plan is to leave the taxpayers a beautiful gift "a legacy of debt". so he can get his # 1 priority for the past 2 years, the tenantiess \$325 million dollar arena financed by the taxpayer.

Every tax payer group in Markham is against the investment by the tax payer. The Mayor and councillors who voted in favor of this Arena think the tax payer is their piggy bank. They should put their pensions and personal property as collateral. This Mayor and councillors work against the wishes of the tax payer groups! Elections are not far away we will not forget these councillors who voted to propose indirect taxation on markhamites (levies on new homes for markham residents) to finance a white elephant. Read the article in the National post titled below.

Jan 30 2013.

NATIONAL POST

Markham councillors just the latest suckers with an NHL-arena pipe dream

The Mayors symbiotic relationship with the developers is very evident by his guest list of invitees at the council meetings for the Arena. It is very evident who got priority to give deputations, Dr. Who of the Chinese businessman, the developers he is cahoots with, the restaurant where he dines and all his cronies were there.

There is no transparency on any monetary matters in markham??. No bid Contracts are the mayors forte, and his priority was to spend the past 2 years of his time on backroom deals in hotel rooms for the NHL arena. To add insult to injury he spends \$600k on reports that he is only allowed to read and interpret.. He uses the solicitor, at tax payers expense so the residents are not entitled to read these reports. Here is another Bernie Madoff in the making. The Mayor believes his primary job is modelling for the media to have the most number of pictures plastered on the local paper and the balance of the time he spends texting on his Blackberry to his developer friends because his ears are plugged and ignores what the taxpayers groups have told him. He should indulge in such self-promotional activities on his dime.

If the Mayor had any business acumen he would partner to build this arena with someone who has a credible and successful history in the Arena business. Read about his partner - Roustan

Toronto Star Oct 05, 2012

The Star reported last month that a Texas civil court found in 2009 that Roustan committed statutory fraud in an arena deal.....The Roustan companies had owed more than \$250,000 in unpaid local taxes and thousands of dollars more to suppliers.

"OOPS", It is about time we put this mayor and those council members, who are his cronies in the "clear plastic bags" into the green bin. We don't need them to be recycled any more. Miller can also have this one again with a "no bid contract" courtesy of the Mayor of Markham.

Amir K

(31)

Subject:

FW: Arena

From: Ron Willson

Sent: November 29, 2013 6:42 PM

To: Scarpitti, Frank; Moretti, Carolina; Heath, Jack

Subject: Arena

The publication indicates that no public funds will be used to fund the arena.

To attract the arena private sector funders the city must have granted an exemption/reduction/deferral to property taxes and development costs and reduction/exemption/deferral to utility costs. The city may have provided the same relief to the private sector funders for other properties they own in Markham.

What is the total for all of these measures?

By not collecting these funds from the private sector for this project taxpayers must make up the shortfall in revenue.

Therefore taxpayers are funding the project!!

Ron Willson

(32)

Subject:

FW: GTA Centre

From: Lister & Susan Smith

Sent: December 2, 2013 12:29 PM

To: Scarpitti, Frank; Ho, Alan; Chiu, Alex; Moretti, Carolina; Campbell, Colin; Hamilton, Don; Landon, Gord; Shore,

Howard; Heath, Jack; Jones, Jim; Li, Joe; Kanapathi, Logan; Burke, Valerie Cc: David Jordon; Markham Village City Ratepayers Association; Tari, Alida

Subject: GTA Centre

Dear Mayor Scarpitti and City of Markham Councillors:

Unfortunately I am unable to attend tonight's public meeting regarding the proposed GTA Centre and its financing. Regardless, I wish to again register opposition to any financial involvement on the part of the City of Markham.

While the latest financial framework, outlined on November 29, is undoubtedly an improvement over the original proposal, the City will continue to borrow \$162.5 Million. In recognizing it is intended to repay this obligation over time from Developer contributions and lease of the arena facility, the fact is the City will be able to borrow this money – at preferred interest rates – only against its tax base. Therefore, regardless of the City's claims to the contrary, the property tax payers of Markham are firmly committed and, if anything goes wrong, they will be required to pay. No lender will advance such substantial amounts against – and expect repayment from – an unproven arena alone.

