

Metroland Letter to the Editor

Mayor needs to learn about democracy

Thu Apr 10, 2008

To the editor:

Re: To debate or not to debate, that is the question, April 2.

Clarington Mayor Jim Abernethy seems to have a peculiar view of what a public discussion ought to look like.

The public information session where he hosted four pro-incineration speakers did nothing but polarize the debate further. The pro-incineration camp had nothing further to show than empty promises of magically better technology, and the incineration opponents were effectively muzzled by the strict rules of procedure in a council meeting.

To continue such a sham is to further marginalize Clarington in the decision-making process on what may become the most serious long-term threat to public health in the municipality.

Since the mayor refuses to inform himself by reading the many scientific articles brought to council's attention in recent months, perhaps he might yet enrich his education on the topic of public discourse. He should start by looking up "democracy."

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