

Orono Weekly Times
Wednesday, February 9, 2011

Letter to editor:

Betrayed by flip-floppers

To The Editor:

Regarding the recent flip-flop of Clarington Council on the incinerator, I am very disappointed, and in fact feeling betrayed, by five of our councillors.

In the past, we had four out of seven councillors who were promoting the incinerator, in spite of public opinion polls that said 84% of residents opposed it. The main poll was taken in October (municipal election) and we swept a new council into power.

Six out of seven of them ran on an anti-incinerator platform. On Jan. 17, five of them voted against Mayor Foster (who ran hard on the anti-incinerator ticket) and Mary Novak (who votes in favor of it at every opportunity although she claims she opposes the incinerator, but "supports the process"), who opposed the motion (by Councillors Traill and Neal) to clarify the HCA with the Region.

The Region then threatened Clarington with a \$46M lawsuit just for asking!

On Jan. 31, the previous democratic vote was rescinded on a motion by Councillor Woo as some councillors seemed to feel the original motion was inflammatory (not in my opinion).

A new motion by Traill and Neal, again to enter into a negotiation process with the Region also failed, even though our town solicitor approved of it, with Foster, Woo, Novak, Hooper and Partner all voting against it. They even voted against getting an outside legal opinion!

This has angered some of their campaign workers and ratepayers alike. Having worked for Foster, Woo and Partner in the last campaign, I cannot help but feel personally betrayed. This may have been our last chance to get a better deal.

Jim Richards,
Orono