

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 11, 2017

Item 14, Report No. 44, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on December 11, 2017.

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PROCLAMATION REQUEST
EATING DISORDERS AWARENESS WEEK

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the City Clerk, dated December 5, 2017:

Recommendation

The City Clerk recommends:

1. That February 1 – 7, 2018 be proclaimed as Eating Disorders Awareness Week; 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 Outreach and Education Team Member at the National Eating Disorder Information Centre

Background - Analysis and Options

Correspondence was received from the Outreach and Education Team Member at the National Eating Disorder Information Centre on October 23, 2017.

The proclamation request meets the requirements of 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 National Eating Disorder Information Centre works to raise awareness concerning the health implications of eating disorders, as well as removing the stigma surrounding them. Eating disorders are misunderstood and have the highest mortality rate of any other mental health illness. This proclamation would assist in raising awareness of this disorder. Council has previously granted this request.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

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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

Regional Implications

No direct implications.

Conclusion

Staff is recommending that February 1 – 7, 2018 be proclaimed as Eating Disorders Awareness Week, and that the proclamation be posted on the City's website and the City Page Online.

Attachments

Attachment 1 Correspondence from Outreach and Education Team Member at the National Eating Disorder Information Centre

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.)

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Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. McEwan
City Clerk



National Eating Disorder Information Centre

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Vaughan City Hall, Level 100
2141 Major Mackenzie Dr.
Vaughan, ON L6A 1T1

October 20, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to request a proclamation from The City of Vaughan the week of February 1st to February 7th 2018 as Eating Disorder Awareness Week (EDAW). EDAW has been commemorated across Canada since 1988 by established eating disorder organizations, education and public health institutions, and concerned members of the public. It draws attention to the causes, prevalence and impact of eating disorders.

Eating disorders are the number one cause of death among all psychiatric illnesses and are the third most common cause of death in teenage girls. In fact, 5-8% of Canadian girls will experience an eating disorder in their lifetime. However, eating disorders can develop in anyone, regardless of age, ethno-racial background, socioeconomic status, gender or ability. Unfortunately, stigma and secrecy still surround eating disorders, causing many people who are suffering to refrain from seeking help, and to struggle in silence.

We know that through open, supportive dialogue, we can help break the shame and silence that affect nearly 1 million Canadians that are living with a diagnosed eating disorder and the millions of others who are struggling with unhealthy food and weight preoccupation. EDAW is a time to increase awareness about eating disorders, their impact and to shed light on the dangerous and pervasive myths that surround them. It is a time of year when Canadians can learn more about eating disorders and about the resources that are available for individuals and family members who are impacted by them.

The National Eating Disorder Information Centre (NEDIC) was a founding member of the international drive to institute EDAW. Founded in 1985, NEDIC is Canada's oldest national organization dedicated to helping those with eating disorders. We provide education and information as well as support and referral for those with eating disorders, their families, friends and health care professionals. Since our toll-free helpline became available to Canadians from coast to coast in 2013, we have spoken with thousands of individuals, parents, friends, and teachers who are seeking help and information. It is through our outreach and education efforts, that we are able to support these individuals in their struggle to find hope and healing.

Municipal recognition of EDAW would help to affirm the experiences of those with a friend, family member, or important person in their life who is dealing with this life-threatening mental illness, and draw attention to the need for eating disorder prevention, research, treatment, and resources. Attached please find the goals of Eating Disorder Awareness Week 2018.

Please proclaim EDAW in The City of Vaughan and help raise awareness and hope among the many who are impacted by this illness.

For more information about Eating Disorder Awareness Week and this request, please contact me.

Thank You.

Kind Regards,

Alicia Pinelli
Outreach and Education Team Member

RECEIVED

OCT 23 2017

CLERK'S DEPT.