

?Aurorans demand apology,? says resident

An Open Letter to Mayor & Council:

I am fiercely Canadian of proud Italian Heritage living in Aurora.

The proud Italian community feel the betrayal, intolerance, alleged biased from Town of Aurora Council towards Italians.

In particular, we allege that architects of this slight to Italians excluded the Italian community from participating as vendors, food suppliers and entertainment without due diligence and proper notice to Italians in regards the event.

Their poor excuse is that time ran out, and could not find Italians to participate.

Further, once I complained, two days prior to the Festival, they changed the original advertising poster with cultural country names excluding Italian to an edited poster.

We allege that they included their own worthy cultures on the advertising poster at the expense of the greater number and much more visible majority of Italians in Aurora.

The cultural make up and population numbers in Aurora alone will add to the ill-advised plan to exclude Italians from the party: Italians 2,500. Greeks 500. Koreans 300.

One can come to their own conclusions on this fact alone; let alone the large Italian business and construction presence in Aurora.

Did the organizing Councillors act for the greater interest of Aurora or did they act for their own personal agenda?

In view of the above, 2,500 Aurora Italians, along with 600,000 Italians in Canada respectfully demand a public apology from Town of Aurora Council.

While Councillors have a tendency to blame staff, (who cannot comment) for Council blunders, I hold Town of Aurora Staff in high regard and are the best in York Region.

If any unwilling error was done by staff, it was under the guidance of councillors, not staff.

Further, as Aurora residents and tax payers, we please request an audited Financial Statement from the Town of Aurora, income, expenses, sponsors, donations and loss and gain of the Event.

Furthermore, we request an explanation on accountability of who, what, how, when and where of the organizational plans that guided the Festival.

As it is now, Italy is currently suffering from immense earthquakes and loss of life.

Respectfully, we do not need the added injury of insult from Aurora Council on top of our anguish and bereavement.

Italian Canadians community await Town of Aurora Council's public apology. We will not rest.

Thank you in advance of your courtesy.

Anthony Pullano

Aurora

(Editor's Note: The Town of Aurora began advertising for local community groups to come forward and apply to participate at the beginning of August with an application deadline of August 23.)