

CITY OF VAUGHAN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (1) ADDENDUM AGENDA

(NOTE: ADDENDUMS WILL REQUIRE A TWO-THIRDS VOTE OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT TO BE ADDED TO THE AGENDA)

This is an Electronic Meeting. The Council Chamber will not be open to the public. Public comments can be submitted by email to clerks@vaughan.ca. For deputations, please register by contacting Access Vaughan at 905-832-2281 or clerks@vaughan.ca

Monday, July 13, 2020 2:00 p.m. Council Chamber 2nd Floor, Vaughan City Hall 2141 Major Mackenzie Drive Vaughan, Ontario

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4. DETERMINATION OF ITEMS REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION INCLUDING MEMBERS RESOLUTION(S)

Addendum Listing

- CIVIC ENGAGEMENT DURING COVID-19
 Report of the Deputy City Manager, Administrative Services and City Solicitor with respect to the above.
- PROCLAMATION REQUEST WORLD ALZHEIMER'S DAY
 Report of the Deputy City Manager, Administrative Services and City Solicitor with respect to the above.
- NELSON MANDELA INTERNATIONAL DAY IN VAUGHAN
 Resolution of Mayor Bevilacqua with respect to the above.

Addendum Listing 2

6. RACISM DIRECTED TOWARDS ASIAN-CANADIAN COMMUNITY Resolution of Councillor Racco with respect to the above.

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Committee of the Whole (1) Report

DATE: Monday, July 13, 2020 **WARD(S):** ALL

TITLE: CIVIC ENGAGEMENT DURING COVID-19

FROM:

Wendy Law, Deputy City Manager, Administrative Services and City Solicitor

ACTION: FOR INFORMATION

Purpose

To provide Council with an update on civic engagement activities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Report Highlights

- Electronic meetings have been permitted for all ad-hoc, statutory, Committee and Council meetings
- Public participation is fundamental to democracy
- Deputations can be received through letter, email, phone or computer/smartphone app
- Outreach activities have been undertaken by staff to facilitate civic engagement

Recommendations

1. That this report be received for information.

Background

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the operations of the City, including civic engagement, has been widespread and dramatic. The City of Vaughan has responded in a variety of ways, including the adoption of electronic meetings, along with civic engagement activities to allow for public participation in the decision-making process.

Previous Reports/Authority

Not applicable.

Analysis and Options

The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic

On March 17, 2020, Mayor Bevilacqua declared a state of Local emergency in accordance with the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, R.S.O. 1990*, c E.9 s.4.(1) ("EMCPA") in response to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic to support municipal response and continuity of critical services.

On March 17, 2020, due to the growing public health concerns surrounding the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), the Province declared a province-wide emergency under section 7.0.1 of the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act ("EMCPA"). Since then, the Province has issued various orders that mandated the closure of all recreation facilities, public libraries, child-care centres, and bars and restaurants providing public accommodations in all municipalities across Ontario, and prohibited all organized events with attendance of more than 50 people, in an effort to contain the spread of COVID-19. On March 28, 2020, a new emergency order prohibited organized public events and social gatherings of more than five people. The limit currently stands at 10 people, and the Province has entered Stage 2 of the recovery plan.

Amendments to Procedure By-law

The Procedure By-law establishes the principles and rules to be used for meetings of Council and its Committees. The Procedure By-law enhances stakeholder participation, community involvement and opportunities for valuable input from the public, other stakeholders and relevant experts on matters that come before Council. The amendments proposed in this report continue to build upon the governance model established by the Procedure By-law.

On March 17, 2020, Council approved amendments to Procedure By-law 7-2011, to facilitate electronic participation at Committee of the Whole and Council meetings on a trial basis. This was done as a proactive measure to allow electronic participation at Committee and Council meetings to the extent possible under the Municipal Act, at that time. Since then, Bill 187 has been enacted by the provincial government, which provides for greater extent of electronic participation than previously permitted.

On March 30, 2020, Council approved further amendments to the Procedure By-law to allow for electronic participation in Committee of the Whole and Council meetings for Council Members, in response to Bill 187, *Municipal Emergency Act, 2020,* during the

Item 3 Page 2 of 6 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. By-law 033-2020 was passed to make the appropriate amendments to Procedure By-law 7-2011.