The November 29 presentation states Developers are to contribute \$120 Million, plus (unspecified) interest. However, the large interest obligation on the City's borrowing does not receive recognition. At the anticipated 4.6% rate, interest on the full \$162.5 Million amounts to almost \$7.5 Million a year, yet the lease rate is initially only \$2.6 Million. In any event, lease revenue is committed towards retiring debt principal. Therefore, it is unclear how interest is to be covered, as well as maintenance of the facility. The presentation does not appear to address either of these expenses and so, it is assumed, both will fall on City of Markham tax payers in some form.

I urge Councillors to oppose any financial involvement by the City of Markham in the proposed arena.

Thank you,

Lister M. Smith

PFAX Transmittal Sne ORRICO PO Box 24, Markham, Ontario, L3P 315 Tel: (805) 224.0736. Fax: (CITIZEN A facsimile CANADA The Corporation of The Varbauc outerio Number of pages including cover sheet: ____ From: _Sam Orrico AT Kimberly Killerigham Town Eleck SENDINY DIA FAX Kitty Barington Clerk TOWN OF MARKHAN Phone: 905-4/77,7000 Ex7 3695. Fax: 905- 479. 7771 Phono: _ cc. French lew grans others REMARKS: Y Urgent El For your review Roply ASAP Please Comment ARENA CONCENS Request to Make Daputation Dated Nove 29/2013 2 c Request to Make Deputation Dated sept 19/2013 Fax Copy sended Dated Sept 19/2013. 5. ORRito Requesting Presentations for GTA CENTRE Received Nove 30/2013. Numbers of PAGES. Encluding This cover to know if I going to be on a sist PAGE 01/06 15/01/5013 10:20

Deputation Form York 29 2013

To speak at a meeting of Courcil or Committee, you must complete this form CLEA, JY

Request to Make a Deputation

and submit it to the City Clerk to ensure your infurnation is necurately noted.

TUNDS

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Subject/Application:

Date of Meeting: Dec 2 and 3 Rols Agenda Item No.: Participants

I wish to address Council/Committee. 12 1.1.

N request future notification : neeting.

Sam ORRI Firm/Organization (if any):

Name

CARREAL. FO BOX RY MULL

Email (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY):

Address: 21 Main

MAIN

Residential phone: 205. 2940736 Business phone: 205. 2140236.

How to Make a Deputation

1. Please submit this completed form to the Clerk

Pleass state your name and address prior to speaking, and

3. Please provide a copy of materials used in your presentation, if any, to the Clerk for 1 official

record of the City,

Public Meetings give property ownerstesidents the opportunity to vaice opinions or comme Important information about Public Planning Meetings regarding an application for the approval of:

an amendment to the Official Plan

a Plan of Subdivision

Board (OMB) may refuse your request for referral or dismiss all or part of year appeal withe solding Clerks Department before Council makes a decision regarding the application, the Ontario N icipal Under the Planning Act, if you do not express your views at a Public Meeting or in writing , he

a hearing. Zniet Aspanit

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Committee Meetings

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Council and Committee Meetings. We encourage delegates to make their requests to speak in writing to the Cleak's Office and to address issues at the This irrochure explains the procedure for making a presentation at Markham Committee level first. Personal information on this form is being rollected pursuant to the Municipal electronically. Questions about this collection should be directed to the Clerk freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and may form part of the public record which may be released to the public in hard copy and/or at the City of Markham

