

## **CITY OF VAUGHAN**

### **EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 24, 2017**

Item 12, Report No. 35, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on October 24, 2017.

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#### **PROCLAMATION REQUEST LEARNING DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH**

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the City Clerk, dated October 3, 2017:

##### **Recommendation**

The City Clerk recommends:

1. That October 2017 be proclaimed as Learning Disabilities Awareness Month; and
2. That the proclamation be posted on the City's website and published on the City Page online.

##### **Contribution to Sustainability**

No direct contribution

##### **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 from the Executive Director, Idayr – Learning Disabilities Association of York Region.

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

Correspondence was received from the Executive Director, Idayr – Learning Disabilities Association of York Region on September 28, 2017.

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".

This year's campaign theme is "Don't Dis My Ability". The association focuses on children, youth and adults with learning disabilities, as well as helping their family and friends.

##### **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:

- Continue to ensure the safety and well-being of citizens

**CITY OF VAUGHAN**

**EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 24, 2017**

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**Regional Implications**

No direct implications

**Conclusion**

Staff is recommending that October 2017 be proclaimed as Learning Disabilities Awareness Month, and that the proclamation be posted on the City's website and the City Page Online.

**Attachment**

Attachment      Correspondence from Executive Director, Idayr – Learning Disabilities Association of York Region

**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 REQUEST**  
**LEARNING DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH**

**Recommendation**

The City Clerk recommends:

1. That October 2017 be proclaimed as Learning Disabilities Awareness Month; and
2. That the proclamation be posted on the City's website and published on the City Page online.

**Contribution to Sustainability**

No direct contribution

**Economic Impact**

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**Attachment**

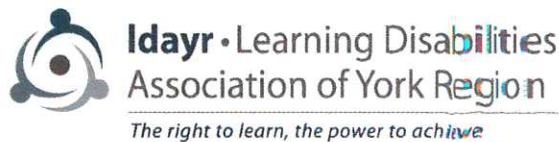
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**Report prepared by:**

Shari Gouzvaris, Supervisor, City Clerk's Administrative Services

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. McEwan  
City Clerk



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**Celebrating 41 Years in York Region**

Mayor of Vaughan  
 Maurizio Bevilacqua

City of Vaughan  
 2141 Major Mackenzie Drive  
 Vaughan, ON  
 L6A 1T1

**RECEIVED**

**SEP 28 2017**

**CLERK'S DEPT.**

Dear Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua

October is Public Awareness Month for Learning Disabilities across Canada. This year's campaign theme is, "Don't Dis My Ability." This theme focuses on children, youth, and adults with Learning Disabilities as well as their families and friends.

The campaign seeks to encourage young people to reach their full potential.

"The right to learn, the power to achieve" "Making the invisible visible!"

"People too often define the life of someone living with Learning Disabilities by the areas where their LDs impact directly, such as math, reading, writing or organizational skills," said Lawrence Barns President and CEO of LDAO. "The goal of this campaign is for people to see beyond that to their multiple areas of strength. LDs didn't stop Richard Branson, Jamie Oliver or John Lennon. A person with LDs just needs the right supports to achieve success."

- By definition someone with LDs has average to above average intelligence.
- LDs impact certain skills, most of which can be improved with the right supports.
- Because LDs usually exhibit in the school system, those with LDs can be identified early in life, and early intervention improves confidence.
- When they don't receive appropriate support, individuals with LDs have higher than the average rates of school dropout, unemployment and poverty.

However if we as a society help them to succeed, all of the above statistics can be radically altered, leading to successful lives that can impact our communities for the better and people with learning disabilities can become among the most creative, and productive members of our communities.

As Executive Director of the Learning Disabilities Association of York Region, I am kindly requesting the City of Vaughan to declare October as Learning Disabilities Awareness Month. In addition, we would like to kindly request to post a message on your website and / or social media outlets.

As part of this campaign, we have developed a poster motivating young people to push their limits inside and outside the classroom through the student voice. I kindly request your support in helping us distribute the material attached throughout your municipal facilities. To contact me directly please call: 905-884-7933 extension 22 or email helga.sirola@ldayr.org.

Sincerely,

Helga Sirola  
 Executive Director  
 905-884-7933, ext. 22  
 Helga.Sirola@ldayr.org