

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 11, 2018

Item 16, Report No. 14, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on April 11, 2018.

16 PROCLAMATION – 2018 NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK AND FLAG-RAISING REQUEST

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Deputy City Manager, Public Works, dated April 4, 2018:

Purpose

To request that Council proclaim the period of May 20 - 26, 2018, as “National Public Works Week” in the City of Vaughan, and to present an overview of the of the events that will be held in recognition of this week.

Recommendations

1. That Council proclaim the fourth week of May as “National Public Works Week”, on an ongoing annual basis, in the City of Vaughan.
2. That the National Public Works Week flag be raised at Vaughan City Hall and the Joint Operations Centre for the fourth week of May to commemorate National Public Works Week, on an ongoing annual basis, in the City of Vaughan; and
3. That the proclamation be posted on the City’s website and published on City Page Online.

Report Highlights

- National Public Works Week is designated each year by the American Public Works Association (APWA)
- Vaughan’s 2017 National Public Works Week received an award from the Canadian Public Works Association (CPWA)
- Official flag raising ceremonies will be held on Wednesday, May 16 at both the Joint Operations Centre and City Hall
- The City will promote public works services by holding a Public Open House at the Joint Operations Centre on Saturday, May 26, 2018
- Public Works staff will participate in the “York Region Municipality Area Challenge”

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Background

The celebration of National Public Works Week (NPWW) began more than fifty years ago

In 1960, the American Public Works Association started a public information campaign to make the public more aware of the work Public Works Departments did, as well as promote the “often-unsung heroes” of our society, the professionals who serve the public every day with quiet dedication.

For the City’s 2017 National Public Works Week program, Vaughan received the Canadian Public Works Association NPWW Award in the large city category

Since its beginning, agencies, municipalities, and regions have used this week to educate and inform the public about the essential role that public works plays in the quality of their community life. The City’s success in providing outreach and education of the above, were part of the basis for the CPWA award. Following our recognized event of last year, the department will continue to enthusiastically promote Public Works, its role as a career choice for the future, and recognizing those who currently serve in these service delivery roles.

Previous Reports/Authority

https://www.vaughan.ca/council/minutes_agendas/Extracts/13cw0404_17ex_20.pdf

Analysis and Options

The Theme for 2018 National Public Works Week is “*The Power of Public Works*”

This year’s theme “*The Power of Public Works*” is in recognition of the impact that these services have had on modern civilization. Public Works staff promote and support service excellence through the many services they provide, such as:

- a constant supply of safe, clean drinking water
- managing wastewater and stormwater systems
- organics, recycling, yard waste and garbage collection
- urban tree canopy and park maintenance
- road way management
- capital project coordination, delivery and asset management of linear and vertical infrastructure
- ensuring a safe fleet supply

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- winter snow clearing

A staff appreciation barbecue will be held on Thursday, May 24 in recognition of those that ensure the continual provision of these services.

Education and outreach to showcase Public Works is communicated at the Open House on May 26, 2018

On Saturday May 26, 2018, the City will host a “Public Works Open House” event at the Joint Operations Centre located at 2800 Rutherford Rd. This event will provide a public forum to educate, and receive feedback from residents about various Public Works services; from parks and forestry, to road maintenance, water distribution, wastewater collection, and solid waste management initiatives. Examples of activities include mulch giveaways, sales of recycling and organic containers, and interactive displays related to water, wastewater and GIS systems.

This event is also an opportunity to partner with other City departments, and in prior years this has included displays from Development Engineering, Animal Services, By-law Enforcement, and Vaughan Fire and Rescue Services. Partners from within the community, whom collect reusable and recyclable goods to benefit charitable causes, will also be invited to attend.

Vaughan Public Works staff will participate in a friendly skills challenge with other local municipalities

In addition to the Open House, staff from Public Works will be participating in the ‘York Region Area Municipalities Challenge’. This event showcases the talents of staff from the area municipalities and tests their skills in operating equipment. As part of the event, the Mayors of the area municipalities also compete against each other in a driving challenge through an obstacle course. This event takes place on Wednesday, May 23 at the Town of Richmond Hill’s snow storage facility.

Financial Impact

The cost associated with celebrating National Public Works Week has been approved as part of the 2018 operating budget.

Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations

There are no broader regional impacts or considerations from the adoption of this report.

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Conclusion

National Public Works Week provides a venue by which municipalities across North America can inform, educate, and promote the vital contributions that public works makes to a safe, clean and healthy environment.

By proclaiming the week of May 20 – 26, 2018 as “National Public Works Week” in the City of Vaughan, City staff can support and celebrate these valuable services.

For more information, please contact: Zoran Postic, Director of Transportation Services, Parks and Forestry Operations ext. 6137 or Jack Graziosi, Director of Infrastructure Delivery ext. 8201

Attachments

None

Prepared by

Carol Warner, Supervisor of Compliance and Business Services, ext. 6197