



THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF PEEL
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE
MINUTES

GRC - 2/2019

The Region of Peel Government Relations Committee met on October 17, 2019 at 11:01 a.m., in the Regional Council Chambers, 5th Floor, Regional Administrative Headquarters, 10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A, Brampton, ON.

Members Present: S. Dasko; J. Downey*; A. Groves; N. Iannicca*; J. Innis; M. Palleschi; K. Ras; R. Santos♦; A. Thompson; P. Vicente

Members Absent: P. Brown, due to other municipal business; B. Crombie, due to other municipal business; G.S. Dhillon, due to illness

Also Present: N. Polsinelli, Interim Chief Administrative Officer; M. Schiller, Acting Commissioner of Corporate Services; S. VanOfwegen, Commissioner of Finance and Chief Financial Officer; S. Baird, Commissioner of Digital and Information Services; P. O'Connor, Regional Solicitor; A. Smith, Acting Chief Planner; A. Farr, Acting Commissioner of Public Works; J. Sheehy, Commissioner of Human Services; C. Granger, Acting Commissioner of Health Services; Dr. J. Hopkins, Medical Officer of Health; K. Lockyer, Regional Clerk and Director of Legal Services; S. Valteau, Committee Clerk; S. MacGregor, Legislative Assistant

Chaired by Councillor Innis

1. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST - Nil

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

RECOMMENDATION GRC-7-2019:

That the agenda for the October 17, 2019 Government Relations Committee meeting be approved.

* See text for arrivals

♦ See text for departures

Item 4. was dealt with.

4.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS UPDATE (Oral)

Discussion led by Sonia Mistry, Acting Manager, Strategic Public Policy and External Relations; and Patrick Mangion, Specialist, External Relations

Received

N. Iannicca arrived at 11:04 a.m.

J. Downey arrived at 11:09 a.m.

Patrick Mangion, External Relations Specialist, provided an overview of the federal political landscape including recent election polls and ridings currently receiving media attention.

Sonia Mistry, Acting Manager, Strategic Public Policy and External Relations, reviewed the Region of Peel's Federal Election Strategy which is focused on six key themes. She provided an overview of party platforms and their alignment to Region of Peel Term of Council Priorities, and she also identified advocacy opportunities in the areas of blue box reform, the Greater Toronto Area West Corridor, investment in the Canada Infrastructure Plan, the Provincial Policy Statement review, human sex trafficking, Public Health reorganization and mental health.

Sonia Mistry stated that, staff will circulate a memo to Regional Councillors with the election results, as well as, send congratulatory letters to elected Peel MPs and new cabinet members that outline Region of Peel priorities.

Councillor Ras requested that staff also send strategic "messages of the month" to Peel MPs/MPPs in an effort to keep Region of Peel priorities top of mind. Councillor Innis recommended including meeting invitations to create opportunities for face to face discussion of Peel priorities.

Councillor Innis suggested that it would be helpful to the public if the Region of Peel website highlighted the Region of Peel's key initiatives and how the parties are responding.

Councillor Innis requested that staff report a future meeting of Regional Council with an update on a strategy to address human sex trafficking in Peel.

3. DELEGATIONS

- 3.1. **Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction for the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade;**
Regarding Local and Provincial Priorities

Received

Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction, stated that there are many opportunities for the Province to work with the Region of Peel on the issue of human trafficking and he offered to provide a copy of Ontario's Strategy to End Human Tracking.

The Minister explained that Ontario is one of the most regulated areas in North America and that these regulations impact opportunities to do business. His Ministry is working towards reducing the regulatory burden on municipalities such as the number of reports required by the Province as part of the Environmental Assessment process. He welcomed ideas from the Committee and invited feedback on how he could further assist the Region of Peel in reducing burdens and driving economic growth.

In response to comments from Councillor Groves, the Minister agreed that business can be lost due to traffic gridlock and he endeavored to request more information regarding the 427 highway extension and GTA West Corridor.

Councillor Ras indicated that changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act* have had unintended consequences in creating additional regulatory burdens. The Minister requested that Councillor Ras provide him with more detail on the impacts.

In a response to a question from Councillor Thompson, the Minister advised that a new red tape reduction bill is being presented to the legislature and that his focus is on producing changes as quickly as possible.

Councillor Innis committed to working with the Minister's staff to hold a future round table discussion to identify key strategies to achieve red tape reduction in core areas of municipal responsibility.

Councillor Santos departed at 11:54 a.m.

5. REPORTS

5.1. Update on 2019 Region of Peel Advocacy Priorities

Received

6. COMMUNICATIONS - Nil

7. IN CAMERA MATTERS - Nil

8. OTHER BUSINESS - Nil

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Government Relations Committee is scheduled for Thursday, March 5, 2020 at 11:00 a.m., Regional Administrative Headquarters, Council Chamber, 5th floor, 10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A, Brampton, ON.

Please forward regrets to Sabrina Valleau, Committee Clerk, (905) 791-7800, extension 4320 or at sabrina.valleau@peelregion.ca.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:28 p.m.