



News release

A disturbing and unacceptable smear campaign

Wentworth, Tuesday, November 6, 2012 - For several months, the mayor of the municipality of the Township of Wentworth and the majority of the members of the Municipal Council have been concerned about the publication of a series of documents being circulated by one of their colleagues on Council. This councillor is disseminating incomplete and arguably libellous information, and appears to be taking advantage of his status as councillor to call into question the reputation of the mayor and certain municipal employees.

According to Mayor Edmund Kasprzyk, *“Councillor Harvey is completely entitled to his opinions about decisions taken by Council; however, by naming and calling into question the work, competence, and integrity of municipal employees or elected officials, he is exceeding the boundaries of democratic expression.”*

Furthermore, the graphic layout and format of the newsletters published by the councillor lead one to believe that they are official municipal publications. Although this is not the case, many citizens have contacted councillors or municipal management to express their surprise with the vindictive content of these documents and their format, which resembles the quarterly newsletter, entitled *Info Wentworth*, published by the municipality.

As Mayor Kasprzyk explains, *“Wentworth is a small community whose values have always centred around mutual support and decisions to benefit all the citizens of Wentworth; it is regrettable that an elected official has chosen to engage in such systematically negative communications and, in so doing, expresses his resentment towards the decisions made by the Municipal Council during public meetings.”*