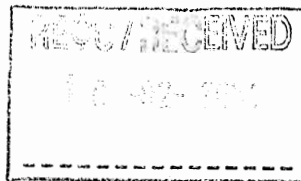




**Office of the Mayor
Tom Taylor**



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February 6, 2004

Chair Bill Fisch
Regional Municipality of York
4th Floor – 17250 Yonge Street
P.O. Box 147
Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1

Dear Bill;

I am writing this letter on behalf of the York Region Committee in support of the Stephen Lewis Foundation campaign of raising one million dollars for HIV/AIDS in Africa.

Tim Jones and I attended a breakfast recently at the Municipal Offices in Newmarket where the aim was to inspire people to raise awareness and financial support for the cause of HIV/AIDS in Africa.

We were fortunate to hear a very moving story from one of the Stephen Lewis foundation workers and she shared with us the atrocities that are happening there on a daily basis. There are six thousand five hundred people a day dying from AIDS. In other words the population of the Town of Newmarket would be erased in less than twelve days.

I am asking for you to invite a representative from this campaign to make a deputation to Regional Council to help this Committee with their endeavours. Please contact Mary Anna Beer, Chair to arrange a date and time. Mary Anna can be reached by calling 905-895-4332. I am sure Mary Anna or one of her many campaign associates would be pleased to speak to your Council and ask for their support and assistance in raising one million dollars in York Region for HIV/AIDS in Africa. The old saying "charity begins at home" starts here. We in York Region are heralded as being one of the richest regions in Canada. Let us prove we are one of the most compassionate as well.

Yours truly,

Tom Taylor
Mayor

"The situation of people living and dying with AIDS in parts of Africa is so desperate that even the most basic help will bring solace and hope."

"We know how to defeat this pandemic. We have all the knowledge we need. But to do it, there must be a quantum leap in financial resources."

Stephen Lewis, Secretary General's Special Envoy on HIV/AIDS in Africa