

Subject:

FW: VACA Deputation to Council June 18th -Important Information

FYI

c 1
Communication
CW: <u>June 18/13</u>
Item: <u>Dep 2)</u>

From: Vaughan African Canadian Association [mailto:vaca@rogers.com]

Sent: Friday, June 14, 2013 9:55 AM

To: Shefman, Alan; Anna DeBartolo; Racco, Sandra; Racco, Sandra; Carella, Tony; Rosati, Gino; Di Biase, Michael; Rosanna DeFrancesco; Deborah Schulte; Iafrate, Marilyn; Ciafardoni, Joy; Tamburini, Nancy; Barbieri, Enza; Cardile, Lucy; Panicali, Adele; Ciampa, Gina; Traub, Debi; Furfaro, Cindy; Tarantini, Maria

Cc: Bevilacqua, Maurizio

Subject: VACA Deputation to Council June 18th -Important Information

Good-morning Vaughan Council:

On Tuesday June, 18th, VACA will be presenting a deputation to council. I wanted to send an email to you to give you a brief introduction to our deputation.

We would like to have **August declared as Caribbean Cultural Month** in the city, region and eventually the province. During the month of August several Caribbean cultural events are celebrated throughout the province. From Vaughan's own CariVaughan festival, Scotiabank's Caribbean Festival (Caribana), Jerk Fest, Jamaica Day, Jambana, Rastafest, Muskoka's Reggae Fest, Hamilton's Bob Marley Day, Afrofest, and various other cultural arts shows. August has become the month to celebrate the influence of the Caribbean in our music, fashion, food, and artistic interpretations. What VACA aims to do in declaring August, Caribbean Cultural Month is to provide a platform for municipalities, organizations, businesses and residents to plan and execute events that celebrate the culture of the Caribbean. We intend to plan month-long celebrations during August, 2014 that will include a variety of events throughout Vaughan and York region that run the gamut, from youth events, to seniors events, literacy, fashion, culinary events, and entertainment. The month of August will become a summer favourite for all things Caribbean.

We will be leveraging the support of the community, municipalities and businesses to promote tourism in Vaughan and across the region. We will promote economic development, create tourism experiences, and partner with diverse groups to ensure that we include not just English-speaking Caribbean Islands, but the French-speaking Caribbean Islands, Spanish-speaking Caribbean Islands and the Islands influenced greatly by our Aboriginal settlers.

When Black history month was first introduced to the legislature in 1995 by former MP Jean Augustine and current Fairness Commissioner of Ontario, it has provided schools with an opportunity to teach students about the contributions and history of African people, and African civilization. It has created awareness, cultural relevancy and shifted the perception of black history. We may never know the true impact of declaring August as Caribbean Cultural Month, but we believe it will legitimize and optimize the cultural significance of the Caribbean Islands and promote cultural diversity in the city.

We look forward to presenting our deputation on June 18th and answering any questions you may have.

*Warmest Regards,
Shernett Martin, B.A, B.Ed. QDJ
Executive Director, Vaughan African Canadian Association/Carivaughan
416 843-2507
647 988-4636*

VAUGHAN AFRICAN CANADIAN ASSOCIATION /CARIVAUGHAN

Mailing Address:

13-3120 Rutherford Road, Suite 255

Vaughan, ON L4K 0B2

647 988-INFO

647 988-4636

vaca@rogers.com

www.carivaughan.com

This e-mail may contain confidential and/or privileged information for the sole use of the intended recipient. Any review or distribution by anyone other than the person for whom it was originally intended is strictly prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please contact the sender and delete all copies. Opinions, conclusions or other information contained in this e-mail may not be that of the organization