

## **CITY OF VAUGHAN**

### **EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 19, 2017**

Item 15, Report No. 13, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on April 19, 2017.

15

#### **PROCLAMATION – NATIONAL YOUTH WEEK MAY 1-7, 2017**

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Deputy City Manager, Community Services and the Director of Recreation Services, dated April 4, 2017:

##### **Recommendation**

The Deputy City Manager, Community Services and the Director of Recreation Services, recommend:

1. That Council proclaim the week of May 1-7, 2017, as “National Youth Week” in the City of Vaughan;
2. That this proclamation be in effect for successive years moving forward; and,
3. That the Vaughan Youth Week Activity Schedule (Attachment 1), 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.
  - 4.1.1. Develop an implementation plan for the initiatives described in the City's Active Together Master Plan through a phased and budgeted program.

##### **Economic Impact**

Youth Week programs and initiatives identified in this report will be funded through the approved Recreation Services 2017 operating budget and community sponsors.

##### **Communications Plan**

The proclamation of Vaughan Youth Week 2017, including a schedule of activities and events, will be posted on the City's website and social media. The Vaughan Youth Week schedule will be made available at all City youth rooms, community centres and at Vaughan Public Libraries.

##### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to request that Council proclaim the week of May 1-7, 2017 as “Vaughan Youth Week” in the City of Vaughan.

##### **Background - Analysis and Options**

The Canadian Parks and Recreation Association has joined the international community to declare the first full week of May as National Youth Week in Canada.

## **CITY OF VAUGHAN**

### **EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 19, 2017**

#### **Item 15, CW Report No. 13 – Page 2**

National Youth Week is an international initiative celebrating and advocating youth empowerment and involvement. It's an exciting week of celebrations with the intention of strengthening the connection between young people and their communities. The City of Vaughan actively participates in this annual initiative and acknowledges the importance of youth and their contribution towards building a stronger, healthier Vaughan.

The Recreation Services Department fosters youth engagement through a variety activities and opportunities. Each opportunity/activity provides an outlet for Vaughan youth to express physical, creative and social interests.

#### **National Youth Week – Free Programs**

This year, a diverse roster of free activities is scheduled across City facilities for “Youth Week” which include:

- Resume Writing and Interview Workshops
- Vaughan Sports Duathlon
- European Handball
- Soccer Tournament
- Healthy Eating Cook-Off
- Free Fitness and Swim

#### **Community Service and Program Partnerships for Youth**

Through grassroots community engagement, the Recreation Services Department has forged many partnerships with activation partners. Community programs and services partnerships have significantly enhanced the impact of Vaughan youth programming. Some examples include:

#### **MOBYSS**

Recreation Services, 360 Kids, Canadian Mental Health Association, and Mobyss have collaborated to bring accessible health care to Vaughan youth aged 12-25. The MOBYSS Mobile Youth Walk-In Clinic is a free, non-judgmental and confidential medical care service. MOBYSS provides compassionate, youth-centered health services such as counselling, support and referrals from a mental health worker, peer support specialist and nurse practitioner.

#### **Youth Leadership - Inclusion Seminar**

Vaughan Recreation Coordinators in partnership with a selection of York Region High Schools have developed a grade 12 physical education leadership course. Recreation Services staff facilitate training in inclusive program planning, modifications, and accessibility. The enhanced education in special needs program planning provides integral training for students seeking general programing and summer day camp employment with the City of Vaughan.

#### **City of Vaughan Firefighter Camp**

Building on the awareness of fire safety and prevention, Vaughan Fire & Rescue Services in partnership with Recreation Services will launch the City of Vaughan's first 'Firefighter Camps' in July 2017. “Junior Firefighter Camp” will engage youth aged 12-14 in basic interactive training under the guidance of Vaughan Firefighters. “Female Firefighter Camp” connects female youth aged 15-18 with the practical opportunities to discover a future career as a firefighter.

**CITY OF VAUGHAN**

**EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 19, 2017**

Item 15, CW Report No. 13 – Page 3

**Youth Friendly Community**

As a designated “Youth Friendly Community”, Vaughan is a leader and remains a driving force behind the implementation of meaningful youth engagement opportunities. As a result, stronger ties are established with community groups in support of active youth in Vaughan.

**Relationship to Term of Council Service Excellence Strategy Map (2014-2018)**

This report is consistent with the Term of Council priority to support and promote arts, culture, heritage and sports in the community.

**Regional Implications**

None

**Conclusion**

The City of Vaughan’s commitment to youth programming and engagement benefits the overall community through its positive impact on the social, developmental and active positive lifestyles of Vaughan youth. Celebrating and engaging youth in free activities during “Youth Week” is an important step to recognizing the role youth have in creating a sustainable future.

Through our community engagement, Recreation Services promotes our continuous commitment to youth through diverse avenues such as sports, recreation, volunteering, leadership, and employment.

**Attachment**

1. Youth Week Activity Schedule

**Report prepared by:**

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(A copy of the attachments referred to in the foregoing have been forwarded to each Member of Council and a copy thereof is also on file in the office of the City Clerk.)