This page was exported from - The Auroran
Export date: Fri Mar 29 7:13:38 2024 / +0000 GMT

Councillor chose ?negativity over positivity? in inaugural speech

On December 2, I attended the Inaugural Meeting of Aurora Town Council.
It was a wonderful evening. The Town Crier, John Webster, Piper Jim McGillivray and singer Joseph Likuski, added a great measure of decorum to the evening.
Mayor Dawe's inaugural address was eloquent and each Councillor, incumbents and newly elected, thanked their supporters and spoke of their intent to work together in harmony with their fellow Councillors.
Councillor Wendy Gaertner, however, chose negativity over positivity. She chose to espouse her belief in the urgent need for and by extension, her superior ability to ensure ?transparency? in Council decisions.
She did the same thing the previous Tuesday at the last meeting of the outgoing Council ? having thanked John Gallo for his efforts in bringing ?transparency? to the Council; the implication being that ?other? members of Council inhibit ?transparency.?
I wonder if Wendy Gaertner understands the meaning of the word, ?transparency.?
According to Webster's Dictionary, the word ?transparency? means ?able to be viewed.? In a recent letter to The Auroran by Barbara Allen, it was stated that in Phyllis Morris' term, 139 hours were spent in closed session versus 71 hours during Mayor Dawe's term. Wendy Gaertner was a member of Council during the Morris era.
Also, John Gallo and Wendy Gaertner were in a closed session under the Morris Council, when they voted in favour of a motion that resulted in three Aurora citizens being served with a lawsuit on Thanksgiving Day, October 2010.
We all have vivid recollections of the turmoil and outcome that decision created.
Wendy, this time around, why not spend your time and energy productively?
Don't continue to waste taxpayer money by making endless requests for staff reports and information ? information that is already in the reports before you.
Be a working member of this new Council instead of continuing to be a roadblock to effective and efficient proceedings of Council.
You owe that much to the taxpayers and residents you serve.

Rosalyn A. Gonsalves
Aurora