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From: Gregory Fowler
Sent: Wednesday, June 24, 2009 3:59 PM
To: Rowe, Linda
Subject: Submission to Board Of Control

Board of Control
Corporation of the City of London, Ontario

June 24, 2009

Subject: Public Meetings

Mayor A. M. DeCicco-Best and Members of the Board,

Subsequent to the direction received by the former City Clerk (attached below) and recent informal communication with the Ontario Ombudsman, please receive this request that the Council Procedure By-law be amended in such way to ensure that at all public meetings of the Corporation:

"that the complete text of all motions be read aloud by the Chair prior to the vote being taken and that the number of votes for and against each motion be announced rather than just whether the motion is carried or lost."

Please be advised also that, with respect to the position which I've publicly communicated to the Corporation previously, I have received indication from the Ontario Ombudsman that he is in agreement with said position. Namely, that a meeting of the Corporation does not qualify as having satisfied the requirement that it be public simply by allowing members of the public to attend; that citizens have the right to be able to actually hear the proceedings.

Specifically, it is my opinion that you have not responded sufficiently to the audio problem which exists in Council chambers and in committee rooms. More than that, that the continued behaviour of some members of Council who repeatedly fail to key their microphones, or who distance themselves so far from their microphones that they are ineffective, does violate the legislative requirement that said meetings be public.

Respectfully,

Mr. Gregory Fowler
962 Eagle Crescent
London, Ontario N5Z 3H7

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--- On Fri, 5/15/09, Bain, Kevin <KBain@london.ca> wrote:

From: Bain, Kevin

Subject: RE: Complaints

To: "Gregory Fowler"

Received: Friday, May 15, 2009, 12:27 PM

Mr. Fowler, your e-mail of May 12, 2009 included proposed procedural changes which would require amendments to the Council Procedure By-law for implementation. The approval of Council would be required for a by-law amendment. As I mentioned earlier, you may submit a request for inclusion in a public agenda of the Board of Control asking that consideration be given to amendments to the Council Procedure By-law. It is my understanding that you are requesting that the complete text of all motions be read aloud by the Chair prior to the vote being taken and that the number of votes for and against each motion be announced rather than just whether the motion is carried or lost.

For your information, the deadline for the submission of items for the next Board of Control meeting on June 3, 2009 agenda is Friday, May 29th at 4:30 p.m.

I trust that this e-mail provides you with further clarification of the process for consideration of amendments to the Council Procedure By-law.

Kevin Bain
City Clerk
City of London
519-661-2500 ext. 4937
kbain@london.ca

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