

# SUSTAINABLE TRANSITIONS

9<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Mayor Patrick Brown and Council  
City Hall  
2 Wellington Street West  
Brampton ON L6Y 4R2

Sent via email to: [cityclerksoffice@brampton.ca](mailto:cityclerksoffice@brampton.ca); [peter.fay@brampton.ca](mailto:peter.fay@brampton.ca)

Dear Mayor Brown and Councillors

I have not yet received a response to my letter of 28<sup>th</sup> March, but it has come to my attention that the Acting CAO's BramptonU report has been tabled for consideration by Council this week, giving everyone involved very little time to consider its contents.

Although the Acting CAO's report contains a good deal of valuable factual information, I have to place on formal record that it also contains errors which might easily have been corrected if those involved had been given the courtesy of commenting on a draft of the report. I believe that as the primary contractors on the BramptonU project ASI and SRA are providing clarifications and corrections where necessary, thereby demonstrating the often thankless professionalism that both organisations have role modeled throughout this project.

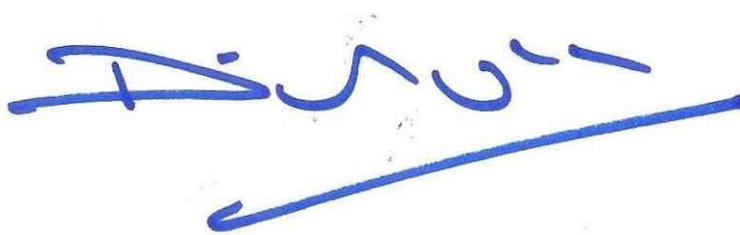
However, my main criticism of the report is not that it contains easily-corrected errors. It is that it completely misses the context and the sometimes shifting decision-making and priorities of the City as a client that both ASI and SRA had to deal with during a particularly intense period November 2019-March 2020, but arguably ever since. As professional consultants ASI, SRA and indeed myself always stayed extremely close to the original contract briefs, and agreed any shifts in emphasis with Council officers as things unfolded, as the email record will show. But I could list multiple times when the Council itself exerted new requests and shifts of gear.

As we all felt we were on the same team everyone rolled with these changes and focused on the prize of getting an unassailable case for BramptonU to the Province, as directed by Council and (then) CAO David Barrick and his team. So when Acting CAO Morrison's report lists the 'pitch to the province' as 'other documents', and 'not directly matching to the deliverables in either RFP' this reflects a complete absence of context and an understanding of the decision-making process at the time. I would note however, that at least twenty senior staff of the City were involved in this urgent, agreed, and super-arching collective deliverable and that Councillors themselves were invited to the drafting sessions.

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This is how intense projects work. When you are up against a deadline and a major piece of work needs to be delivered that does not happen to be in the contract, you do not stop work, you do your very best to make it work. In my case that also included incurring significant personal costs for time and expenses that were never reimbursed by the City. I was happy to do that because I believed in the cause. I still do, for reasons set out in my letter of 28<sup>th</sup> March. I hope that as a Council all of you still believe in it as well. With profound respect, it is what your constituents deserve.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'David Wheeler', written over a horizontal blue line.

Dr David Wheeler

cc Katharine Partridge, Stakeholder Research Associates  
Jennifer Hooper, Academy for Sustainable Innovation