

**CITY OF VAUGHAN**

**EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 24, 2015**

Item 9, Report No. 12, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on March 24, 2015.

**9** **PROCLAMATION AND FLAG RAISING REQUEST**  
**WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY**

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the City Clerk, dated March 3, 2015:

**Recommendation**

The City Clerk recommends:

1. That April 2, 2015 be proclaimed as “World Autism Awareness Day”;
2. That the City of Vaughan participate in Autism Ontario’s “Raise the Flag” campaign; and
3. That the proclamation be posted on the City’s website and published on the City Page Online.

**Contribution to Sustainability**

N/A

**Economic Impact**

N/A

**Communications Plan**

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 respond to the request received from Raise the Flag Committee, Autism Ontario.

**Background - Analysis and Options**

The correspondence received from Raise the Flag Committee, Autism Ontario, dated January 21, 2015 is attached (Attachment 1).

The proclamation request meets the City’s Proclamation Policy, as follows:

“That upon request, the City of Vaughan issue Proclamations for events, campaigns or other similar matters:

- (i) which are promoted by any organization that is a registered charity pursuant to Section 248 of the Income Tax Act”

Autism Ontario established in 1973 is the leading source of information on autism and one of the largest collective voices representing the autism community. Autism Ontario provides support, information and opportunities for over 100,000 people living with this disorder. Participating in the 2015 “Raise the Flag” campaign will increase public awareness about Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), a common neurological disorder affecting 1 in every 94 children.

**CITY OF VAUGHAN**

**EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 24, 2015**

Item 9, CW Report No. 12 – Page 2

**Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan**

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

Service Excellence

- Promote Community Safety, Health & Wellness

**Regional Implications**

This report supports the promotion of awareness throughout the Region about autism.

**Conclusion**

Staff is recommending that April 2, 2015 be proclaimed as “World Autism Awareness Day”, that the City of Vaughan participate in Autism Ontario’s “Raise the Flag Campaign”, and that the proclamation be posted on the City’s website and on the City Page Online

**Attachments**

Attachment 1 Correspondence from the Raise the Flag Committee, Autism Ontario dated January 21, 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.)

**PROCLAMATION AND FLAG RAISING REQUEST**  
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**Recommendation**

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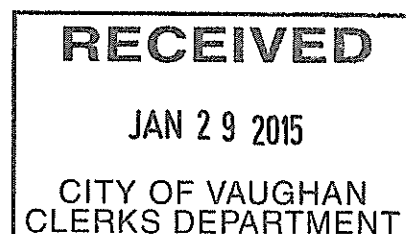
Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey A. Abrams  
City Clerk



January 21, 2015

City of Vaughan  
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive,  
Vaughan, ON L6A 1T1



Re: Invitation to participate in Autism Ontario's "Raise the Flag" campaign on April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2015 in celebration of World Autism Awareness Day.

Dear Sir / Madam,

April 2, 2015, will mark a historic day in Canada for the autism community. For the third year, Canadians will officially recognize World Autism Awareness Day.

To formally acknowledge the day, Autism Ontario is inviting all municipalities to proclaim April 2, 2015 as World Autism Awareness Day and raise Autism Ontario's Flag.

By participating in our 2015 "Raise the Flag" campaign, you are increasing public awareness about Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), and the day-to-day issues faced by people with autism and their families.

If your community is interested in supporting autism awareness by participating in Autism Ontario's "Raise the Flag" campaign on April 2, 2015, please register your municipality at <http://bit.ly/MunRTF2015>, on or before March 13, 2015.

**Last year we requested that municipalities keep the flag for future use. We have a limited number of flags available for those who require one; please make note when completing the online registration if you require one.**

The March 13, 2015 registration deadline will allow us to mail out flags to those who need it, and to advertise through our communication channels that your municipality will be participating. We recognize municipalities have a formal approval process for recognizing charitable proclamations and may not be able to register by the deadline; if this is the case we still invite you to proclaim the day and raise a flag, if you have one. Please notify us of your participation by emailing [rtf@autismontario.com](mailto:rtf@autismontario.com).



We are also excited to share with you that in mid-February 2015 we will be launching a new website that will enable Ontarians to share their stories of inclusion and opportunities. Please visit [www.raisetheflagforautism.com](http://www.raisetheflagforautism.com) in the coming weeks and share your story!

For questions regarding participation, please contact Kavitha Krishnaswamy at 1-800-472-7789 extension 238.