Finally, on April 8 2020, Council approved amendments to the Procedure By-law to allow for electronic participation for the statutory, ad hoc and subcommittees, in response to Bill 187, *Municipal Emergency Act, 2020*, during the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Electronic participation in meetings will be permitted for as long as there is a declared state of emergency by either the Province of Ontario or the City of Vaughan. At the time of the drafting of this report, it is our understanding that the Province is considering new legislation to permit electronic meetings permanently and to authorize proxy voting.

The Importance of Public Participation

Public participation is a key component to any meeting of Council or Committee. It is fundamental to democracy to include public input in the decision-making process. Public participation is also required by legislation when considering planning matters.

City staff reviewed the options available for including public participation in electronic meetings, and selected a teleconference solution, keeping in mind that we needed to provide a range of opportunities for people to participate. The solution needed to take into account the variety of abilities of deputants to connect through a teleconference solution, and their access to devices and the internet. For that reason, staff established a minimum requirement for the technology solution that would allow deputants to connect through a regular phone. This was accomplished.

Electronic Deputations

Email and written correspondence are the simplest way for a resident to convey their thoughts on a matter to Council. For those more technically inclined, and those having suitable internet access and devices, a computer/smartphone app provides a way for a resident to have two-way communication with Council. Residents without the technological know-how or those without internet access or devices, a phone-in option is available. Residents are provided a phone number and conference ID and can then join the meeting from a regular phone, and still have the two-way communication with Council.

Presentations have proven to be more difficult to accommodate with the existing technology in the Council Chamber. A programming update, following the scheduled July 15th, 2020 Council meeting, will be undertaken to address this deficiency, thereby

allowing a deputant to be seen by Council while making a deputation and make their own presentation.

As an interim solution, presentations from the public have been accommodated by providing them in advance to the Office of the City Clerk. Staff would work with the deputant to facilitate a presentation by presenting it on their behalf.

While some will see electronic deputations as unable to provide the same experience as being in-person, there are also positives to the use of this technology. Residents unable to attend a meeting at City Hall due to childcare needs, disability, or lack of transportation, just as a few examples, are able to participate in a meeting through teleconferencing.

Suspension and Resumption of Planning Timelines

Ontario Regulation 149/20 (O. Reg. 149/20) was enacted by the Province on April 15th, 2020, which suspended the timelines for decision making and appeals under the *Planning Act*.

On June 12th, 2020, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing advised (Attachment #1) of the Provincial government's intention "to end the temporary suspension of the Planning Act timelines as of June 22nd, 2020." Shortly thereafter, legislation was put in place to put this into effect. In his letter, the Minister acknowledged that the safety of residents must remain a priority, and that provincial restrictions limited public gatherings. They encouraged municipalities to "continue to use electronic and virtual channels, as appropriate, to engage and provide the public with an opportunity to make representations on planning matters, while following the advice of Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health."

With the resumption of the planning timelines it became necessary to begin the scheduling of planning applications, in accordance with the established timelines in the *Planning Act*. Not doing so risked appeals of applications not heard within the required time, and the City of Vaughan Council losing the ability to decide on planning matters on their own.

Communications Outreach to the Public

The Corporate and Strategic Communications Department has been an important partner in engaging the public during the COVID-19 pandemic. Informing the public about upcoming Committee and Council meetings, along with information on how to join the virtual meetings, has been a vital part of civic engagement during the past several months.

Item 3 Page 4 of 6 The Corporate and Strategic Communications Department, between March and July, issued 111 communication products. These communication products include:

- News releases
- Social media posts
- City Updates
- Council communication packages
- Website banners
- Public service announcements
- Print and online ads

A complete listing of activities can be found in Attachment #2.

Ratepayer Associations and Public Outreach

On June 19th, 2020, the Office of the City Clerk contacted all 22 registered Ratepayer Associations to provide them with information on connecting to public meetings for the purposes of making deputations. Staff recognize that not all potential meeting participants will be familiar with the teleconferencing technology and have offered testing sessions to them. Four associations accepted the offer to practice connecting to a meeting and making a deputation. This offer will be repeated periodically, and staff are available at any time to assist a Ratepayer Association or member of the public with the process of joining an electronic meeting.

