

**From:** YorkRegion  
**Sent:** September 11, 2019 11:49 AM  
**To:** Regional Clerk  
**Subject:** Electronic Deputation Request Submission

A deputation request has been submitted on york.ca

Council / Committee meeting and date: **10/3/2019**

Meeting type: **Committee of the Whole**

Agenda item number:

Subject: **Mayors' Benchmarking Challenge (EWRB)**

Name of spokesperson: **Brent Kopperson**

Name of group or person(s) being represented (if applicable): **Windfall Ecology Centre, Aurora, ON**

Brief summary of issue or purpose of deputation: **Windfall Ecology Centre is a non-profit social enterprise dedicated to building sustainable communities. We have served the York Region community for over 20 years.**

**The purpose of the deputation is to update Regional Council on the Provincial Energy and Water Reporting and Benchmarking Regulation for Large Buildings (EWRB) and to invite York Region Mayors to consider joining an initiative called the Mayor's Benchmarking Challenge.**

**The EWRB regulation requires building owners, with buildings greater than 50,000 sq ft to measure and report their energy and water use annually to the Province. Measuring energy is the first step to reducing usage. Research by the US Environmental Protection Agency confirms that simply measuring energy usage results in average savings of 2.4% per year. By reducing energy consumption building owners can increase profit while reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the fight to address the climate emergency.**

**To date only 245 buildings, which is 34% of York Region buildings required to report, have participated in the EWRB program. By July 2020, the number of buildings required to report will be close to 2600. Many York Region building owners are unaware of the EWRB regulation and the value it provides.**

**By participating in the Mayor's Benchmarking Challenge, you will be helping to create awareness among building owners and tenants of the EWRB program and its benefits;**

- **provides objective, reliable information on energy use and the benefits of improvements,**
- **increases general awareness of energy efficiency among building occupants, which in turn may effect changes in behaviour,**
- **prioritizes poorly performing facilities for immediate improvement,**
- **identifies best practices that can be replicated, either within a building or across a portfolio of buildings,**
- **establishes reference points for measuring and rewarding good performance**
- **helps to develop a comprehensive energy management action plan and build the business case for capital investments (retrofits), and**
- **leads to savings that will lower energy costs while maintaining – or even increasing – profit margins**

**In addition, municipalities will have data to advance community-wide energy planning and economic development programs.**

**Municipal staffs have been widely consulted on the Mayor's Benchmarking Challenge initiative and will be engaged in the roll out of the initiative through a project leadership group. There is no cost for municipal support.**

**With support from the Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines and Natural Resources Canada, Windfall Ecology Centre has established the Ontario Benchmarking Help Centre to assist building owners with EWRB compliance.**

**Windfall Ecology Centre will be responsible for the execution of the Mayor's Benchmarking Challenge. We expect to announce the challenge champions at a November 2020 celebratory event.**

Have you been in contact with a Regional staff member or Regional Council Member regarding this matter?: **Yes**

If yes, with whom: **Mayor John Taylor**

Contact Name: **Harry French**