

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 19, 2015

Item 26, Report No. 20, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on May 19, 2015.

26

**PROCLAMATION REQUEST
SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH**

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the City Clerk, dated May 5, 2015:

Recommendation

The City Clerk recommends:

1. That May 2015 be proclaimed as “Sexual Assault Awareness Month” in the City of Vaughan;
2. That the proclamation be posted on the City’s website and published on the City Page Online; and
3. That Council ratify the action taken.

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 correspondence received from the Public Education and Outreach Co-ordinator, the Women’s Support Network of York Region, received May 1, 2015.

Background - Analysis and Options

The correspondence received from the Public Education and Outreach Co-ordinator, the Women’s Support Network of York Region is attached (Attachment 1). This request was received too late to be placed on the last Council meeting agenda. The next Council meeting is on May 19, 2015 and due to the time-sensitivity of the proclamation, we respectfully request that this report be approved and that Council ratify the action taken.

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”

The Women’s Support Network of York Region (WSN) is a non-profit, charitable organization dedicated to providing free confidential services for women who have experienced sexual violence. The Women’s Support Network of York Region strives to empower and unite women from all cultures and communities.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 19, 2015

Item 26, CW Report No. 20 – 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 proclamation will raise awareness of sexual assault issues in York Region.

Conclusion

Staff is recommending that May 2015 be proclaimed as “Sexual Assault Awareness Month”, and that the proclamation be posted on the City’s website and published on the City Page Online.

Attachments

Attachment 1 Correspondence from the Public Education and Outreach Co-ordinator, the Women’s Support Network of York Region, received May 1, 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 REQUEST
SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

Recommendation

The City Clerk recommends:

1. That May 2015 be proclaimed as “Sexual Assault Awareness Month” in the City of Vaughan;
2. That the proclamation be posted on the City’s website and published on the City Page Online; and
3. That Council ratify the action taken.

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 correspondence received from the Public Education and Outreach Co-ordinator, the Women’s Support Network of York Region, received May 1, 2015.

Background - Analysis and Options

The correspondence received from the Public Education and Outreach Co-ordinator, the Women’s Support Network of York Region is attached (Attachment 1). This request was received too late to be placed on the last Council meeting agenda. The next Council meeting is on May 19, 2015 and due to the time-sensitivity of the proclamation, we respectfully request that this report be approved and that Council ratify the action taken.

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”

The Women’s Support Network of York Region (WSN) is a non-profit, charitable organization dedicated to providing free confidential services for women who have experienced sexual violence. The Women’s Support Network of York Region strives to empower and unite women from all cultures and communities.

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 proclamation will raise awareness of sexual assault issues in York Region.

Conclusion

Staff is recommending that May 2015 be proclaimed as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month", and that the proclamation be posted on the City's website and published on the City Page Online.

Attachments

Attachment 1 Correspondence from the Public Education and Outreach Co-ordinator, the Women's Support Network of York Region, received May 1, 2015.

Report prepared by:

Connie Bonsignore, Administrative Assistant to the City Clerk

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. McEwan
Deputy City Clerk

www.womenssupportnetwork.ca

1110 Stellar Drive, Unit 109
Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 7B7
T: 905.895.3646 F: 905.895.6542
Crisis Line: 905.895.7313
1.800.263.6734



women's support network
of york region

Dear Mayor Bevilacqua,

My name is Ariel Gersman. I am the Public Education and Outreach Co-ordinator at the Women's Support Network of York Region (WSN). WSN is a non-profit organization that provides free, confidential services to women survivors of sexual violence in York Region. We strive to empower and unite women from all cultures and communities.

I have been communicating with Mayor Dawe from the town of Aurora, and he has agreed to sign and support a proclamation WSN created, declaring May 2015 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in York Region. I am contacting you because we are hoping that all nine Mayors of York Region will sign our declaration in order to raise awareness about sexual violence and work towards eliminating it from our communities. Mayor Dawe has agreed to take the lead and bring the proclamation to the next council meeting in hopes that all nine Mayors will agree to sign it.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration, I hope you will agree to support WSN in our work towards raising awareness and combating sexual violence against women in York Region. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Ariel Gersman

RECEIVED

MAY 1 - 2015

CLERK'S DEPT.



PROCLAMATION

Sexual Assault Awareness Month

May 2015

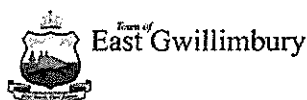
WHEREAS the Women's Support Network of York Region is a non-profit, charitable organization established to provide sexual assault services and public education for the community; and

WHEREAS sexual violence can be devastating not only for the survivor, but for the friends and family of the survivor and the community; and

WHEREAS it is critical to intensify public awareness of sexual assault, to educate the community about the need for citizen involvement in efforts to reduce sexual violence, and to increase support for agencies providing aid for victims of sexual assault; and

WHEREAS improved awareness, education and legislation aimed at having law enforcement agencies, court systems, support agencies, and communities hold perpetrators responsible for their violence brings us one step closer to a society where all women, children, and men can live in peace, free from violence and exploitation.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Mayors of York Region, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2015 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month. We encourage our citizens to become involved in the fight against sexual assault and support local activities and programs aimed at eliminating it.



Mayor Geoffrey Dawe
Town of Aurora

Mayor Margaret Quirk
Town of Georgina

Mayor Frank Scarpitti
Town of Markham

Mayor Dave Barrow
Town of Richmond Hill

Mayor Justin Altmann
Town of Whitchurch -Stouffville

Mayor Virginia Hackson
Town of East Gwillimbury

Mayor Steve Pellegrini
Township of King

Mayor Tony Van Bynen
Town of Newmarket

Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua
City of Vaughan