

**M.Michael O'Flanagan
316 Perrin Ave.
Newmarket Ont.
L3Y 8B2**

Feb 18 / 2009,

Dear Members of Council for the Regional Municipality of York:

Subject: Hospital-Funding.

As you begin to consider the Budget for 2009 at the council meeting of Feb 19, 2009, I would like to identify several concerns for you and ask you to consider a particular course of action.

The June 5th Finance & administration meeting called for” staff to Investigate alternative funding opportunities for contributing to the Capital costs of hospital construction and report back to the Finance And Administration committee in the fall of 2008 with options.”

Since I represent a group of some 513 citizens I presented myself at the September meeting of the committee .There was no report There was also no report for the meetings in October, November or December. I was able to find that a workshop had been scheduled for January 29th, 2009.Accordingly I was able to present as a deputation for 5 minutes. As I understand it I was the only person providing input from a group of residents.

We would urge you in the future to invite and engage the residents in the discussions at committee and at council. It may well be that the opportunity of political intervention with the provincial government at Queens Park may be lost because of this treatment.

I wish to inform you that the group I represent continues to be in opposition to any Municipal levy in favour of Hospital capital programs .This is especially true in light of the 22 year program of funding capital projects in York hospitals contemplated by the Finance and Administration committee report which appears on your agenda this 19th day of February for the approximate initial cost to the people of York of \$264M as reported in the Toronto Star .This cost may grow as assessment grows and as any other form of taxation such as Developmental Charges are imposed.

It would appear that passing such a motion would let the Provincial Government off the hook for the next 22 years. Given the magnitude of Federal, Provincial taxes as well as The Ontario Health Care Premiums we pay, we would claim we are taxed extensively and the actions of council should give consideration to this point.

We would urge you to consider a lesser term than 22 years for the MOU that the Finance and Administration Committee contemplates .Perhaps a 1 or 2 year term that may assist the hospitals and us/you in bringing political action to bear on the Province.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael O'Flanagan