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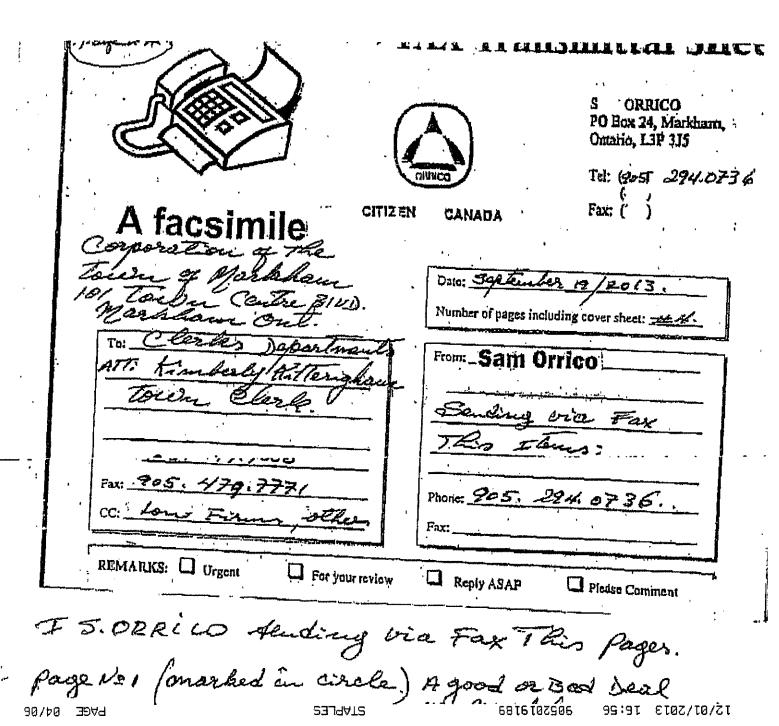
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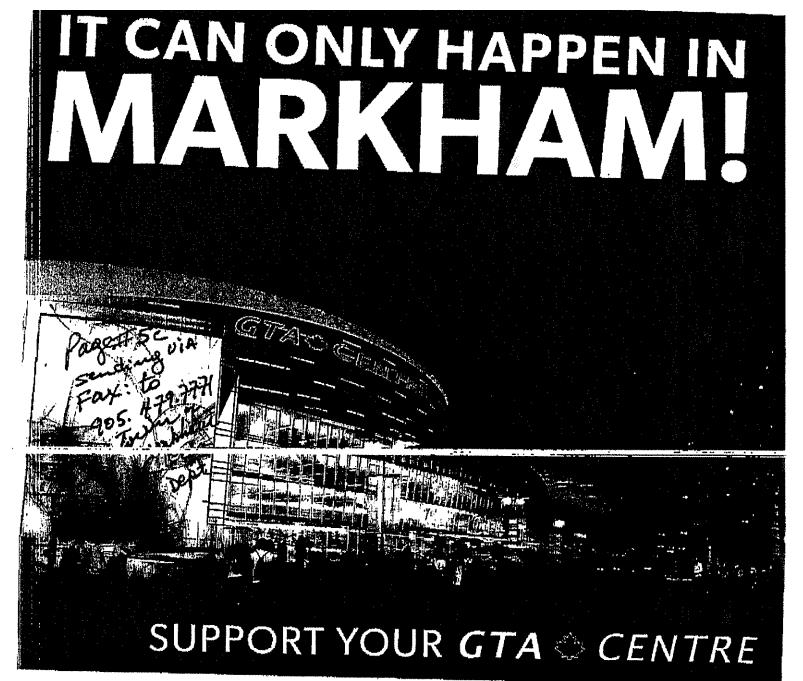
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MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2013 · 7 PM
MARKHAM HILTON SUITES

SPORTS, CULTURAL & ENTERTAINMENT fick up in Hail Box CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE November 30/2013

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15/01/5013 10:20

November 31 /20/3 5374415 6876 102906

Page # HO 2003 Nove 29/2013. To the CORPORATION OF TOWN OF MARKHAM. I S. ORRICO 101 TOWN CENTRE BIUD WOULD like To ADDRESS The ISSUI MARKHAM OXT. OF ARENA DEBATI TRAX İransmittai ənce AS FALLOW () PRESSENTAION te (1905-284.0736 OPPORTUNITY CITICEN FOR SOLUTIONS. A facsimile WOU 29 /2013 OF The ARENA FUND -Sam Ornico CONCENS. SENDINY UIA 5 to 10 MINUTE PACES BERS. DURATIONS. RIMALKINI D Viguel THE REAL PROPERTY. Deputy mayor keeping pur = 10in 48 NOVE-31/2013 1000-31/2013 905. 479.7771 DATED NOVEMBER. MARKHAM FRONCE TO RANS. framework to a in progress follow the city's SIGES suf-ter provided by a control **ASK QUESTIONS**

