

Metroland – Letter to Editor

## **Local councillors deserve credit**

Tue Jun 19, 2007

To the editor:

Re: Council divide must be bridged, Jennifer Stone column, June 6.

How could our council be divided in asking for fairness and due diligence? That we have Mayor Jim Abernethy and the two Regional Councillors (Charlie Trim and Mary Novak) on one side, bowing to Regional Chairman Roger Anderson, and our four local councillors on the side of the taxpayers is rather interesting is it not?

How can our elected representatives get all the facts before making what will undoubtedly be the most important decision that this council will face this term if we don't have our own planning staff conduct a full review on our behalf?

That these same four Local Councillors (Gord Robinson, Adrian Foster, Ron Hooper and Willie Woo) voted to stop Mr. Anderson from addressing council last week was a brave, and in my opinion, a wise move.

Mr. Anderson had made a statement at Regional Council the previous week that our councillors needed to hear a strong message from the Region. Well, seems the Region got a strong message from our local councillors, and I, for one, am proud of them; they deserve our collective support. The other two, plus the mayor are being suckered and bullied by Mr. Anderson and friends, and deserve our scorn.

Once again, if we needed another good reason for direct election of the regional chairman, this is it!

Why did our mayor apologize to Mr. Anderson on behalf of the people of Clarington over this well-deserved political slap in the face? I don't think it was called for.

Jim Richards

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