

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 23, 2015

Item 1, Report No. 24, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on June 23, 2015.

1 PROCLAMATION OF JUNE AS RECREATION AND PARKS MONTH

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Director of Recreation and Culture, dated June 2, 2015:

Recommendation

The Director of Recreation and Culture, in consultation with the Executive Director, Office of the City Manager, recommends:

1. That Council proclaim the month of June as “Recreation and Parks Month”; and
2. That the Schedule of Activities for *June is Recreation and Parks Month – 2015* (Attachment 1), outlining the activities and events scheduled to be held throughout the City of Vaughan in June, 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:

- 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

Funding for the recreation activities and events indicated in this report has been incorporated into the 2015 Recreation and Culture base operating budget.

Communications Plan

The proclamation of June as “Recreation and Parks Month”, including the Recreation and Parks Month activity calendar will be posted on the City website, in community centres, and at Vaughan Public Libraries. Recreation and Parks Month promotional material will also be distributed to senior residences across Vaughan. Outreach to community groups, cultural organizations and businesses will take place via social media and a news release.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to request that Council proclaim the month of June as “Recreation and Parks Month”, and as well to, present an overview of the activities and events (Attachment 1) being held for “Recreation and Parks Month” across the City of Vaughan.

Background - Analysis and Options

The City of Vaughan in its strategic plan, Vaughan Vision 2020, is committed to Service Excellence through enhancing and ensuring community safety, health and wellness. As advocated for in the Active Together Master Plan, initiatives such as “Recreation and Parks Month” will help achieve the objective of community health and wellness.

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The City of Vaughan believes the development of a more physically active community is critical to the economic, environmental, health and social well-being of the community. Research shows that strategies involving physical activity and recreation are promising in minimizing or removing risk factors faced by many children, youth, adults and older adults. Participation in recreation activities can provide positive benefits related to psychological health, physical health, familial interaction, peer influence, academic performance, community development and other vital lifestyle behaviours.

Recreation and Parks Month 2015

June as “Recreation and Parks Month” (JRPM) was first proclaimed in 2005 by Parks and Recreation Ontario (PRO), the Ontario Parks Association, and the Ontario Recreation Facilities Association. JRPM was created to draw attention to the value of recreation as well to encourage the community to *get up and live it everyday!* In 2006, the Province of Ontario first declared “June as Recreation and Parks Month”; Vaughan first proclaimed it in 2009.

Recreation and parks opportunities are essential for strengthening and maintaining a safer, cleaner and dynamic community atmosphere.

In 2015, the Recreation and Culture Department will celebrate June as “Recreation and Parks Month” from June 1 – June 30, 2015. This year, in coordination with Seniors Month, a number of activities are dedicated to older adults. Vast selections of activities are scheduled throughout the community, including:

- Nutritional Labelling and Grocery Shopping Workshop
- Toddler Run and Fun
- Hello Summer Swim
- Zumba In the Park
- Intro to Archery
- Parent and Child Badminton
- Arthritis Fitness
- Gentle Yoga in the Park
- Outdoor Boot Camp

The complete listing of activities and events can be found in Attachment 1.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan

In consideration of the strategic priorities related to Vaughan Vision 2020, this report will provide:

- **STRATEGIC GOAL:**
Service Excellence – Providing service excellence to citizens through a collaborative program and events scheduling strategy with community stakeholders
- **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES:**
Enhance and Ensure Community Safety, Health and Wellness by showcasing opportunities to integrate physical activity in everyday life.

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

Regional Implications

There are no regional implications with respect to Recreation and Parks Month.

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Conclusion

The City of Vaughan is taking a proactive approach to improve the health and active lifestyles of its citizens by proclaiming June as “Recreation and Parks Month” by providing a month of physical activity opportunities throughout Vaughan. As an initiative of the Active Together Master Plan for Parks, Recreation, Culture and Libraries, Recreation and Parks Month will help achieve the objective of improving community health and wellness.

Attachments

1. Schedule of Activities for June is Recreation and Parks Month – 2015

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.)