

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2017

Item 1, Report No. 31, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on September 26, 2017.

1 PROCLAMATION – WASTE REDUCTION WEEK 2017

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Deputy City Manager of Public Works and the Director of Environmental Services, dated September 19, 2017:

Recommendation

The Deputy City Manager of Public Works and the Director of Environmental Services recommend:

1. That October 16 – 22, 2017 be proclaimed as “Waste Reduction Week” 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

Waste Reduction Week contributes to Green Directions Vaughan Goal 1:

To significantly reduce our use of natural resources and the amount of waste generated by encouraging all residents to adopt more environmentally conscious choices and consider new ways to reduce their waste.

Waste Reduction Week will provide residents of Vaughan with information and ideas to reduce waste in all aspects of their daily living.

Economic Impact

All promotions and outreach activities related to Waste Reduction Week were included in the 2017 Budget.

Communications Plan

Environmental Services staff will work with Corporate Communications staff to promote Waste Reduction Week and waste reduction tips and activities throughout the week. Tips will also be provided to Councillor’s offices for inclusion in electronic newsletters.

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 seek Council approval to proclaim October 16-22, Waste Reduction Week, and to highlight some information and programs with respect to waste reduction activities in the City of Vaughan.

Background - Analysis and Options

Waste Reduction Week is organized by a coalition of both government and not-for-profit groups from each of the 13 participating provincial and territorial jurisdictions across Canada. It is scheduled for October 16-22, 2017.

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“Waste Reduction Week in Canada is a national environmental campaign that builds awareness around issues of sustainable and responsible consumption, encourages choice for more environmentally responsible products/services, and promotes actions that divert more waste from disposal and conserve natural resources.” (Waste Reduction Week Canada website).

City of Vaughan has a waste reduction measure of 284 kg/capital – one of the lowest in the Region of York

As recyclables become lighter with new packaging, waste diversion rates are starting to lose meaning as an indicator. The solid waste industry is moving towards kg/capita to measure waste reduction. The Region of York has recently calculated waste generation for the City of Vaughan as 284 kg/capita – one of the lowest in the Region of York.

Public Works will be reporting to Council in fall 2017, with more details on the City of Vaughan’s waste diversion and waste reduction goals and achievements.

The City of Vaughan will be offering Waste Reduction Week programming for City staff and Vaughan residents

At City facilities and offices, staff will facilitate a collection drive for staff to safely dispose of electronic waste, batteries and clothing, building on the success of the service offered during Waste Reduction Week in 2016.

In the community, we will be encouraging schools to participate through a campaign for Waste-Free lunches, where students reduce packaging and food waste through reusable containers and careful planning.

As in past years, we will be providing information on household waste reduction tips and further promotion of the final Curbside Giveaway Weekend, October 28 and 29, in partnership with Corporate Communications, through our social media channels and website.

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

T12 Continue to cultivate an environmentally sustainable city.

Regional Implications

SM4RT Living – York Region’s Integrated Waste Management Master Plan is a collaboration plan with local area municipalities.

Conclusion

Staff is recommending that Council proclaim October 16 – 22, 2017 “Waste Reduction Week”, and that the proclamation be posted on the City’s website and the City Page Online.

Attachments

N/A

Report prepared by:

Kate Dykman, Manager, Solid Waste Management, ext. 6309

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Kate Dykman, Manager, Solid Waste Management, ext. 6309

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Collins, P.Eng.
Deputy City Manager, Public Works

Jennifer Rose
Director, Environmental Services