



October 27, 2011

Ref: District Review of Services – Citizen Advisory Committee

Dear District Councillor

We are writing to you today representing the combined memberships of the Lake of Bays Association, the Georgian Bay Association, the Muskoka Lakes Association, and the Muskoka Ratepayers' Association.

It is our understanding that at the October 13, 2011 meeting of the Corporate and Emergency Services Committee (CES), a proposal (CES-11-2011-9) was debated that a "Services Review" process be commenced immediately, that a Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) be established, and that funding be provided.

While the review itself was accepted in a modified form, the committee decided that they would not proceed with the recommendation to establish a Citizen Advisory Council.

Representative of all our associations met on October 26 to discuss this matter, and unanimously agreed to ask District Councillors to reconsider this recommendation. We feel that the CAC as proposed in the report (broadly based, early involvement) is a vital part of this important initiative of Council. In an initiative begun under Gord Adams, and continued under John Klink, our associations have met with District Councillors and staff to discuss items such as the budget and its guidelines. A recent (and successful) example of early citizen involvement occurred during the budget formation in the Township of Muskoka Lakes earlier this year.

In summary, we would ask our District Councillors to consider and support the early establishment of the Citizen Advisory Council with respects to the Review of District Services. We will be delegating the Council meeting on October 31st to present our case and answer any questions you may have. Thank you for your support.

Betty McDonald
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Lake of Bays

Bob Duncanson
Executive Director
Georgian Bay

Brian McElwain
President
Muskoka Lakes

Susan Daghish
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