

November 28, 2017

By E-Mail

Mayor Geoffrey Dawe and Members of Council
Town of Aurora
100 John West Way
Aurora, Ontario
L4G 6J1

Attention: Michael de Rond, Town Clerk

Dear Mr. de Rond:

**Re: General Committee Meeting Report of November 21, 2017 – Regular
Agenda Item R13 (formerly Consent Agenda Item C2)
Memorandum from Mayor Dawe Re: Lake Simcoe Region Conservation
Authority Board Meeting Highlights of October 27, 2017**

We are counsel to Geranium Corporation ("Geranium") in respect of its involvement with the redevelopment of the former Highland Gate Golf Club lands in the Town of Aurora and the Friday Harbour Resort development in the Town of Innisfil.

Together with representatives of Geranium, I was in attendance at the Town's General Committee Meeting on the evening of November 21, 2017, for the purpose of monitoring Regular Agenda Item R2 – Highland Gate Parkland Design.

During the Committee meeting, we witnessed a discussion initiated by Councillor Mrakas in respect of Regular Agenda Item R13 (formerly Consent Agenda Item C2), regarding a document entitled "Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Board Meeting Highlights, October 27, 2017" (the "Board Meeting Highlights").

During the discussion of this item, and given reference in the Board Meeting Highlights to LSRCA being "fortunate to partner with ... Geranium Corporation", Councillor Mrakas questioned the nature of the "partnership" between Geranium and the LSRCA.

In that regard, we note that the Board Meeting Highlights indicate that the LSRCA's CAO had commented that "the development community and LSRCA worked very effectively together". Further, the document also references comments made by the LSRCA General Manager about how he had the pleasure of "working with" representatives of Geranium on a number of developments, including Friday Harbour.

In fact, Friday Harbour was recently the subject of a joint presentation by the LSRCA and Geranium to the International RiverSymposium in Brisbane, Australia as an example of excellence in watershed management and best practices that can be achieved through a collaborative process.

As stated in the LSRCA's 2016 Annual Report:

"Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) is the leading environmental protection agency in the Lake Simcoe watershed. For over 65 years, we've been collaborating with community, government and other partners to protect and restore the environmental health and quality of Lake Simcoe and its watershed" [emphasis added].

Thus, it is apparent that the LSRCA uses the term "partner" to refer to those with whom it works collaboratively for the environmental benefit of the Lake Simcoe watershed, which includes Geranium and its business partners on its various development projects.

Geranium is proud that it has had, and continues to have, a constructive working relationship with the LSRCA in a number of municipalities, where the LSRCA acts as a public commenting agency and/or as a regulatory approval authority in respect of applications submitted by Geranium. Similarly, Geranium strives to maintain similar working relationships with conservation authorities in other jurisdictions, as well as with its numerous municipal "partners", including the Town of Aurora, and community "partners" such as the Highland Gate Rate Payers Association.

To address the questions Councillor Mrakas raised at the General Committee meeting, Geranium offered to meet with the Councillor, an invitation that he accepted, and a meeting occurred on November 27, 2017, with Cheryl Shindruk of Geranium, Robert Visentin of ClubLink (Geranium's joint venture partner at Highland Gate) and Mike Walters, CAO of the LSRCA, also in attendance.

As a result of that meeting, we understand that Councillor Mrakas is satisfied and that he now understands the nature of the "working relationship" between the LSRCA and Geranium, and accordingly, why LSRCA considers itself fortunate to partner with development companies such as Geranium for the betterment of the Lake Simcoe watershed.

Geranium values its reputation and the integrity of its working relationship with the Town of Aurora, the LSRCA and its community partners, and is pleased that this matter has been clarified through constructive dialogue.

Yours truly,
DAVIES HOWE LLP



Mark R. Flowers
Professional Corporation

copy: Board of Directors, LSRCA
Mike Walters and Rob Baldwin, LSRCA
Patricia De Sario, Solicitor, Town of Aurora
Doug Nadorozny, CAO, Town of Aurora
David LeClaire, President, HGRPA
Client