

## **CITY OF VAUGHAN**

### **EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 17, 2016**

Item 1, Report No. 21, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on May 17, 2016.

#### **1 PROCLAMATION – NATIONAL YOUTH WEEK MAY 1-7, 2016**

**The Committee of the Whole recommends:**

- 1) That the recommendation contained in the following report of the Acting Director of Recreation Services, dated May 3, 2016, be approved; and**
- 2) That the presentation by the Acting Director of Recreation Services be received.**

#### **Recommendation**

The Acting Director of Recreation Services recommends:

1. That Council proclaim the week of May 1-7, 2016, as “National Youth Week” in the City of Vaughan; and,
2. That the commemorative youth week video presentation, 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 2016 Recreation Services operating budget and community sponsors.

#### **Communications Plan**

The proclamation of Vaughan Youth Week 2016, 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, 2016 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 MAY 17, 2016**

Item 1, CW Report No. 21 – Page 2

#### **National Youth Week**

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 yearly initiative and acknowledges the importance of youth and their contribution towards building a stronger, healthier Vaughan.

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

- Youth Biathlon
- Basketball Tourneys and Competitions
- Ping Pong Tournament
- Art Workshop
- Hip Hop Dance
- Free Fitness and Swim

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.

#### **Youth Volunteer Program**

The Recreation Services benefits from approximately 1000 youth volunteers assisting in the delivery of programs and services in our community. The volunteer program provides training and leadership opportunities for youth to assist in their development as future leaders and prepares them for future employment opportunities. As well, volunteer assignments engage youth in positive activities that not only benefit them, but also benefit the 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.

#### **Youth Coaching Leadership Clinic**

Through a grant received from the "Ontario Sport and Recreation Communities Fund", the Recreation Services Department developed the City's first "Coaching Leadership Clinic", which was launched in the summer of 2015. The core competencies outlined within the leadership clinic's curriculum included physical literacy, communication and teambuilding and theoretical skill sets, working knowledge and qualifications required to attain both volunteer and employment opportunities within the Sport and Recreation field. Hundreds of youth have benefited from leadership programs provided by the department and have obtained the necessary skills for employment opportunities in the sports and recreation field.

#### **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

## **CITY OF VAUGHAN**

### **EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 17, 2016**

Item 1, CW Report No. 21 – Page 3

#### **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 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.

Sourcing alternative means of funding and strengthening collaborative partnerships allows the City of Vaughan to diversify youth leadership opportunities. Through our community ties, we successfully promote the active and continuous engagement of youth leaders through diverse modes of expression: sport, recreation, volunteering, and employment.

#### **Attachments**

None

#### **Report prepared by:**

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