

## CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PERSONS CHAPTER 52 BRAMPTON ONTARIO

**April 15 2022** 

To the Mayor and Members of Council

Brampton CARP believes that the city of Brampton is overdue a university. We are the ninth largest city in Canada and the fourth largest in the GTA. We are the only large city in Canada that doesn't have a university and we believe that this an untenable situation.

Previous administrations have tried to establish a university. The last administration, through its Blue-Ribbon committee, established the ground rules for a partnership between the city, Ryerson University and Sheridan College. That partnership was set to go until it was wiped out by the provincial government.

As one of the primary senior groups in Brampton, we know that a university completes the educational, cultural and academic cycle in any community and we know, through the work of the Blue-Ribbon committee, that the economic benefits far surpass the costs for this endeavour. We also know that, without provincial support, the project cannot go ahead so we need this council to once again step back into the breech and up to the plate.

Who you select as partners is your prerogative but we urge you to review the material collected by the Blue-Ribbon committee before you select anyone! We believe that selection should be based on a number of academic and financial criteria and that persons understanding how to set up a university be helpful in providing you with advice on how to do it.

As the Blue-Ribbon committee discovered and subsequent events have demonstrated, the likelihood of attracting interest from established university is becoming, over time, less and less of a possibility. With the announcement of a provincially funded Ryerson medical school and the Ryerson/city partnership on the cyber center, the possibility of major blending of university and college courses may still be possible.



CARP acknowledges that this community is ready for a university and for some it couldn't come too soon. CARP also acknowledges the good work that Algoma University does here each and every day and we note Algoma interests may intersect with the proposal from Guelph University/Humber College or Ryerson/Sheridan. All of these proposals and settings need vetting by individuals who have some experience in higher education so that the results speak to the needs of the community.

Notwithstanding, the apparent provincial lack of interest in supporting a university in Brampton, we urge Brampton city council to conduct a proper review of the proposals by an appropriate city panel /committee to see if and how that proposal meets Brampton's acute need for a university. We urge Council to act promptly to make this happen and we urge Council to make representation to the government to support that action.

Sincerely

Rose Marie Grycaj

**President** 

**Brampton CARP**