

From: Jeffrey Taylor <**Sent:** Friday, May 7, 2021 7:41 AM
To: Clerks Public <clerkspublic@markham.ca>
Cc: Councillor, Reid McAlpine - Markham <RMcAlpine@markham.ca>
Subject: General Committee Agenda Monday May 10 - Agenda Item 9.1 - Skating Ban Enforcement

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Dear Members of Council

I've lived in Unionville for approximately 2/3 thirds of my life. I grew up in Unionville, went away for University and the early part of my career then moved back to Unionville to raise a family. One of the first things I noticed upon returning was the lack of a flag system at Toogood in the winter and the absence of regular skating on it, something I did countless times in my youth. I investigated, got the story and while I am disappointed that the City no longer maintains Toogood for skating, the compromise of not enforcing a No Skating Policy was something I could live with. Skating on Toogood is part of the fabric of what it is to grow up in Unionville and the thought that my daughter wouldn't be able to experience that makes me sad and honestly angry. If a group of local citizens want to take it upon themselves to clear the pond when safe for our kids to skate, I think we should be free to do so without worrying about being harassed by By-Law or the Police, and being made to look like criminals in front of our kids. Skating on Toogood is something that is healthy, community building, fun and perfectly safe not a criminal activity. There should be no further enforcement of the skating ban.

Jeffrey Taylor