

## TOGETHER FOR BUSINESS

November 15, 2019

To: Mayor Drew and Council -Township of Scugog

It was most recently brought to the attention of our Board of Directors of the Scugog Chamber by one of our members, that the core of the CIP catchment area was not fully developed or expanded on HWY 7A through to HWY 12. This corridor from the Smart Centres property moving west to HWY 12 has always been in the commercial expansion plans and has prominent businesses within the corridor already along HWY 7A.

"In 2013 the outcomes of the BR & E, survey respondents indicated some of the key challenges they face doing business in the Township. Most notably, these included high taxes, lack of sewage capacity, infrastructure maintenance, the impact of maintaining a skilled workforce, and policy restrictions in the Township" - Port Perry Employment Area CIP - Sierra Planning and Management -

We have long term investors within our business community who, over that past four years, have gone to great lengths providing time and money into two accommodation studies, along with other environmental assessments. They have already attracted a major, name brand hotelier who has invested in two more accommodation studies and in all studies the conclusions were very positive. These business owners have not only invested heavily in other areas of Scugog, but they will also be investing heavily in the building and construction of this hotel. They will be contributing a large portion towards the development charges, construction jobs, future long term employment opportunities in our community and perhaps down the line, depending on the Region's assessment, accommodation tax funds to Scugog.

We wish to point out that the "Community Improvement Plans" completed in March 2019 states "that this plan shall be prepared and adopted to: Improve conditions in older residential neighbourhoods and industrial areas; Improve the property and business tax base by encouraging economic expansion and new development by both the private and public sectors; Promote the revitalization for the downtown business area; Encourage investment and improvement in the maintenance and rehabilitation of existing commercial, Industrial, institutional and residential buildings and structure"

The Scugog Chamber of Commerce is in support of expanding the CIP program to include the proposed hotel at 1430 HWY 7A, a very large, multi-million dollar investment in Scugog. As this location is still "walk-able" to the heart of our downtown, recreation centre and marina, the hotel will provide yet another tourism boost for over- night stays assisting in growing the economic footprint.

As we know, it will take some creative and well-established businesses to assist and invest in the next stages of our Townships growth plans. We are looking to build our township up and provide that road map for future large investment in Scugog. This CIP program expansion will send a very encouraging message to other private investors that are looking to possibly invest in Scugog that we are in fact open for business.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Janssen,

Chair, Scugog Chamber of Commerce