- (20g Markington 905-971-2000 col. 3665

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(24)

Subject:

FW: Opposition to the use of public funds for the Hockey arena to be built in Markham

From: Juk Sin Teng

Sent: November 29, 2013 10:35 PM

To: Tari, Alida

Cc: Mayor & Councillors

Subject: Opposition to the use of public funds for the Hockey arena to be built in Markham

Dear Sir/Madame,

I am a resident of Markham, and I would like to voice my resistance to the use of public funds for the big Hockey arena to be built in the city of Markham. This is such a burden to the taxpayers, and the private investors should come up with their own money to built the proposed arena.

I hope you people in power would listen to the voices of the people of Markham.

Sincerely, Tangge Jusino Teng

(35)

Subject:

FW: Deputation to the GTA Centre Debate, December 2nd/3rd

From: Dieter M

Sent: November 29, 2013 10:42 PM **To:** Tari, Alida; Mayor & Councillors

Subject: Re: Deputation to the GTA Centre Debate, December 2nd/3rd

Deputation to the GTA Centre Debate, December 2nd/3rd

It's time the City got back to focusing on the items of real concern of its residents (traffic congestion is just one example). The proposed GTA Centre has taken up too much time. Plain and simple, the GTA Centre should be privately funded, privately owned and privately operated. No Markham tax dollars directly or indirectly should be committed to this project.

Unless the above conditions are met, I urge councillors to vote to terminate discussions and remove the City from the Financial Framework of the proposed arena and finally put this issue to rest. If it's so economically viable then a private investor can build it!

If the Mayor and his 6 supporters on council wish to advance this proposal using different parameters than those above, then a city wide referendum should be held.

Dieter Misch Normandale Road Unionville

(46)

Subject:

FW: GTA Arena

From: John Chapman

Sent: November 29, 2013 11:03 PM

To: Tari, Alida Subject: GTA Arena

Mayor

This facility must be privately owned and operated and MUST not be owned by the City.

John Chapman A 45+ year resident and taxpayer in Markham!!!!

Subject:

FW: Against Public Funding

From: Parul Parikh

Sent: November 30, 2013 10:17 AM

To: Tari, Alida Subject: Against Public Funding

I am against the public funding of the arena. parul parikh.



Subject:

FW: arena

From: John J. Peel

Sent: November 30, 2013 2:13 PM

To: Tari, Alida Subject: arena

There is no way that tax payers of Markham should be left with responsibility for millions of dollars debt in the future for an undertaking such as the proposed arena. We must ask who will benefit from such a scheme? John Peel

(19)

Subject:

FW: Arena Proposal

----Original Message----

From: Jamie Taylor

Sent: November 30, 2013 3:01 PM

To: Tari, Alida

Cc: Mayor & Councillors
Subject: Arena Proposal

As a resident and tax payer of Markham, my family and I are ardently against any public funds being used to build the proposed GTA Centre.

In our current economic times, it is fiscally irresponsible, for local government to be funding any private ventures. Any Public funds raised from new development, should be solely focused on the lagging infrastructure that is not keeping pace with the increase in housing and population in Markham.

We sincerely hope that our Council and Mayor choose to represent the interests of all Markham residents, and not the wishes of a "special" few.

Regards,

J. Taylor and Family.
Markham Residents

Sent from my iPhone



Subject:

FW: GTA center

----Original Message----

From: WangG

Sent: November 30, 2013 3:04 PM

To: Tari, Alida Subject: GTA center

I`m stongly against any investment of the city in this project. If it is so good and profitable, just ask the private invester to fund and operate it. I am very doubtful this project is good for the taxpayers. Otherwise, there should not be any problem with funding it privately.

Mr. Mayor, stop fooling us.

A concerned Markham resident.

4

Subject:

FW: FUNDED ARENA

From:

Sent: November 30, 2013 11:28 PM

To: Tari, Alida

Subject: FUNDED ARENA

Confirming my voiced opinion on the above subject matter.

roads not swept in the fall, Trees need pruning, as an example.

