

*Metroland Letter to Editor*

## **More public meetings needed on incineration**

Wed May 28, 2008

To the editor:

Re: Incineration is our best option, Hugh Holland column, May 25.

Hugh Holland explained to us how incinerators work but what he did not explain is that Brampton's facility does not sort/chop or dry its garbage before it is thrown into the incinerator. The waste goes directly from resident curbs to the tipping floor where it waits to be loaded into the burner. I know this because I visited the facility myself.

There is no commitment to secondary sort Durham's waste before it is incinerated. I learned this by attending committee meetings at the Region. Our own Professor Dincer from UOIT is concerned that hazardous materials may be in people's trash and suggests that hazardous materials "... could affect emissions from the plant" and "... needs to be sorted out before it gets to the plant."

The public is being led to believe Durham is getting a "state of the art" incinerator. This is far from the case. Why have the Region and its consultants held no public information sessions surrounding both emissions standards and the business case? In a report done in June 2007, the consultants wrote: "Through the EA public consultation process, concerns have been raised about the potential for emissions from an EFW facility to adversely impact human and environmental health."

So why, now that the emission standards are on the table, are there no public meetings? Similarly, why are there no public meetings about the business case? Come on, we know everyone cares about money!

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