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For Immediate Release

The Regional Municipality of York saddened by death of Markham Regional Councillor Tony Wong

Flags lowered to half-mast in honour of Regional Councillor Wong

NEWMARKET – York Region Chairman and CEO Bill Fisch and members of York Regional Council express their profound remorse and sadness regarding the passing of their colleague, Town of Markham Regional Councillor Tony Wong.

Regional Councillor Wong passed away yesterday.

As a Regional Councillor for the Town of Markham, Regional Councillor Wong's tireless work has contributed greatly to the betterment of residents, businesses and services of York Region. His legacy will be felt not only by his community but across The Regional Municipality of York.

"I know Tony loved his work in politics in Markham, here at the Region and previously as an Ontario MPP," said York Region Chairman and CEO Bill Fisch. "Tony's accomplishments are many and his passing leaves a hole in our hearts and within our communities."

First elected to York Regional Council in 1997, and again in 2000 and 2006, Regional Councillor Wong served on a variety of Regional Committees, including Planning and Economic Development, Health and Emergency Medical Services, Community Services and Housing, Housing York Inc. and the York Regional Police Services Board.

Additionally, Regional Councillor Wong contributed greatly through his active participation on many Regional working groups and task forces, including the Simcoe York District Health Council, the Pesticide Reduction Task Force, Duffins & Carruthers Creek Watersheds Task Force, Solid Waste Public Liaison, Greater Toronto Marketing Alliance, the Tourism Advisory Committee and the Character Community initiative.

He was elected as a Member of Provincial Parliament in 2003 for the riding of Markham, and was extremely active in an endless number of community and charitable organizations and causes.

"Tony's most recent work as Chair of our York Region Planning and Economic Development Committee has enabled us to set the stage for the Region's future over the next quarter century," added Chairman Fisch. "His commitment and dedication has helped shape how our Region will grow, making all our neighbourhoods stronger and more engaging."

The Regional Municipality of York offers sympathy and condolences to Regional Councillor Wong's family and friends during this difficult and tragic time.

For more information on The Regional Municipality of York, please visit www.york.ca

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