In addition to the advance testing, a testing session is hosted by the Office of the City Clerk prior to any Committee meeting where deputations are permitted. This allows registered deputants to confirm that they are able to successfully join an electronic meeting.

Along with the communication efforts, the City's website has been updated to provide specific information for participating in virtual meetings. The "Speaking to Council" webpage includes information on how to register to make a deputation, and instructions for using the teleconferencing solution.

What will happen in the future?

City staff will continue to monitor the regulations related to public gatherings. When those restrictions are eased, and when City Hall reopens to the public, staff anticipate being able to host meetings in the Council Chamber that includes both in-person deputations and electronic deputations.

Staff will also continue to monitor the teleconference solutions available. Skype for Business was the best solution available in March, for the first electronic meetings that were held. Since that time, Microsoft Teams has evolved into a better solution, having added features that it did not have in March, while still providing features such as a dial-in number. Staff have transitioned the electronic meetings to the Microsoft Teams platform in an effort to provide the best possible experience for the public, Council and staff.

Financial Impact

Costs associated with implementing the teleconferencing technology to allow electronic participation has been accommodated within existing budgets.

Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations

Not applicable.

Conclusion

Staff recognize the importance of public participation in city decision-making and keeping this in mind identified a teleconferencing solution to allowed for public participation regardless of technological know-how or access to technology. Outreach activities, to inform the public and organized groups about the availability of electronic deputations, and how to make them, have been undertaken. Staff will continue to work towards providing the best possible virtual meeting experience for the public, Council and staff.

For more information, please contact: Todd Coles, City Clerk, x8281.

Attachments

- 1. Letter from Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, dated June 12, 2020
- 2. Corporate and Strategic Communications Virtual Public Meeting Promotions

Prepared by

Todd Coles, City Clerk, x8281

ATTACHMENT #1

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Office of the Minister

777 Bay Street, 17th Floor Toronto ON M7A 2J3 Tel.: 416 585-7000 Ministère des Affaires municipales et du Logement

Bureau du ministre

777, rue Bay, 17e étage Toronto ON M7A 2J3 Tél.: 416 585-7000



234-2020-2382

June 12, 2020

Dear Heads of Council / Clerks and CAOs:

Nothing is more important than protecting the health and well-being of Ontarians. Since first learning of COVID-19, Ontario has taken decisive action to stop the spread of this deadly virus, and we thank you for your support in our efforts.

We appreciate that the current situation for municipalities is not "business as usual", and that all municipalities have had to make adjustments to adapt to new priorities and shifting ways of doing business.

When municipalities requested our help, we listened and acted quickly to legislate changes to the Planning Act and make the necessary regulation to suspend decision-making timelines. These changes balanced the need to suspend the timelines that would allow a municipality to refocus time and resources on the COVID-19 outbreak, while allowing councils to continue to make decisions on planning matters as municipal capacity evolved.

As we move forward with our gradual approach that will allow Ontario to emerge from the COVID-19 outbreak, we know that getting shovels in the ground is key to moving forward on the path to economic recovery together. Many municipalities may be well on their way to a more normalized planning review process, and we want to ensure that the land use planning system is in step with a municipality's expanding capacity during this time. As a result, we intend to end the temporary suspension of the Planning Act timelines as of June 22nd, 2020.

We understand that the safety of your constituents must remain a priority, and that there are certain provincial restrictions in place regarding public gatherings. Therefore, we encourage you to continue to use electronic and virtual channels, as appropriate, to engage and provide the public with an opportunity to make representations on planning matters, while following the advice of Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health.

It is vital for our economic recovery from this outbreak that we work together to help move the planning approvals process forward. We need to continue the important job of creating housing and keeping infrastructure projects moving while also ensuring we maintain public health. Development has always played a key role in supporting growth in our communities, and it will play an especially important role on our road to economic recovery from COVID-19.

Let me assure you that our government is working to support you, our municipal partners, and will continue to work collaboratively to keep all Ontarians safe.

