

*General Letter*



*The City Above Toronto*

Clerk's Department  
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive  
Vaughan, Ontario  
Canada L6A 1T1

Tel (905) 832-8504  
Fax (905) 832-8535

**FOR INQUIRIES:**      **PLEASE QUOTE ITEM & REPORT NO.**

April 13, 2006

Ms. Sheila Birrell, Town Clerk  
The Town of Markham  
101 Town Centre Blvd.  
Markham, ON  
L3R 9W3

Dear Ms. Birrell:

**RE:      RESOLUTION ON THE STATUS OF UNDOCUMENTED WORKERS**

I am writing to advise you that Vaughan Council, at its meeting held on April 10, 2006, adopted the following resolution:

*WHEREAS the Council of the City of Vaughan recognizes there is a shortage of trade, skilled and general workers in the construction and other employment sectors;*

*AND WHEREAS this labour shortage has led to the widespread practice of employing undocumented workers;*

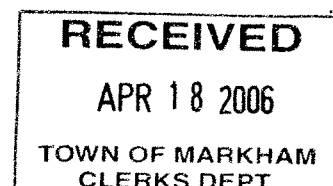
*AND WHEREAS the majority of undocumented workers work hard to build a better life for themselves and their families and, despite their lack of official status, make a valuable contribution to the overall prosperity of their communities;*

*AND WHEREAS the potential exists for the exploitation of undocumented workers who do not have the rights and freedoms enjoyed by all Canadians;*

*AND WHEREAS the pursuit and deportation of undocumented workers does not address the root causes of current labour shortages which are negatively impacting the long-term viability of the Canadian economy;*

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Vaughan requests the Federal Minister of Citizenship and Immigration to normalize the legal status of undocumented workers, based on strict eligibility criteria, in a timely and equitable manner;*

*AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT City Council supports an immediate moratorium on the deportation of undocumented workers, pending a comprehensive review of current practices;*

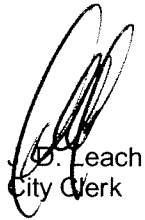


Ms. Sheila Birrell, Town Clerk  
The Town of Markham  
Page 2  
April 13, 2006

*AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT City Council directs the City Clerk to communicate this resolution to Prime Minister Stephen Harper; the Federal Minister of Citizenship and Immigration the Honourable Monte Solberg; the Federal Minister of Labour the Honourable Jean-Pierre Blackburn; the Honourable Maurizio Bevilacqua, MP, Vaughan; Susan Kadis, MP, Thornhill; the Honourable Dalton McGuinty, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Joe Cordiano, Minister of Economic Development and Trade; the Honourable Mike Colle, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration; the Honourable Steve Peters, Minister of Labour; Greg Sorbara, MPP, Vaughan-King-Aurora; Mario G. Racco, MPP, Thornhill; all area municipalities and copy Mr. Tony Dionisio, Union Local 183 and Ucal Powell, Carpenter's Local Union 27.*

Attached for your information is **Item 47, Report No. 18**, of the Committee of the Whole regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



J. Leach  
City Clerk

Attachment:  
Extract

JDL/pa