



RISK, DIGRAM AND THE CITY OF BARRIE

I am sure that the most recent plans for the development of the lands around us and, in truth, some of the lands that the BCC has been leasing for many years are by now common knowledge amongst the membership. We were very well attended at the most recent council hearings and our presence was equally well recognized. We can only now assume that the Mayor, Council and City Planning (also in attendance at that meeting) are well versed as to not only what we need but the importance of the BCC to the City as a whole. None of this should be a surprise to the Developer as we have been consistent over the last four years but, perhaps now, we can begin some meaningful discussions.

City Planning has indicated that they will not be making recommendations to Council until late this year and I think we can all conclude that those recommendations will include some concerns as to the scope of the development and call for additional studies/information/alterations/etc. as well as additional neighbourhood meetings. This is not going to be a speedy process! Mr. Jim Harris, the BCC's City Councillor informs me that the City has 19,000 approved but unrealized residential permits already so it is perhaps unlikely that the City will be in a hurry in any case. We need, at this time to measure in years!

For now, we wait. If the Developer wishes to engage, we stand ready to talk, but it needs to be their initiative. Our position is clear and firm and unless some much more meaningful proposals are forthcoming will become increasingly less amiable. In the meantime, being under no illusions as to the attention span of local political entities, we will do our best to keep a consistent profile.

Cheers to all

Norm Speake