



Regional Chair B. Fisch and
Members of Council

Attention: Denis Kelly, Regional Clerk

March 22, 2011

We understand that there has been some correspondence in regards to our permit application to remove trees at Beacon Hall and would like to rebut the untruths and set the record straight. As you may be aware Beacon Hall is a private golf course that has a successful business model dependent upon delivering a high quality golf course. In fact the club has been ranked among the Country's best but in order to stay successful we need adequate sunlight to grow healthy sustainable grass.

Shade is not a recipe for healthy sustainable turfgrass growth on our greens, tees and fairways. This is a subject we have not taken lightly, it has been reported to us repeatedly for over ten years of visits from the USGA agronomists and this past fall we invested in verification to exactly determine which trees needed to be removed so that no trees were taken down that did not need to. At a great financial expense, we retained Arborcom technologies to help us with this determination and they have proven successful results at over 500 golf greens across North America.

We did have a vote on re-grassing our greens but in all of our communications to our members or with York Regional staff we have always explained that although tree removal was a necessary component to the success of the re-grassing program, it is not contingent to it, the tree program is a key part of our success whether we were going to re-grass or not. There is no mention of re-grassing on our permit application. The turf that currently exists on our greens will greatly benefit from the improved sunlight. Sunlight is essential in turfgrass sustainability.

As a component of the reforestation strategy for Beacon Hall Golf Club that was submitted to the Region of York in support of the Application for a Special Permit under the Forestry Conservation By-law, approximately 1.23 ha of forest habitat will be created or enhanced. The reforestation plan promotes the planting of areas within the golf course that are presently maintained turf or devoid of tree cover as well as the installation of understory naturalization plantings in areas of the Beacon Hall property that currently lack understory vegetation. The establishment of a diverse understory layer is essential to allow these stands of trees to evolve into more diverse and functional successional woodland communities. In addition the reforestation strategy promotes the replanting of areas that will be disturbed as a consequence of proposed tree removal activities. A diversity of species are proposed to be planted with the objective of creating a multi-layered woodland with a varied age-class composition.

In recognition of concerns expressed by a neighbouring landowner regarding the potential for reduction in visual screening at the interface of the golf course and the adjacent private property, the reforestation plan proposes the installation of a number of trees in the vicinity of the area where existing trees are proposed to be removed. While these trees are proposed as low-crowned species,



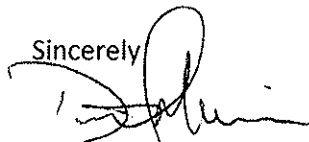
their canopy height will provide a more effective screening function than that which is associated with the high-crowned, open understory trees that presently exist in this location. In addition the reforestation plan promotes the installation of 10 large trees in this area with the objective of further supplementing the visual buffer along the edge of the golf course at this location. The Club has agreed to work cooperatively with the neighbouring landowner in the process of determining the most desirable locations for these proposed trees in an effort to ensure that key sight lines of concern are addressed through the implementation of the reforestation planting program. The Club has committed to implementing the reforestation program immediately upon completion of tree removal activities in order to mitigate potential visual impact and initiate the process of restoring, improving and expanding woodland habitat within the Beacon Hall property.

As far as communication, we have had information meetings with PowerPoint demonstration to both members and neighbors. We have emailed out sunlight modeling studies and photographs. We have met with the Beacon Hall Condominium Board and explained the tree management plan and hand delivered information to 35 residents who are adjacent to the proposed works including a few off Beacon Hall property. We have met and have been completely transparent sharing all of our research with Mrs. Ralston and Mr. Oudens on four separate occasions.

The work is ideally done in the winter when ground is frozen and adequate snow cover is present to minimize damage to the course. The best days are behind us, but we need to implement work contracts and job strategies for the coming season. However we have some areas that need immediate attention and we would like to proceed if permit is granted prior to the course opening this spring where it is possible.

We have 241 shareholders who appoint a Board of Directors to make decisions in the best interest of the Club, not all matters are voted on. As noted there has been continuous communication within our membership and our Board is unanimous in their support of the tree management program.

I trust this helps you better understand our position.

Sincerely

David Main, CEO/GM
Beacon Hall


Bob Dengler, President
Beacon Hall