

**COUNCIL**

**MOVED BY** Councillor Roy-DiClemente

**DATE:** January 21, 2013

**SECONDED BY** Councillor Eaton

WHEREAS the Town of East Gwillimbury has, since the early 1990's, envisioned and planned for a post-secondary institution in the municipality as a cornerstone to the building of a complete community;

AND WHEREAS, this vision has been embedded in approved growth management and planning documents and the Town has consistently demonstrated its intention to attract a post-secondary institution to the Town for York Region;

AND WHEREAS the Regional Municipality of York remains the largest population area within the Greater Toronto Area without a university;

AND WHEREAS the Town of East Gwillimbury is in the distinctly unique position to leverage opportunities to secure key land and partnerships and take advantage of significant infrastructure spending currently being undertaken by the Province and the Region for such matters as servicing, transportation and public transit initiatives;

AND WHEREAS the Provincial Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (Places to Grow) positions the Regional Municipality of York, and specifically, the Town of East Gwillimbury for significant population and employment growth which will further increase the demand for post-secondary education options;

AND WHEREAS attracting a post-secondary institution is a key recommendation of the Town's Economic Development Strategy and Goal #1 in the York Region Economic Development Action Plan;

NOW THEREFORE the Municipal Council of The Corporation of the Town of East Gwillimbury resolves as follows:

- i) THAT the Council of the Town of East Gwillimbury reaffirms the Town's Economic Development Strategy, supports the findings of York Region's Economic Development Plan and declares that it intends to secure post-secondary educational facilities for York Region, to be primarily located in the Town of East Gwillimbury; and
- ii) THAT to address the present and future demand for local university options in a timely fashion, the Council of the Town of East Gwillimbury hereby declares the post-secondary attraction project the top strategic priority, deserving of immediate, sustained and deliberate effort; and

- iii) THAT Council hereby directs staff to prioritize this project and immediately begin implementation of the work plan, with funding allocated in the 2013 Business Plan and budget; and
- iv) THAT Council hereby directs that staff continue to build on the partnerships and collaborations that have already been undertaken; and
- v) THAT Council directs staff to report back to Committee of the Whole on a regular basis on the implementation and status of this project; and
- vi) THAT the Municipal Clerk forward this resolution to the Region of York and that the Region be asked to pass a supporting resolution requesting that the Province prioritize and approve a York Region University; and
- vii) THAT the Municipal Clerk forward this resolution to the Mayor and CAO of all area municipalities within the Region of York, the Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities, all invitees of the September 2012 EGU Visioning Charette, other appropriate government agencies, potential private sector partners, and academic institutions to publicly reaffirm the Town of East Gwillimbury's commitment to securing post-secondary educational facilities.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DEFEATED

TIED (LOST)

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Virginia Hackson, Mayor