

## **CITY OF VAUGHAN**

### **EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2015**

Item 11, Report No. 31, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on September 16, 2015.

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#### **PROCLAMATION REQUEST WRONGFUL CONVICTION DAY**

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the City Clerk, dated September 9, 2015:

##### **Recommendation**

The City Clerk recommends:

1. That October 2, 2015 be proclaimed as “Wrongful Conviction Day” in the City of Vaughan; 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 Co-Founder/Director of Client Services of the Association in Defence of the Wrongly Convicted (AIDWYC).

##### **Background - Analysis and Options**

Correspondence was received from the Co-Founder/Director of Client Services of the Association in Defence of the Wrongly Convicted (AIDWYC) on August 14, 2015, as per 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”.

The Association in Defence of the Wrongly Convicted (AIDWYC Foundation) is a national, non-profit organization that is dedicated to identifying, advocating for and assisting individuals convicted of a crime they did not commit. Wrongful Conviction Day was launched internationally in 2014 with the mandate of raising awareness on wrongful convictions, which negatively impact the lives of innocent individuals, their families, and the community.

**CITY OF VAUGHAN**

**EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2015**

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**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**

The AIDWYC's request to proclaim October 2, 2015 as "Wrongful Conviction Day" is in accordance with the City's Proclamation Policy. Once proclaimed, the proclamation will be posted on the City's website and published on the City Page Online.

**Attachments**

Attachment 1 Correspondence from the Co-Founder/Director of Client Services for Association in Defence of the Wrongly Convicted.

**Report prepared by**

Julia Bartolomeo, 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**  
**WRONGFUL CONVICTION DAY**

**Recommendation**

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### **Report prepared by:**

Julia Bartolomeo, Administrative Assistant to the City Clerk

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey A. Abrams  
City Clerk

**Attachment 1****RECEIVED****AUG 14 2015****CLERK'S DEPT.**

Association in Defence of the Wrongly Convicted  
111 Peter Street  
Toronto, ON M5V 2H1  
Canada

August 12, 2015

Dear City of Vaughan's Clerk;

The Association in Defence of the Wrongly Convicted (AIDWYC) is a national, non-profit organization dedicated to identifying, advocating for and assisting individuals convicted of a crime they did not commit. It seeks to prevent such injustices in the future through legal education and reforms to the justice system.

We are reaching out to the City of Vaughan to ask that you proclaim October 2nd as Wrongful Conviction Day. Wrongful Conviction Day was launched internationally by AIDWYC on October 2, 2014. It would be an honour to include the City of Vaughan in the growing list of cities across Canada supporting and proclaiming October 2 as Wrongful Conviction Day.

Wrongful convictions are tragedies that not only negatively impact the lives of the innocent individuals that are incarcerated but also their families and society as a whole.

Please feel free to contact me at anytime at 1-800-249-1329 x 227 should you require further information or have any questions.

I thank you for your time and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



Win Wahrer  
Co-Founder/Director of Client Services