Sincerely,

Autism Ontario's Raise the Flag Committee  
1179 King Street west, Suite 004  
Toronto, Ontario  
M6K 3C5  
416-246-9592 ext. 238  
[rtf@autismontario.com](mailto:rtf@autismontario.com)

### About Us

Autism Ontario is the leading source of information on autism and one of the largest collective voices representing the autism community in Ontario. Today, 1 in 94 children are diagnosed with autism in Canada. Through improved public awareness, Autism Ontario strives to increase opportunities and acceptance for over 100,000 people living with Autism Spectrum Disorder in Ontario, ensuring that each person with ASD is provided the means to achieve quality of life as a respected member of society.

Learn more at [www.autismontario.com](http://www.autismontario.com)

### Enclosure:

- Proclamation

Follow us on Twitter!

@AutismONT and tweet your Raise the Flag photos with #RaisetheFlagforAutism

## PROCLAMATION

I, (name of Mayor or designate) of the city of (city name) do hereby proclaim

### April 2 as World Autism Awareness Day

<b>WHERE AS:</b>	World Autism Awareness Day will be recognized on April 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2015, in Canada thanks to Liberal Senator Jim Munson's Bill S-206, <i>An Act Respecting World Autism Awareness Day</i> ; and
<b>WHERE AS:</b>	Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) affects more than 100,000 Ontarians. Autism Spectrum Disorder is now recognized as the most common neurological disorder affecting 1 in every 94 children, as well as their friends, family and community; and
<b>WHERE AS:</b>	ASD is a spectrum disorder, which means it not only manifests itself differently in every individual in whom it appears, but its characteristics will change over the life of each individual as well. A child with ASD will become an adult with ASD; and
<b>WHERE AS:</b>	Autism Ontario (formerly Autism Society Ontario) is the leading source of information and referral on autism and one of the largest collective voices representing the autism community. Since 1973, Autism Ontario has been providing support, information and opportunities for thousands of families across the province; and
<b>WHERE AS:</b>	Autism Ontario is dedicated to increasing public awareness about autism and the day-to-day issues faced by individuals with autism, their families, and the professionals with whom they interact. The association and its chapters share common goals of providing information and education, supporting research, and advocating for programs and services for the autism community; and
<b>THEREFORE:</b>	I (Mayor Name or Designate), do hereby declare April 2 <sup>nd</sup> as World Autism Awareness Day.

Dated at (municipality), Ontario this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2015

## PROCLAMATION

Je, (nom du maire ou de son représentant désigné) de la ville de (nom de la ville), proclame,  
par la présente,

**le 2 avril Journée mondiale de sensibilisation à l'autisme**

<b>ATTENDU :</b>	Que la Journée mondiale de sensibilisation à l'autisme sera reconnue officiellement au Canada, le 2 avril 2015, grâce au sénateur libéral Jim Munson qui a présenté et fait adopter le projet de loi S-206 instituant la <i>Loi sur la Journée mondiale de sensibilisation à l'autisme</i> ;
<b>ATTENDU :</b>	Que le trouble du spectre de l'autisme affecte plus de 100 000 personnes en Ontario. Qu'il est maintenant admis que le trouble du spectre de l'autisme est le trouble neurologique le plus courant puisqu'il touche un enfant sur 94 ainsi que leurs amis, leurs familles et la collectivité;
<b>ATTENDU :</b>	Que le trouble du spectre de l'autisme (TSA) se manifeste différemment chez chaque personne qu'il touche et que ses caractéristiques se modifieront tout au long de la vie de chacun. Autrement dit, qu'un enfant ayant un TSA deviendra un adulte ayant un TSA;
<b>ATTENDU :</b>	Qu'Autisme Ontario (auparavant Autism Society Ontario) est la principale source d'information et de référence sur l'autisme et l'une des plus importantes voix collectives qui représentent la communauté autiste. Que, depuis 1973, Autisme Ontario fournit un soutien, de l'information et des possibilités à exploiter à des milliers de familles, dans l'ensemble de la province;
<b>ATTENDU :</b>	Qu'Autisme Ontario ne ménage aucun effort pour sensibiliser le public aux troubles du spectre de l'autisme et aux difficultés quotidiennes auxquelles sont confrontés les personnes autistes elles-mêmes, leurs familles et les professionnels qui interviennent auprès d'elles. Que l'association et ses sections locales partagent des buts communs d'information et d'éducation, de soutien à la recherche et de revendication de programmes et de services pour la communauté autiste.
<b>POUR CES MOTIFS :</b>	Je, (maire de la ville ou son remplaçant désigné), déclare, par la présente, que le 2 avril devient Journée mondiale de sensibilisation à l'autisme.

Fait à (nom de la municipalité), Ontario, ce deuxième jour d'avril 2015.