

May 9, 2016
City of Barrie
70 Collier Street
Barrie, Ontario
L4M 4T5

Attention: Mayor Lehman and Council Members

Re: Georgian College

I am writing to you on behalf of the Barrie East End Householders Association (BEEHA). We understand that Council will consider giving Georgian College \$5 million for a new Innovation and Research Centre. We applaud the continued growth of Georgian because it contributes to the wellbeing and prosperity of the City.

Should Council approve the contribution of these funds, we ask that it be conditional on the college constructing additional student appropriate housing on campus. The proposed new building will bring an additional 800 to 1,500 students to the site – a site that is already significantly short of suitable accommodation for students.

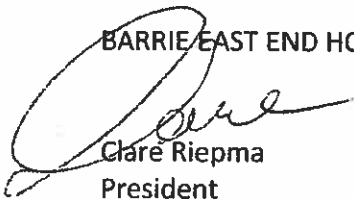
For many years now the lack of housing designed for students has resulted in students living in single family homes in the near college area in Ward 1. Homes that are designed for single family living are purchased by investors and rented to five or six students. These neighbourhoods were not designed to accommodate the numbers of cars needed by students nor are they always compatible with a family neighbourhood lifestyle.

We are encouraged by student housing now under construction on Georgian Drive and at Sydenham Wells. However even with these new residences, there will still be a significant number of students forced to live in the near campus neighbourhood. Georgian needs to provide housing accommodation for its students and should not be permitted to let the surrounding community shoulder this burden. Additional costs of policing and bylaw enforcement are only part of the costs the City incurs as a result.

To be clear, BEEHA strongly supports Georgian College. We have worked with them over the years to resolve issues and we believe that the college and its students are a significant asset to our City. It is time however to ensure that the College carries its fair share of the responsibility for student housing.

Respectfully Submitted

BARRIE EAST END HOUSEHOLDERS ASSOCIATION



Clare Riepma
President