

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 27, 2017

Item 2, Report No. 26, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on June 27, 2017.

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PROCLAMATION AND FLAG-RAISING REQUEST FRANCO-ONTARIAN DAY

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the City Clerk, dated June 20, 2017:

Recommendation

The City Clerk recommends:

1. That September 25, 2017 be proclaimed as Franco-Ontarian Day in the City of Vaughan;
2. That the Franco-Ontarian flag be raised at Vaughan City Hall on September 25, 2017 for the duration of the day; and
3. That the proclamation be posted on the City's website and published on the City Page Online.

Economic Impact

No direct impact

Communications Plan

The Office of the City Clerk 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 by the Project Coordinator of L'Association des francophones de la region de York Inc. (L'AFRY).

Background - Analysis and Options

The correspondence received from the Project Coordinator of L'Association des francophones de la region de York Inc. (L'AFRY), dated May 30, 2017, is attached (Attachment 1).

The proclamation and flag raising request meets the City's Proclamation and Flag Raising/Half Masting Policies, as follows:

"In recognition of the ethnic diversity of the residents of a municipality the City of Vaughan will fly at the Vaughan City Hall the flag of any nation, country, or ethnic group on the national day or on the anniversary of a special occasion, upon written request to the City Clerk submitted one month in advance by that nation, or ethnic group or its representatives", and

"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".

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The historical celebration of the flag is an important event for Franco-Ontarians as a means to commemorate the anniversary of the arrival of Etienne Brule. Ontario is the second largest Francophone community in Canada, after Quebec. This request has been previously granted by Council.

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

This report supports the Term of Council priorities, as outlined in the Service Excellence Strategy Map:

- Support and promote arts, culture, heritage and sports in the community

Regional Implications

This proclamation will celebrate the Francophone presence in York Region.

Conclusion

Staff is recommending that September 25, 2017 be proclaimed as Franco-Ontarian Day in the City of Vaughan, that the Franco-Ontarian flag be raised at Vaughan City Hall for the duration of the day, and that the proclamation be posted on the City's website and published on the City Page Online.

Attachment

Attachment 1 Correspondence from the Project Coordinator, L'Association des francophones de la region de York Inc. (L'AFRY)

Report prepared by:

Shari Gouzvaris, Supervisor, City Clerk's Administrative Services

(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
FRANCO-ONTARIAN DAY

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Report prepared by:

Shari Gouzvaris, Supervisor, City Clerk's Administrative Services

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. McEwan
City Clerk



RECEIVED
MAY 30 2017
CLERK'S DEPT.

May 15th, 2016

Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua
City of Vaughan
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Vaughan, Ontario, L4G 6J1

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

*"L'Association des francophones de la région de York" (L'AFRY) is proud to celebrate in a special way the anniversary of the arrival of Étienne Brûlé and the presence of francophones in York Region. We would appreciate if the Franco-Ontarian flag could be raised at the Administrative Centre and a proclamation be issued for Franco-Ontarian Day, on **September 25th**. This historical celebration of the flag is a very important event for all Franco-Ontarians in the province and your municipality. We are very proud that our flag has been officially recognized by Queen's Park on June 21st, 2001.*

Today, after four centuries of evolution, Ontario's francophone community includes 582,690 people, or 4.8% of the total population of the province (according to Statistics Canada 2006 census). It is the second largest Francophone community in Canada, after Quebec.

For the record, the Government of Ontario released a statement on April 26, 2010 that *"The Franco-Ontarian Day Act adopted unanimously by the Legislative Assembly proclaims September 25 of each year as Franco-Ontarian Day. This Day will, every year, officially recognize the contribution of Ontario's Francophone community to the cultural, historical, social, economic and political life of the province."*

Several of the region's municipalities did agree to raise our flag and issue a proclamation last year and we are hopeful that the city of Vaughan will also commit to doing the same again this year. It would be our pleasure to deliver a flag on simple request. Please feel free to contact Vincent Chenier by phone at 905 727-4631 ext. 76550, or by email at coordination@afry.ca.

Yours truly,

Vincent Chenier

Project Coordinator