

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 19, 2016

Item 3, Report No. 34, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on October 19, 2016.

3 PROCLAMATION REQUEST – WASTE REDUCTION WEEK 2016

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Deputy City Manager of Public Works and the Director of Environmental Services, dated October 5, 2016:

Recommendation

The Deputy City Manager of Public Works and the Director of Environmental Services recommend:

1. That October 17 – 23, 2016 be proclaimed as “Waste Reduction Week in Ontario” in the City of Vaughan; and
2. That the proclamation be posted on the City's website and published on the City Page Online.

Contribution to Sustainability

Waste Reduction Week contributes to Green Directions Vaughan Goal 1:

To significantly reduce our use of natural resources and the amount of waste generated by encouraging all residents to adopt more environmentally conscious choices and consider new ways to reduce their waste.

Waste Reduction Week in Ontario will provide residents of Vaughan with information and ideas to reduce waste in all aspects of their daily living.

Economic Impact

N/A

Communications Plan

Environmental Services staff will work with Corporate Communications staff to advertise waste reduction tips throughout the week. Tips will also be provided to Councillor's offices for inclusion in electronic newsletters.

The Corporate Communications Department posts proclamations issued by the City on the City's website under “Council – Proclamations” and on the City Page Online.

Purpose

To advise Council of the dates of Waste Reduction Week and to highlight some efforts and results with respect to waste reduction in the City of Vaughan.

Background - Analysis and Options

Waste Reduction Week scheduled for October 17-23, 2016 by the Recycling Council of Ontario

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“Waste Reduction Week aims to inform and engage Canadians about the environmental and social ramifications of wasteful practices. It strives to educate, engage and empower Canadians to reduce, reuse and recycle waste.” (Recycling Council of Ontario website).

City of Vaughan has a waste reduction measure of 297 kg/capita – one of the lowest in the Region of York

As recyclables become lighter with new packaging, waste diversion rates are starting to lose meaning as an indicator. The solid waste industry is moving towards kg/capita to measure waste reduction. The Region of York has recently calculated waste reduction for the City of Vaughan as 297 kg/capita – one of the lowest in the Region of York.

The City of Vaughan is currently working with the Region of York to introduce new reduction programs for residents

City staff have been discussing two programs with the Region of York for implementation in 2017:

- Curb Side Swap Days - On Curb Side Swap Days, residents place reusable items they no longer need at the curb in the morning. Throughout the day, residents can travel around the community and collect items for free from the curb. At the end of the day, all remaining items must be brought back in by the owners.
- Zero Waste Lunch – this program encourages school children to bring lunches to school which produce no waste.

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

T12 Continue to cultivate an environmentally sustainable city.

Regional Implications

SM4RT Living – York Region’s Integrated Waste Management Master Plan is a collaboration plan with local area municipalities.

Conclusion

Staff is recommending that October 17 – 23, 2016 be proclaimed as “Waste Reduction Week in Ontario”, and that the proclamation be posted on the City’s website and the City Page Online.

Attachments

N/A

Report prepared by:

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