

Toronto 3Rs Working Group

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

March 26, 2008

Public Works & Infrastructure Committee
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON
M5H 2N2

c/o: Ms. Ros Dyers, Committee Administrator, City Clerk's Office

Dear PW&I Committee members:

Re: 3Rs Working Group Membership Issues – (1) “3RWG Member Recruitment” Staff report by Solid Waste Management Services and (2) Dr. Nesamoni Lysander’s sabbatical

(1) 3RWG New Member Recruitment

Since December 2007, the 3Rs Working Group (3RWG) has been working with the Chair of Public Works and Infrastructure, Solid Waste Management Services and Public Consultation on a recruitment process for new members of our Working Group. The process for selecting new members is set out in section 7 of the 3RWG Terms of Reference and detailed in the accompanying staff report.

Considerable effort was put into the recruitment process by all involved. Highlights included:

- two very well-attended public information nights at Metro Hall and North York Civic Centre, one of which also had multilingual media presence; and
- a large volume of applications (144) from members from diverse backgrounds and experiences.

We believe these highlights demonstrate broad public interest in the 3Rs in Toronto, as well as a strong desire to engage with the City on 3Rs issues.

The accompanying staff report provides two lists of six nominees each for appointment to the Working Group (one list for immediate appointment and the second for appointment as vacancies arise). Having fully participated in the development of these lists through an open, competitive and equitable selection process, we endorse the nominees as listed.

We would like to note that the final selection of nominees took into consideration not only the achievement of equitable representation from the City's four Community Council Areas and from both multi-family and single-family housing, as per our Terms of Reference, but also proactively incorporated broader equity considerations as outlined by the City Manager's office. We are proud to participate in efforts to represent our city's diverse population in its public appointments.

We would like to extend our thanks to all who contributed to the success of this process, and we look forward to continuing our work together.

(2) Dr. Nesamoni Lysander's Sabbatical from the 3RWG

Section 9 of the Terms of Reference for the 3Rs Working Group indicates that members who miss three consecutive meetings are deemed to have resigned, with the provision that this requirement may be waived by the Group with the agreement of the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee.

Dr. Nesamoni Lysander, a former CEAT member and one of the initial members of the 3RWG, has an annual teaching commitment in India. In November of 2007, he notified the Chair of the 3RWG that he would be out of the country until late March 2008 due to this commitment, and would therefore be absent from three consecutive 3RWG meetings.

At its inaugural meeting on January 10, 2008, the 3Rs Working Group passed a motion to grant Dr. Lysander a sabbatical for the purposes of fulfilling this teaching commitment. The motion is documented in the minutes for that meeting, which are available from myself or on-line at:

http://www.toronto.ca/garbage/3rwg/pdf/meetings/2008-01-10_minutes.pdf.

We recommend that the Public Works and Infrastructure agree with this motion and permit Dr. Lysander to return to full membership privileges and duties upon his return to the country.

Regards,

Heather C. Ducharme
Chair, Toronto 3RWG

Elaine Lepage
Vice Chair, Toronto 3RWG