

# **EDWARD CHOI Barrister, Solicitor & Notary Public**

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**BY E-MAIL ONLY**

October 6, 2023

Office of the City Clerk  
City of Markham  
Markham Civic Centre  
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Markham, Ontario, L3R 9W3  
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Dear Members of the City of Markham General Committee:

**Re: Monthly meetings for the City of Markham Race Relations Committee**

I am a resident of the City of Markham since 1994. I live, work, and have studied in Markham. I am a current member of the City of Markham Race Relations Committee (the “RRC”) since 2017 with my term ending within the next few months.

I am writing in support of our former Chair Mr. Andrew Yu’s letter dated September 16, 2023 and our current Chair Ms. Danielle S. Russell’s deputation to the City of Markham’s General Committee scheduled for October 10, 2023 requesting that the City of Markham reconsiders its decision changing the frequency of the RRC’s meetings from monthly to quarterly.

As discussed in detail by Mr. Yu and Ms. Russell, the Markham RRC does important work and is also seen to do important work in advancing diversity in the most diversity city in Canada. Prior to 2023, we were able to complete important work, debate important issues, provide timely advice to council, and organize important events (such as the Many Faces of Markham) with the support of the full committee as monthly meetings allowed for more timely discussions. The change to quarterly meetings has significantly inhibited this work.

I am therefore writing to respectfully request that the City of Markham reconsiders this decision and forthwith revert back to the monthly meeting schedule for the RRC. The work of the RRC in advancing diversity must continue and must be seen to continue to serve the many diverse communities and residents of this great city. Allowing monthly meetings for the RRC signals to

the community that the City of Markham is serious on diversity and reduced meeting frequencies provides the opposite signal.

At this juncture, I also recognize that other City of Markham committees which also do important work for the city in other areas are affected by this change and urge that you consider consulting members of the affected committees to determine the appropriate frequency of that change.

I hope that we can continue to focus on building a fair, equitable, and diverse City of Markham together.

Thank you.

Yours Respectfully,

***Edward Choi\****

Edward Choi, JD, LLM, LLB, BBA, BEd  
Barrister & Solicitor, Notary Public

***\*Executed pursuant to the Electronic Commerce Act.***