No one cent of one's property taxes should be allocated in support of this venture now or in the future. Saying this now will not prevent the City of Markham bureaucrats from finding ways to invest tax revenue down the line in some form, in support of this venture.

The City of Markham should spend more time is improving current services or the lack there of. As an example, traffic congestion daily along Hwy 14 and 9th line. Monitor and control basement apartments and homes that exceeds a single family dwelling(as per by-law). Internal

Very best regards Dr.Albert Bissember, MBA, PhD



Subject:

FW: Voting AGAINST THE 20,000 SEAT ARENA owned and operated by the City

From: Wong, Clara,

Sent: December 1, 2013 12:39 PM

To: Tari, Alida

Cc: Mayor & Councillors

Subject: Voting AGAINST THE 20,000 SEAT ARENA owned and operated by the City

Clara Wong Peter Horn

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(3)

Subject:

FW: Deputation for the proposed Arena.

From: Celia D'souza

Sent: December 1, 2013 1:14 PM

To: Tari, Alida

Cc: Mayor & Councillors

Subject: Deputation for the proposed Arena.

Importance: High

I am a resident of Markham since 2002. Since I cannot come personally to this Special Council meeting as I work in downtown Toronto and return home late, my husband – Anthony D'Souza and myself would like to vote to remove the City from the Financial Framework of the proposed Arena. This facility must be privately owned and operated and MUST not be owned by the City.

We would like to let our Mayor and Council know that we did not elect them to spend hundred's of millions of public funds on a project that should be done by the private sector or with the proposed business partner Graeme Roustan. Thank you

Celia D'Souza and Anthony D'Souza



Subject:

FW: GTA Arena proposal - consideration by City of Markham Couincil - meetings sceduled for Dec 2 and 3, 2013

From: Simon Gulden

Sent: December 1, 2013 4:57 PM

To: Tari, Alida

Cc: Scarpitti, Frank; Jack Heath, Deputy Mayor & Regional Councillor; Jack Heath, Deputy Mayor & Regional Councillor;

Jones, Jim; Ho, Alan; Mayor & Councillors; Markham Village City Ratepayers @ Karen Rea

Subject: GTA Arena proposal - consideration by City of Markham Couincil - meetings sceduled for Dec 2 and 3, 2013

Importance: High

Mr. Mayor and Councillors:

As has been my position from the outset of discussions relating to the proposition for the creation of the **proposed GTA Arena**, in anticipation of the Markham meetings scheduled for Dec 2 and Dec 3, 2013, I, too, have **no objection** to the idea of the proposed GTA Arena being built, **provided that**:

-the **City of Markham** be removed entirely from the financial framework for the planning, development and creation of the proposed GTA Arena; that is, the proposed GTA Arena should be 100% privately funded...no strings attached;

-the Markham taxpayers be now or in the future **not obligated by any** financial and/or legal liability, no matter how small or how large...without equivocation;

-all monies for the development of the proposed GTA Arena be raised 100% from private investment sources without any adverse direct and/or indirect financial impact on the the City of Markham and/or the Markham taxpayers, and/or directly and/or indirectly by way of any municipally, provincially and/or federally inspired levies and/or charges; and

-those private investors wishing to participate in this project provide sufficient guarantees to ensure 100% of the financial cost of such development and overruns which are usually expected in projects of this size, let alone any size, be it of a private or public nature.

Respectfully yours,

SG

Simon Gulden



Subject:

FW: PROPOSED ARENA VOTE DEC 2ND 2013

From: Elizabeth Irving

Sent: December 1, 2013 6:01 PM

To: Tari, Alida

Cc: Mayor & Councillors

Subject: PROPOSED ARENA VOTE DEC 2ND 2013

Importance: High

This is our vote:

If there is an Arena at all; we only want it to be privately built, owned and operated.

I cannot attend in person but I still want my vote to count with this email.

Thank you.



Subject:

FW: Prosposed Arena

From: Louisa HO

Sent: December 2, 2013 8:47 AM

To: Tari, Alida

Cc: Mayor & Councillors **Subject:** Prosposed Arena

Me, as resident of Markham, I strongely suggest that this facility must be privately owned and operated and must not owned by the city. It is beacuse all those games are run by private associations and it is for their own benefits.

