

**CITY OF VAUGHAN**

**EXTRACT FROM SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 16, 2015**

Item 15, Report No. 29, of the Special Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on July 16, 2015.

**15**

**PROCLAMATION AND FLAG-RAISING REQUEST  
FRANCO-ONTARIAN DAY**

**The Special Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the City Clerk, dated July 16, 2015:**

**Recommendation**

The City Clerk recommends:

1. That September 25, 2015 be proclaimed as Franco-Ontarian Day in the City of Vaughan;
2. That the Franco-Ontarian flag be raised at Vaughan City Hall on September 25, 2015 for a period no longer than one week in accordance with the Flag Raising/Half Masting policy; and
3. That the proclamation be posted on the City's website and published on the City Page Online;

**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**

To respond to the request received by the President of L'Association des francophones de la region de York Inc. (L'AFRY).

**Background - Analysis and Options**

The correspondence received from the President of L'Association des francophones de la region de York Inc. (L'AFRY) is attached (Attachment 1).

The proclamation and flag raising request meets the City's Proclamation and Flag Raising/Half Masting Policies, as follows:

"In recognition of the ethnic diversity of the residents of a municipality the City of Vaughan will fly at the Vaughan City Hall the flag of any nation, country, or ethnic group on the national day or on the anniversary of a special occasion, upon written request to the City Clerk submitted on month in advance by that nation, or ethnic group, or its representatives", and

"If the event, campaign, or declaration is directly related to matters over which the City has jurisdiction or the City directly sponsors the event, campaign, or other matter".

## **CITY OF VAUGHAN**

### **EXTRACT FROM SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 16, 2015**

#### **Item 15, SPCW Report No. 29 – Page 2**

The celebration of the flag is historically an important event for Franco-Ontarians. This request for commemoration has been made to honor the anniversary of the arrival of European explorer Etienne Brule, as well as the presence of francophones in both the City of Vaughan and across York Region. This year's celebration will commemorate the 400<sup>th</sup> year of Francophonie presence in Ontario. Council has previously granted this request.

#### **Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan**

This report supports the strategic priorities established by Vaughan Vision 2020 plan:

##### **STRATEGIC GOAL**

Service Excellence: Promote Community Safety, Health & Wellness

##### **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES**

Preserve our Heritage & Support Diversity, Arts & Culture

#### **Regional Implications**

This proclamation will celebrate the Francophone presence in York Region.

#### **Conclusion**

Staff is recommending that September 25, 2105 be proclaimed as Franco-Ontarian Day in the City of Vaughan; that the Franco-Ontarian flag be raised at Vaughan City Hall for a period no longer than one week in accordance with the Flag Raising/Half Masting policy; and that the proclamation be posted on the City's website and published on the City Page Online.

#### **Attachments**

Attachment 1 Correspondence from the President, L'Association des francophones de la region de York Inc. (L'AFRY)

#### **Report prepared by:**

Julia Bartolomeo, 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.)

**PROCLAMATION AND FLAG-RAISING REQUEST**  
**FRANCO-ONTARIAN DAY**

**Recommendation**

The City Clerk recommends:

1. That September 25, 2015 be proclaimed as Franco-Ontarian Day in the City of Vaughan;
2. That the Franco-Ontarian flag be raised at Vaughan City Hall on September 25, 2015 for a period no longer than one week in accordance with the Flag Raising/Half Masting policy; and
3. That the proclamation be posted on the City's website and published on the City Page Online;

**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**

To respond to the request received by the President of L'Association des francophones de la region de York Inc. (L'AFRY).

**Background - Analysis and Options**

The correspondence received from the President of L'Association des francophones de la region de York Inc. (L'AFRY) is attached (Attachment 1).

The proclamation and flag raising request meets the City's Proclamation and Flag Raising/Half Masting Policies, as follows:

"In recognition of the ethnic diversity of the residents of a municipality the City of Vaughan will fly at the Vaughan City Hall the flag of any nation, country, or ethnic group on the national day or on the anniversary of a special occasion, upon written request to the City Clerk submitted on month in advance by that nation, or ethnic group, or its representatives", and

"If the event, campaign, or declaration is directly related to matters over which the City has jurisdiction or the City directly sponsors the event, campaign, or other matter".

The celebration of the flag is historically an important event for Franco-Ontarians. This request for commemoration has been made to honor the anniversary of the arrival of European explorer Etienne Brule, as well as the presence of francophones in both the City of Vaughan and across York Region. This year's celebration will commemorate the 400<sup>th</sup> year of Francophonie presence in Ontario. Council has previously granted this request.

### **Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan**

This report supports the strategic priorities established by Vaughan Vision 2020 plan:

#### **STRATEGIC GOAL**

Service Excellence: Promote Community Safety, Health & Wellness

#### **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES**

Preserve our Heritage & Support Diversity, Arts & Culture

### **Regional Implications**

This proclamation will celebrate the Francophone presence in York Region.

### **Conclusion**

Staff is recommending that September 25, 2105 be proclaimed as Franco-Ontarian Day in the City of Vaughan; that the Franco-Ontarian flag be raised at Vaughan City Hall for a period no longer than one week in accordance with the Flag Raising/Half Masting policy; and that the proclamation be posted on the City's website and published on the City Page Online.

### **Attachments**

Attachment 1 Correspondence from the President, L'Association des francophones de la region de York Inc. (L'AFRY)

### **Report prepared by:**

Julia Bartolomeo, Administrative Assistant to the City Clerk

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey A. Abrams  
City Clerk



June 8, 2015

Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua  
City of Vaughan  
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive  
Vaughan, Ontario, L4G 6J1

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

"L'Association des francophones de la région de York" (L'AFRY) is proud to celebrate in a special way the anniversary of the arrival of Étienne Brûlé and the presence of francophones in York Region. We would appreciate if the Franco-Ontarian flag could be raised at the Administrative Centre and a proclamation be issued for Franco-Ontarian Day, on September 25<sup>th</sup>. This historical celebration of the flag is a very important event for all Franco-Ontarians in the province and your municipality. We are very proud that our flag has been officially recognized by Queen's Park on June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2001.

Today, after four centuries of evolution, Ontario's francophone community includes 582,690 people, or 4.8% of the total population of the province (according to Statistics Canada 2006 census). It is the second largest Francophone community in Canada, after Quebec. This year, the Francophonie is commemorating its 400 years of presence in Ontario.

For the record, the Government of Ontario released a statement on April 26, 2010 that "*The Franco-Ontarian Day Act adopted unanimously by the Legislative Assembly proclaims September 25 of each year as Franco-Ontarian Day. This Day will, every year, officially recognize the contribution of Ontario's Francophone community to the cultural, historical, social, economic and political life of the province.*"

Several of the region's municipalities did agree to raise our flag and issue a proclamation last year and we are hopeful that the city of Vaughan will also commit to doing the same again this year. It would be our pleasure to deliver a flag on simple request. Please feel free to contact Mona Babin by phone at 905 727-4631 ext. 76550, or by email at [monababin@afry.ca](mailto:monababin@afry.ca).

Yours truly,

Alain Beaudoin, President

700, chemin Bloomington ouest, Aurora, Ontario L4G 0E1

Tél : 905 727-4631 poste 76550 Fax: 905 727-4135

