

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 23, 2018

Item 27, Report No. 18, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on May 23, 2018.

27 PROCLAMATION AND FLAG RAISING REQUEST PRIDE WEEK

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the City Clerk, dated May 8, 2018:

1. That the week of June 8 – 17, 2018 be proclaimed as Pride Week in the City of Vaughan;
2. That the Rainbow flag be raised at 12:00 p.m. on June 12, 2018 at City Hall for a period up to and no longer than one week; and
3. That the proclamation be posted on the City's website and the City Page Online.

(A copy of the attachments referred to in the following report have been forwarded to each Member of Council and a copy thereof is also on file in the office of the City Clerk.)

Item:



Committee of the Whole Report

DATE: Tuesday, May 08, 2018

WARD(S): ALL

TITLE: PROCLAMATION AND FLAG RAISING REQUEST PRIDE WEEK

FROM:

Todd Coles, City Clerk

ACTION: DECISION

Purpose

To seek Council approval to proclaim June 8 – 17, 2018 as “Pride Week” in the City of Vaughan, raise the Rainbow flag at City Hall on June 12, 2018 at 12:00 p.m. for a period up to and no longer than one week in accordance with the Flag Raising/Half Masting Policy, and to post the proclamation on the City’s website and on City Page Online.

Report Highlights

- Respond to the request received from York Pride Fest.
- Proclamation and flag raising event requested during the week of June 8 – 17, 2018.

Recommendations

1. That the week of June 8 – 17, 2018 be proclaimed as Pride Week in the City of Vaughan;
2. That the Rainbow flag be raised at 12:00 p.m. on June 12, 2018 at City Hall for a period up to and no longer than one week; and
3. That the proclamation be posted on the City’s website and the City Page Online.

Background

Correspondence was received from York Pride Fest on May 2, 2018 in the Office of the City Clerk making the request.

This request has been previously granted by Council.

Previous Reports/Authority

[Item 5, Report No. 21 of the Committee of the Whole - Proclamation and Flag Raising Request Pride Week](#)

Analysis and Options

The proclamation meets the requirements of the City's Proclamation and Policy and Flag Raising/Half Mastings Policy, as follows:

"That upon request, the City of Vaughan issues Proclamations for events, campaigns, or other similar matters: If the event, campaign or declaration is directly related to matters over which the City has jurisdiction or if the City directly sponsors the event, campaign or other matter."

York Pride Fest is a registered not-for-profit, community-based organization. The organization's mission is to illuminate and celebrate human diversity and inspire inclusivity. They are committed to promoting a safe, inclusive and discrimination-free region for all citizens.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact with respect to this report.

Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations

York Pride Fest is active across the Regional Municipality of York.

Conclusion

Staff is recommending that June 8 – 17, 2018 be proclaimed as Pride Week in the City of Vaughan, that the Rainbow flag be raised on June 12, 2018 at 12:00 p.m. for a period up to and no longer than one week in accordance with the Flag Raising/Half Mastings Policy, and that the proclamation be posted on the City's website and on City Page Online.

For more information, please contact: Todd Coles, City Clerk,

Attachment

1. Correspondence from York Pride Fest, dated April 30, 2018

Prepared by

Julia Bartolomeo, Supervisor, City Clerk's Administrative Services, x8280

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Prepared by

Julia Bartolomeo, Supervisor, City Clerk's Administrative Services, x8280



April 30th, 2018

Mr. Todd Coles,
City Clerk,
City of Vaughan,
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive,
Vaughan,
Ontario L6A 1T1

RECEIVED

MAY 02 2018

CLERK'S DEPT.

Re: Request for Proclamation and Flag Raising for York Region's Pride Week: June 8-17, 2018

Dear Mr. Coles,

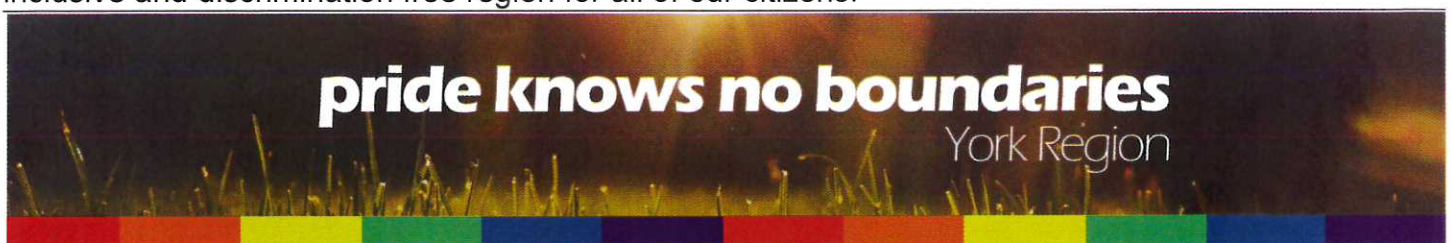
On behalf of York Region's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBTQ2S) community and its allies, we are writing to convey our sincere thanks to the City of Vaughan for not only granting our proclamation request in 2017, but also hosting an amazing official flag-raising ceremony that was thoroughly enjoyed and valued by members of our community and their allies.

We would also like to request the municipality's participation in York Region's 18th annual Pride festival – to proudly unite with us once again in celebration and promotion of acceptance, inclusivity, equality and love.

York Pride Fest is a registered not-for-profit, community based organization that has organized York Region's Annual Pride Festival each year for the past decade. This festival is one of the fastest growing regional Pride festivals across Canada and includes many events; most notably the annual York Region Pride Parade and concurrent festivities that incorporate live entertainment, a community fair, beer garden, firework display and a variety of other family-friendly activities. This year and next, we are striving to expand our festival as we prepare for our twentieth anniversary of Pride celebrations in York Region in 2020.

Our organization brings visibility to the region's LGBTQ2S community in order to pursue its mission to illuminate and celebrate human diversity, captivate the general public and inspire inclusivity. York Pride is run entirely by a team of dedicated volunteers which includes representatives from many local organizations. It is because of the generous support from our partners that we are able to be as active in the community as we are.

By choosing to align yourself with our Pride Festival, you demonstrate your commitment to a safe, inclusive and discrimination free region for all of our citizens.



165-A Pony Drive, Newmarket, ON, L3Y 7B5

Online: www.yorkpridefest.com

Phone: 905-235-3186

Email: info.2018@yorkpridefest.com

This year, we are requesting involvement and leadership from the City of Vaughan through:

- **The Proclamation of Pride Week** (June 8th – 17th, 2018). This proclamation would be a valued acknowledgement of the lives and contributions of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities living in York Region. Each year, for more than a decade, York Region's Pride Week has been recognized by the Regional Municipality of York and proclaimed by most of York Region's nine municipalities.
- **Rainbow Flag Raising during Pride Week** on a municipal flagpole in the City of Vaughan, in celebration of diversity, inclusivity and equality. Last year's Pride Week was launched by official flag-raising ceremonies in five municipalities, including the City of Vaughan, and additionally at York Regional Police regional headquarters in Aurora as well as each of their 5 districts across the region. In addition, the Towns of Georgina and East Gwillimbury raised the flag on four flag poles surrounding the Woodbine Ave and Ravenshoe Road intersection. Throughout Pride Week the flag was also flown without ceremony by many schools and various public service organizations.


Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to welcoming you, your elected officials, your staff colleagues and community members at this year's Pride Festival.

For information about York Region's 2018 Pride Festival, please visit yorkpridefest.com or contact jacob.gal@yorkpridefest.com.

Sincerely,



Jacob Gal
Development & Communications



pride knows no boundaries
York Region