Louisa <u>Ho</u> Resident of Markham

(41)

Subject:

FW: arena

From: Ellen

Sent: December 2, 2013 8:27 AM

To: Tari, Alida

Cc: Mayor & Councillors

Subject: arena

I am strongly opposed to the City of Markham financially backing the arena project in any way whatsoever. This arena should be an entirely private sector project and it appears that a majority of Markham residents share this opinion. Why then does our Mayor continue to promote a financial plan that would require the city to borrow \$162 million dollars? His interests seem more aligned with the developers than with the citizens he was elected to represent. The citizens have made it abundantly clear on numerous occasions that they want no part of this deal and yet the process and negotiations continue. I hope today's meeting will put an end to this once and for all.

Ellen Sinclair



Subject:

FW: NO to taxpayers funding, borrowing or guaranteeing money for Arena

From:

Sent: December 2, 2013 11:16 AM **To:** Mayor%26councillors@markham.ca

Cc: Tari, Alida

Subject: NO to taxpayers funding, borrowing or guaranteeing money for Arena

Dear Town Council,

As residents of Unionville, my husband and I say NO to Markham taxpayers providing any financing directly, through a loan or as a guarantor for the proposed arena. The City should not be foregoing property taxes and diverting "special levies" that could be used for critically needed investments in infrastrucutre and public amenitites given the considerable growth and intensification of our City. The arena should be 100% privately-funded and privately owned. It's not rocket science to know that any capital project of this size will experience cost overruns and unforeseen future operating or maintenance costs. The City of Markham should not be in the business of owning an arena or be locked into any financial obligations to this facility for decades to come.

If the proposed arena brings the economic benefits that the developers are suggesting, then Markham will see those benefits if the project is privately-financed and owned.

Given the complete lack of transparency, sketchy details and last minute antics surrounding the arena, we have no faith in anything being said by the Mayor, Graeme Roustan and his group of developers — their track record on this project alone has been highly questionable. If the proposals around the arena are muddy and murky now during this "discussion" stage with "partners" that have proven to be less than forthcoming, we are truly fearful of how this project would go if the City gets involved in the development of the arena.

We are thankful for the tireless efforts of those council members and community groups that have advocated on behalf of Markham residents to ensure that we are informed. We are in full support of the motions being put forward by Deputy Jack Heath. Unless there is a transparent and fullsome proposal for a 100% privately owned arena presented to Markham residents for consideration, the council and staff need to stop working on this project and focus on managing the numerous projects and issues facing the City.

Regards,

Nancy Chan-Palmateer and Dave Palmateer



Subject:

FW: Markham Arena

From: Robin Ramakrishna Sent: December-02-13 11:35 AM To: Tari, Alida; Bavington, Kitty Subject: Markham Arena

Hi.

I will try to make it to the Hilton Hotel tonight or tomorrow night. In the meantime, I may want to point out that the company Remington built a presentation centre at Kennedy and Denison. I wonder why. In the evenings I notice a few expensive German cars parked outside the building.

Also who is this company Remington? What is their reputation in building arenas? Secondly, is this company related to Canada Homes who built thousands of homes between Warden and McCowan north of Steeles. They did shoddy work in number of houses and there was a large outcry and the Council inntervened to pacify the people and get the builder to resolve the issues. This was in 1987 or 1988.

After that, the name Canada Homes, did not appear as builders of new homes. Thereafter, the name Remington appeared with low priced homes. I suspect Canada Homes rebranded themselves as Remington. I hope this information is of help to you.

Sincerely, Robin Ramakrishna



Subject:

FW: Strongly against the built of Arena

From: Melanie Leung

Sent: December 2, 2013 2:07 PM

To: Tari, Alida

Subject: Strongly against the built of Arena

I 'm strongly against the built of the Arena with government involvement.

This Arena SHOULD NOT be built, especially on that location.

The traffic problem on Kennedy road is already a BIG trouble. It only make the traffic more worse.....Moreover, we don't need this arena as we have so many big, nice well built arena around and there use is not yet optimized.

As a Resident of Markham, I think this act ignore our wish and will let us lose millions tax income.