The City of BARRIE

TO:

Mayor J. Lehman and Members of Council

FROM:

C. Millar, MBA, CPA, CGA, Director of Finance and Treasurer

P. Elliott-Spencer, MBA, CPA, CMA, General Manager of Community and Corporate Services

NOTED:

C. Ladd, Chief Administrative Officer

RE:

Financing of Contribution to Georgian College

DATE:

May 9, 2016

At General Committee on May 2, 2016, the following resolutions were approved by General Committee:

- 1. That the City of Barrie provide Georgian College with \$5 million (or a maximum of 25% of the total project, whichever is less) over a four year period for the proposed Advanced Technology, Innovation and Research Centre, subject to the College receiving Federal funding and the successful negotiation and execution of a funding agreement outlining the terms associated with the provision of the funds including a requirement for a firm commitment and timeline from the College to establish student/academic programs in the City Centre.
- That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute a funding agreement, with the terms and form of the agreement to be to the satisfaction of the Chief Administrative Officer, Treasurer, and Director of Legal Services.

General Committee requested that staff provide a Memo to Council on May 9th, outlining how the contribution could be funded, which is the purpose of this memo.

The contribution to Georgian College will be provided over a four year period. There are a number of options that staff will consider in determining an actual recommended plan, including reserve capacity, future dividends from Powestream/MergeCo, and tax financing.

Staff is currently considering options for the financing of the City's share of the purchase of Hydro One Brampton, as part of the MergeCo transaction, as well as considering funding that may be required for the City's share of any projects that are approved under Federal/Provincial Infrastructure programs.

Recommendations on the financing of the MergeCo transaction will be provided to Council before the end of June. These recommendations will determine the level of dividends that maybe available as a possible source of financing for the contribution. Other options to be investigated include available reserve funding, and possible tax contributions. Staff will attempt to minimize tax impacts in any recommendations put forward for the financing of the Georgian College contribution. Recommendations will be provided to Council before the funding agreement is executed with Georgian College.

C. Millar, MBA, CPA, CGA

Director of Finance and Treasurer