

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 23, 2015

2 PROCLAMATION AND FLAG RAISING REQUEST
INDIA INDEPENDENCE DAY

- 1) That the recommendation contained in the following report of the City Clerk, dated June 16, 2015, be approved; and
- 2) That the following deputations be received:
 1. Mr. Rahul Pandey, WEConnect Community Services, Bachman Drive, Maple; and
 2. Ms. Sejal Gajjar, WEConnect Community Services, Bachman Drive, Maple.

1. That August 15, 2015 be proclaimed as “India Independence Day” in the City of Vaughan;
2. That the Indian flag be raised at Vaughan City Hall on August 15, 2015 for a period no longer than one week in accordance with the Flag Raising / Half Masting Policy;
3. That the proclamation be posted on the City’s website and published on the City Page Online; and
4. That a facility permit be issued for Sunday, August 15, 2015 to the WEConnect Community Services to use the Multi-Purpose Room for a reception and entertainment in accordance with the City’s Proclamation Policy subject to the payment of appropriate fees for overtime staffing and Facility User Group Insurance costs if required.

The correspondence received in the City Clerk's Office on May 26, 2015 from the Vice-President, WEConnect Community Services is attached (Attachment 1).

CITY OF VAUGHAN

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The proclamation and flag raising request meets the City's Proclamation and Flag Raising / Half Masting Policies as follows:

"In recognition of the ethnic diversity of the residents of a municipality the City of Vaughan will fly at the Vaughan City Hall the flag of any nation, country or ethnic group on the national day or on the anniversary of a special occasion, upon written request to the City Clerk submitted one month in advance by that nation, or ethnic group or its representatives"; and

"If the event, campaign or declaration is directly related to matters over which the City has jurisdiction or the City directly sponsors the event, campaign or other matter".

India became an independent nation on August 15, 1947 and hence India Independence Day is celebrated on an annual basis. The South Asian community which numbers over 35,000 in the City of Vaughan and surrounding area proudly celebrates India's independence by holding cultural programs and numerous social activities. WEConnect Community Services, a non-profit organization based in Maple Ontario respectfully requests Vaughan City Council to proclaim India Independence on August 15, 2015, hold a flag raising ceremony followed by entertainment and reception in the Multi-Purpose Room.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan

This report supports the strategic priorities established by Vaughan Vision 2020 plan:

- STRATEGIC GOAL:
Service Excellence – Providing service excellence to citizens
- STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES:
Preserve Our Heritage & Support Diversity, Arts & Culture

Regional Implications

N/A

Conclusion

Staff is recommending that August 15, 2015 be proclaimed as "India Independence Day" in the City of Vaughan, that the Indian flag be raised at Vaughan City Hall on August 15, 2015 for a period no longer than one week in accordance with the Flag Raising / Half Masting Policy; that the proclamation be posted on the City's website and published on the City Page Online and that a facility permit be issued for Sunday, August 15, 2015 to the WEConnect Community Services to use the Multi-Purpose Room for entertainment and reception.

Attachments

Attachment 1 Correspondence from the Vice-President, WEConnect Community Services received May 26, 2015

Report prepared by

Connie Bonsignore, Administrative Assistant to the City Clerk

(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.)