

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 28, 2014

Item 2, Report No. 1, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on January 28, 2014.

2 PROCLAMATION – INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY - MARCH 8, 2014

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Commissioner of Community Services, dated January 14, 2014:

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Community Services, in consultation with the Director of Recreation and Culture, recommends:

1. That March 8, 2014 be proclaimed International Women’s Day and that this day be automatically proclaimed for consecutive years; and,
2. That the information relating to the February 27, 2014 International Women’s Day event at City Hall in collaboration with the Elspeth Heyworth Centre for Women, be received.

Contribution to Sustainability

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council in the Green Directions, Vaughan, Community Sustainability Environmental Master Plan, Goal 4, and Objective 4.1:

- To foster a city with strong social cohesion, an engaging arts scene, and a clear sense of its culture and heritage.

Economic Impact

Costs not covered through sponsorship efforts or in-kind contributions for this event will be covered by the 2014 Cultural Services Operating budget to a maximum amount of \$500.

Communications Plan

The City of Vaughan will communicate the observance of the International Women’s Day and the February 27, 2014 event on the City’s website.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to proclaim yearly International Women’s Day on March 8 in Vaughan, and inform Council of the February 27, 2014 event at Vaughan City Hall.

Background - Analysis and Options

International Women’s Day (IWD) is celebrated every year on March 8. This global event celebrates the economic and social achievements of women and was first officially recognized by the United Nations in 1975.

In honour of IWD, the City has partnered with the Elspeth Heyworth Centre for Women to host a half day event on February 27, 2014 at Vaughan’s City Hall featuring various speakers which will inform on various topics. Two keynote speakers confirmed at the time of writing are as follows: The Honourable Jean Augustine, former Member of Parliament and Cabinet Minister who currently serves as Fairness Commissioner for the Province of Ontario, and renowned international visual artist, Ernestine Tahedl.

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Item 2, CW Report No. 1 – Page 2

The Elspeth Heyworth Centre for Women empowers immigrant and newcomer women, seniors and families through services focused on promoting healthy families, community relationships and economic self-sufficiency. It offers a variety of settlement services, employment services and seniors programs in Toronto and Vaughan. All services and programs are free and available to men and women

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan

This annual proclamation of International Women's Day and the February 27, 2014 event at City Hall to mark the day supports the Vaughan Vision 2020 initiatives of Service Excellence, specifically to "Enhance and Ensure Community Safety, Health and Wellness" and "Preserve our Heritage and Support Diversity, Arts and Culture."

Regional Implications

There are no regional implications.

Conclusion

International Women's Day is recognized in communities across the world and is an opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments and role of women in Canadian society.

Attachments

N/A

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