

# SEWAGE COMING TO PICKERING

## Protest Rally

**When:** Saturday, July 24, from 11:00 to noon

**Where:** meet in front of Pickering City Hall

One the Esplanade

(Next to the Pickering Central Library)

What is the **STINK** all about? For over 2 years we have been attempting to defend the community of Pickering from the proposed sewage pipe, that could bring up to one BILLION litres of York Region's sewage through Pickering to the Duffins Creek treatment plant. The sewage will then be partial treated, then released into Lake Ontario, the source of our drinking water. We have opposed the construction of the Southeast Collector Sewer pipe (The Big Pipe) and all its infrastructure because of the detrimental effects it will have on the residents of Pickering and their quality of life.

Recently, on October 19, 2009, Pickering Council had agreed to launch legal actions on behalf of the residents of Pickering. Pickering Council stated they would support the overwhelming number of concerned citizens. Council's decision was also based on the legal opinions of 3 separate lawyers with vast experience in environmental law cases, who all said that Pickering had a very strong case. Council committed to vigorous legal action. In the city budget, which was approved in the spring of 2010, again Pickering Council further confirmed by voting approval, that they had allocated funds for the legal actions.

However..... In a **private** closed meeting on July 5<sup>th</sup> Pickering Councillors decided to abandon what had been approved and planned in **public**. Now, Council is refusing to publicly release any details or even how each Councillor voted. Virtually no information has been released to the public. And there has been no public consultation which has made many residents angry, and they have also called Council's actions undemocratic and secretive.

Residents have raised questions.

If Council had positive information to release, wouldn't they be pleased to do so?

Why would the mayor's announcement deliberately not be included on the July 12<sup>th</sup> Council's Meeting Agenda?

It appears that Council was hoping that nobody would notice them trying to slide their reversal of approved motions past the residents, just prior to the Council's summer break and prior to a pending election.

There is clearly a complete lack of openness, transparency, and accountability from Pickering Council.

There is still hope for residents of Pickering. Investigations are being commenced to involve other higher levels of government, concerning Council's actions. Also, with the pending election, the anger of voters can be wielded to remove those Councillors who are not acting appropriately.

**Come out and SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY, or contact your Mayor and Councillors to express your concerns.** (We will be supplying signs to borrow or purchase for this Protest)

This protest is being coordinated by Peter Rodrigues. Please contact him with any questions at 905-201-0476.

[www.StopTheStink.ca](http://www.StopTheStink.ca)

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