

Dr. Paulo Correa
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May 30, 2011

Mr. Peter Shurman, MPP Thornhill
7368 Yonge Street, Suite 203
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Dear Peter

Our community has been waiting to hear from the McGuinty government its response, as required by law, to the petition/motion – regarding the Concord West greenspace – that you rightfully spearheaded at Queen's Park and the community took such pains to organize. Ari Laskin told me that he had already gone twice to the Clerk's Office at Queen's Park and came away empty-handed, and he was going there a third time – but did not get back to me with an answer. I had also hoped that there would have been a way to force the House to consider your motion. Unfortunately, I have not been able to get an answer to this question, either.

We now know that the position of the MTO, as far as the Liberal government is concerned, is written in stone. Despite the unanimously approved February 15, 2011 motion in the City of Vaughan Council that supports the community's request to preserve this greenspace, and despite Council's stated intention to re-examine – during preparation of the Secondary Plan – the location of the intermodal hub and consider the Alternative Plan proposed at its own cost by the Concord West community, the letter sent by Minister K. Wynne on May 9, 2011, in response to the package that you graciously sent to Premier McGuinty, *makes it clear that the government intends to ignore the fundamental request of this community*; it unequivocally states: "the final station location remains south of Highway 7". Likewise, the letter I sent to this same arrogant Minister, asking for a meeting with the representatives of our three community organizations, has gone unanswered.

This sad case is a prime example of how the Liberal government of Ontario has proceeded for 8 years now: disdainfully ignoring communities, social and natural, when not condemning them to become forced growth centres, as is happening right now to our community; shutting their eyes and ears both to the unnecessary problems created by their policies and to win-win solutions, such as the Alternative Plan proposed by this community; claiming that they protect people and the environment, while trashing the last of the greenbelt associated with the Upper Don river and railroading the rights of communities to enjoy natural greenspaces.

If this government thinks that this community is going to take this trashing lying down, they've got another thing coming.

We had hoped, in this context, that you would have had a chance to query the Premier on this issue in the Legislature - but it is, in our view, time that the leader of the PC Party, Mr. Tim Hudak, took this government openly to task for this issue *which is not merely local*, but reflects the entirety of the failures of this Liberal government, in what concerns proper urban planning, protection of human communities and of the natural environment, and a balanced development.

It is with some urgency that we look forward to your response, as this community intends to make this issue into an election one. I thank you for your staunch and rightful support.

Best regards,



Dr. Paulo Correa, Chair, CWAHC