

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 19, 2013

Item 12, Report No. 47, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on November 19, 2013.

12

**PROCLAMATION REQUEST
WORLD AIDS DAY - DECEMBER 1, 2013**

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the City Clerk, dated November 5, 2013:

Recommendation

The City Clerk recommends:

1. That December 1, 2013 be proclaimed as "World AIDS Day"; 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

The purpose of this report is to respond to the request received from the Executive Director of the AIDS Committee of York Region.

Background - Analysis and Options

The correspondence from the Executive Director of the AIDS Committee of York Region, received October 28, 2013 is attached. (Attachment 1) This request was received after the Committee of the Whole Agenda was printed and due to the time sensitive nature of the request is being provided to the Committee of the Whole as an Addendum.

The proclamation request meets the requirements of the City's Proclamation 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 AIDS Committee of York Region is a nonprofit organization that provides desperately needed and life changing support to people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS. The Committee's mandate is to provide support and eliminate the stigma and discrimination by raising public awareness about HIV/AIDS. Their innovative programs also assist in educating the community to

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dispel fears associated with this illness. Council has granted this proclamation request previously.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan

This report supports the strategic priorities established by Vaughan Vision 2010 plan:

Service Excellence

- Promote Community Safety, Health & Wellness

Regional Implications

This report supports the promotion of awareness throughout the Region.

Conclusion

Staff is recommending that December 1, 2013 be proclaimed as “World AIDS Day”, and that the proclamation be posted on the City’s website and on the City Page Online.

Attachments

Attachment 1 Correspondence from the Executive Director of the AIDS Committee of York Region, received October 28, 2013

Report prepared by

Connie Bonsignore, 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.)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – NOVEMBER 5, 2013

PROCLAMATION REQUEST **WORLD AIDS DAY - DECEMBER 1, 2013**

Recommendation

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Connie Bonsignore, Administrative Assistant to the City Clerk

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey A. Abrams
City Clerk



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October 23, 2013

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

Your Honour,

I am writing on behalf of the Board of Directors of the AIDS Committee of York Region to request to join in commemorating December 1 as **World AIDS Day**. To this effect, we request you to:

- Issue a proclamation from the City of Vaughan declaring December 1 as **World AIDS Day**.
- Share a photo of you wearing the enclosed red ribbon for our social media campaign **Red for Change: Wear It, Hold It, Show It for World AIDS Day**. We will widely share this photo on our Facebook page and Twitter feeds during World AIDS Awareness Week (November 24-30) and on World AIDS Day. This will showcase your solidarity with people living with this chronic illness in your constituency.

Held on December 1 each year, World AIDS Day provides an opportunity for people worldwide to unite and show their support for people living with HIV/AIDS, to commemorate those who have passed away, and to eliminate stigma and discrimination by raising awareness about HIV/AIDS.

Anyone can be affected by HIV/AIDS regardless of religion, age, class, race, culture or sexual orientation. It is estimated that more than 27,000 people in Ontario are living with HIV. In York Region, there are approximately 420 people who are aware of their status living with HIV. However, many people remain unaware of their HIV status (almost 26 percent nationwide) because they have never been tested.

The AIDS Committee of York Region is the only local non-profit organization that provides life changing supports to people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS. Many people living with HIV are isolated due to the experience of stigma and discrimination that is compounded by a lack of awareness in the community. We offer innovative programs, educate our community, and advocate for those impacted by HIV/AIDS to help them come out of the margins and reclaim their role as engaged and valued members of our community.

Your exceptional stewardship of various causes has left a great imprint on our work in the community. Your participation in World AIDS Day activities in York Region will help to enhance our awareness efforts on behalf of all persons throughout your community living with and affected by HIV/AIDS.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. We are finalizing our program and launching our media campaign, so I would appreciate your kind and prompt response.

Kind regards,

R. Bhardwaj

Radha Bhardwaj, Executive Director

Providing support and dignified care to those living with and affected by HIV/AIDS in York Region.

RECEIVED

OCT 28 2013

CLERK'S DEPT.