

Alliance for a Better Georgina

FILE No. - 107

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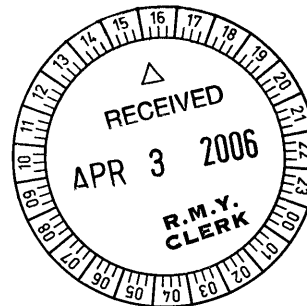
449 The Queensway South

Suite 300

Keswick, Ontario L4P E39

March 29, 2006

Mr. Bill Fisch, Regional Chair and CEO
Region of York
c/o Ms. Lee Steenoek, Executive Assistant
4th floor
17250 Yonge St.
Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1



Dear Bill,

I am writing as Vice-Chair, Alliance for a Better Georgina, to request your assistance in providing an opportunity to present our Community Mapping Project initiative to Council for the Region of York.

You may remember that I spoke to the group when the project was in the idea stage about a year ago. Two of the maps are now in final draft form and I think the Council will be very interested in them. They were a big hit with the Town of Georgina Council when we presented them earlier this week.

Our project, featuring digital mapping of geographic data (GIS -Geographic information systems), has been partially funded for three years (2005-2007) to complete community maps in 8 communities in the Town of Georgina . Objectives include mapping of all valued environmental, cultural and historical features with a goal of identifying features requiring protection and sustainable planning. Additionally, we are planning to launch a web-based version in 2006 which will feature mapping layers for application by local high school and college students in their studies of geography, history or other natural sciences, and for tourism purposes. Finally, it is hoped that the mapping project can be integrated into local economic initiatives utilizing GIS technology, including a popular tourist attraction called "geocaching", a computer/technical landscape- level treasure hunt utilizing global positioning systems.

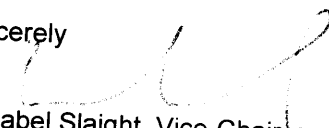
Our partners include community representatives and members, the Trillium Foundation, TD Canada Trust Friends of the Environment, Federal government Community Futures program, Sir Sandford Fleming College, York Region Geomatics Division, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority, and the Town of Georgina.

At present we have completed the first two maps which will be launched in April and May in the respective communities of Pefferlaw and Udora with great support and enthusiasm from community members and government partners alike.

We would appreciate the opportunity to present the project and mapping outcomes to Council in the near future. A brief presentation would include a discussion of present and future partnerships which could facilitate completion of this 3-year project.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely


Annabel Slaight, Vice-Chair
Alliance for a Better Georgina

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