

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 21, 2015

Item 22, Report No. 17, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on April 21, 2015.

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**PROCLAMATION REQUEST
PUBLIC – RAIL SAFETY WEEK**

The Committee of the Whole recommends:

- 1) That this Council not proclaim Rail Safety Week as while we are very supportive and concerned about this issue and while we acknowledge and support the excellent work being done by Operation Lifesaver, it is not possible to proclaim a rail safety week in light of the lack of adequate requirements by the Federal Government to control dangerous goods travelling through the City of Vaughan and other municipalities in Canada;**
- 2) That staff prepare a media release reflecting this recommendation; and**
- 3) That the following report of the City Clerk, dated April 14, 2015, be received.**

Recommendation

The City Clerk recommends:

1. That April 27 to May 3, 2015 be proclaimed as “Public – Rail Safety Week”; and
2. 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 the President of Operation Lifesaver, dated February 17, 2015.

Background - Analysis and Options

The correspondence received from the President of Operation Lifesaver, dated February 17, 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:

CITY OF VAUGHAN

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- (ii) 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”.

Operation Lifesaver is a public-private partnership whose mandate is to work with the rail industry, government, police services, media, other agencies and the public to raise safety awareness, educate people about the dangers of highway/railway crossings, enforce provincial and municipal laws and improve railway safety. These four areas of concentration of their Program is aimed at reducing avoidable accidents, injuries and damage caused by collisions at level crossings or incidents involving trains and citizens.

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

N/A

Conclusion

Staff is recommending that April 27 to May 3, 2015 be proclaimed as “Public – Rail Safety Week” and that the proclamation be posted on the City’s website and published on the City Page Online.

Attachments

Attachment 1 Correspondence from the President of Operation Lifesaver, dated February 17, 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.)

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Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey A. Abrams
City Clerk

Look Listen Live!
Regardez Écoutez Restez en Vie!

FEB 25 2015

CITY OF VAUGHAN
 CLERKS DEPARTMENT

**Operation Lifesaver**

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February 17, 2015

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

Dear Sir / Madam:

I am writing to you today in my capacity as President of Operation Lifesaver.

Public - Rail Safety Week will be held from April 27 to May 3, 2015. As you know, the purpose of this national week is to raise rail safety awareness among all Canadians and to highlight the ongoing commitment of the rail industry, its member companies and their employees, to make the rail network even safer.

Last year, your City Council joined safety efforts of many other Canadian municipalities by adopting a resolution to support the **Public - Rail Safety Week**. Once again this year, **Operation Lifesaver** is proud to support the various activities and events that will be taking place throughout **Public - Rail Safety Week** across the country to raise public awareness on reducing avoidable accidents, injuries and damage caused by collisions at level crossings or incidents involving trains and citizens.

Your City Council can continue to be a powerful ally for our public awareness campaign by reiterating its engagement and by adopting the enclosed draft resolution to support **Public - Rail Safety Week** in your community. Should you require additional information about Operation Lifesaver and rail safety, please consult www.operationlifesaver.ca.

Thank you in advance for your continued support to **Public - Rail Safety Week**. We would greatly appreciate it if you would send us a copy of such a resolution.

Stephen Covey
 President
 Operation Lifesaver

Encl.

all aboard
for **safety**



A shared
responsibility



Une
responsabilité
partagée



la **sécurité**,
on embarque!



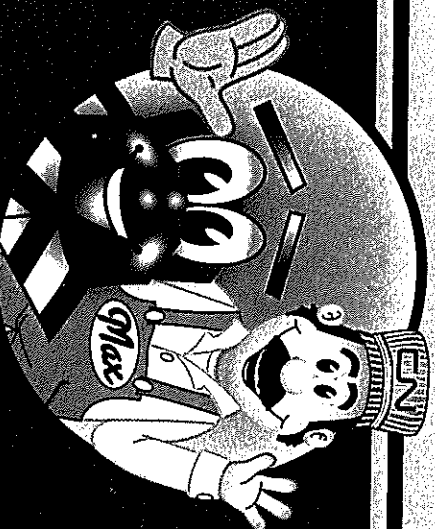
At CN, we're proud to be part of Operation Lifesaver's continuing efforts to help save lives and prevent injuries.

The objective of CN's community-education program, *All Aboard for Safety*, is to help prevent fatalities and injuries on or near railroad property.

Every year, CN Police officers conduct safety blitzes at busy highway/railroad crossings, to help make drivers aware of the importance of safety. During these presentations and many other community forums, CN Police officers and employees

talk about the importance of safety at grade crossings, and about the dangers of trespassing on railroad tracks and property.

Throughout the year, CN Police officers ask the public to help save lives by calling CN Police at **1-800-465-9239** whenever they witness any unsafe behaviour on railroad property.



Make it fun for your kids
to learn the safety rules.
Visit Obie and Max at
cn.ca/obie

Operation Lifesaver

Established in Canada in 1981, Operation Lifesaver is a national public-rail safety program supported by Transport Canada and the Railway Association of Canada. OL works with provincial safety councils,

police, railroads, the trucking industry and community groups to educate Canadians about the hazards surrounding highway/railroad crossings and trespassing on railroad property.

Operation Lifesaver makes over 2,000 presentations every year

Operation Lifesaver saves lives by educating Canadians. Operation Lifesaver's mission is to prevent collisions between trains and motor vehicles. They also work to prevent trespassing incidents that lead to serious injury or death. Presentations take place from coast to coast.

Reporting hazards

Report hazardous conditions at highway-railroad crossings or on railroad rights-of-way.

Railroad emergency numbers are generally posted prominently at crossings, on either crossing posts, behind a crossing sign or on a signal box.

If this number cannot be located immediately, call 911 or the local emergency number.

Walking or playing on train tracks is dangerous and illegal!



10 tips to save your life

- Never walk or play on train tracks. It's dangerous and illegal
- Be prepared to stop at crossings
- Cross train tracks at designated highway/railroad crossings
- Look for the crossbuck sign, lights or gates at crossings
- Listen for warning bells and whistles
- Obey the signals
- Wait for the train to pass through the crossing, then wait again, to be sure that a second train is not approaching on another track in the same or opposite direction
- Obey the directions of a police officer or member of a train crew directing traffic at a crossing
- Cross the tracks in low gear; do not change gears while crossing
- Stalled vehicle? Get out quickly and move away from the vehicle and tracks

For more than 20 years, CN employees at all levels of the company, as well as retirees, have been promoting rail safety at highway/railroad crossings and discouraging trespassing on or near railroad property. Help us put an end to accidents. Learn the safety rules.



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