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**REMARKS BY INGERSOLL MAYOR TED COMISKEY  
TO TORONTO PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE  
JUNE 20, 2016**

Let me start by saying thank you for allowing me back. Before I proceed I just wanted to extend an invitation to Councillor Peruzza and his family to come to Ingersoll. Given his question about cheese during the last meeting, I wanted to invite him to my town and would be happy to show him the sites including the Ingersoll Cheese Museum. We can talk about details after the meeting.

I watched with interest the public meetings around your waste management strategy and even had the good fortune to attend one of the session. One of the items discussed in that forum was landfills and I was hoping to have seen a change when it comes to dealing with burying garbage in your final report, but alas, it is not there.

The report talks about extending the life of Green Lane to 2040 which is an admirable goal and one that may be achieved because the report only talks about trash that is collected by the city. It does not talk about any of the industrial and commercial waste that is dealt with by private collectors. And those are the people that are planning to put the landfill in Oxford County 500 metres from the edge of my town.

I applaud some of the steps that are being proposed by Toronto when it comes to waste reduction and the 5R's, but to be quite frank and honest with you, I really do not believe you. That skepticism comes from history. Way back in 1992, officials from Metro Toronto appeared before a provincial parliamentary committee and talked about a 40 year plan and one of the goals was to have achieved a 60% diversion rate by the year 2010, a little more than six years ago. I notice this document talks about trying to reach 70% by 2026. You originally set the 70% goal in 2007, and have now updated it to extend the deadline to 2026. By the way, the 60% diversion rate set back 24 years ago, still has not been met. The number offered in 1992 was the result of 3 master waste plans drawn up by Metro. I have given the Clerk a copy of the Hansard of Toronto's 1992 presentation. I urge every member of council read it before you take a final vote on THIS plan.

The Hansard says back in 1991 there was a million less tonnes of waste going into Toronto facilities from private collectors. Where did that million tonnes go? Probably someone else's back yard.

I have this uneasy feeling that Toronto is going to reach their goals on waste they transport, which leaves the city a couple of options that are not good for Oxford County. A) You will not do anything to control waste from the industrial and commercial sector and b) if necessary you will turn more of Toronto's trash collection over to the private sectors with provisos in the deals that what is picked up does not come to the City's landfill. Then you can beat your chests and say what good little boys and girls we are because look at how much we have reduced the trash going to Green Lane.

I must admit there is less focus on landfills in this report than there was in 1992, but it is still there. The 1992 hearings heard that Metro was seriously looking at incineration to make use of the best available technology. That was 25 years ago and today we are still hearing you talk about looking at the best available technologies. I suggest that maybe the time for looking has come to an end.

The last time I was here I had the temerity to suggest you put your garbage in Christie Pits. Not surprisingly that notion to not receive widespread support from the citizenry of Toronto because most everyone has heard of Christie Pits. They have not heard of Oxford County which means the trash would be out of sight and out of mind.

Well if the majority of citizens in Toronto want a spot that is out of sight and out of mind, may I suggest Camera Heights. It is a deep valley with steep hills on three sides. It is next to the Humber River and that should not be a concern because all of the private industry experts say that with these new liners, landfills will not leak, so toxins ending up in the Humber will not be a concern. Camera Heights is as foreign as Ingersoll and Oxford County. So may I suggest you take a serious look at burying your trash there. Just keep referring to it as Camera Heights rather than the street geography of along Eglinton Avenue between Weston Road and Scarlet Road and fewer people will be upset.

I said it before and I will say it again. We do not want your garbage. We are not willing hosts. You create it in your borders. Deal with it in your borders. Thank you for your time.