Sincerely,

Steve Clark Minister

c. Association of Municipalities of Ontario

TIMELINE: March to July 2020

TOTAL PRODUCTS RELEASED: 111

VISITS TO SPEAK TO COUNCIL WEBPAGE: 533

TACTIC BREAKDOWN PER DATE:

March 16:

- News Release: Mayor Bevilacqua calls special council meeting https://www.vaughan.ca/news/Pages/Mayor-Bevilacqua-calls-special-Council-meeting.aspx
- Social posts 4 (total on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn)
- City Update issued

March 17:

 Council Communications Package re: City's response to COVID-19 (after special Council Meeting)

March 19:

- Statement: Mayor Bevilacqua calls special council meeting <u>HTTPS://WWW.VAUGHAN.CA/NEWS/PAGES/MAYOR-BEVILACQUA-CALLS-SPECIAL-COUNCIL-MEETING.ASPX</u>
- Social media 4 posts total on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn
- City Update issued

March 27:

- PSA: City holds first ever electronic-participation Committee and Council meetings <u>https://www.vaughan.ca/news/Pages/City-holds-first-ever-electronic-participation-Committee-and-Council-meetings-.aspx</u>
- Council Communications Package sent
- · City Update issued
- Social media 4 posts total on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn

March 30:

• The "join a public meeting" scrolling web banner launch on vaughan.ca.



SpecialVirtualCouncil -Hero_.jpg



SpecialVirtualCouncil -Hero_2.jpg



SpecialVirtualCouncil - PSA (002).jpg

March 31:

Constituent Response re: Board of Trade sent to Mayor and Members of Council

April 7:

• Council Communications Package sent re: Special Council Meeting

April 8:

- Council Communications Package sent re: Video Special Council Meeting
- Vaughan.ca/LiveCouncil social post: 2:00 PM Special Committee of the Whole
- Vaughan.ca/LiveCouncil social post: 2:00 PM Special Council

April 13:

- PSA: Committee and Council Meetings Continue Online –
 https://www.vaughan.ca/news/Pages/Committee-and-Council-meetings-continue-online.aspx
- Council Communications Package sent
- City Update issued
- Social media 4 posts total on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn

April 20:

- PSA: Committee and Council meetings resume tomorrow https://www.vaughan.ca/news/Pages/Committee-and-Council-meetings-resume-tomorrow.aspx
- Council Communications Package sent
- City Update issued
- Social media 4 posts total on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn

April 21:

- Vaughan.ca/LiveCouncil social post: 2:00 PM Committee of the Whole (2)
- Vaughan.ca/LiveCouncil social post: 5:00 PM Council

May 4:

- PSA: Committee and Council meetings continue online –
 https://www.vaughan.ca/news/Pages/Committee-and-Council-meetings-continue-online-May.aspx
- Council Communications Package sent
- City Update issued
- Social media 4 posts total on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn

May 5:

 Council Communications Package sent re: Additional Content - Committee and Council meetings continue online

May 8:

Constituent Response sent re: Board of Trade

May 9:

- PSA: Update: Committee and Council meetings continue online in May https://www.vaughan.ca/news/Pages/Update-Committee-and-Council-meetings-continue-online-in-May.aspx
- Council Communications Package sent
- · City Update issued
- Social media 4 posts total on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn

May 12:

 Vaughan.ca/LiveCouncil social post: Committee of the Whole Working Session – Tuesday, May 12 at 10 a.m.

May 20:

 Vaughan.ca/LiveCouncil social post: Committee of the Whole – Wednesday, May 20 at 2 p.m.

May 27:

- Statement: Mayor Bevilacqua established ready, resilient and resourceful committee https://www.vaughan.ca/news/Pages/Mayor-Bevilacqua-establishes-Ready-Resilient-and-Resourceful-Committee-.aspx
- Council Communications Package sent
- City Update issued
- Social media 4 posts total on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn
- Vaughan.ca/LiveCouncil social post: Council Meeting Wednesday, May 27 at 2 p.m.

June 2:

- PSA: Virtual public meetings continue in June –
 https://www.vaughan.ca/news/Pages/Virtual-public-meetings-continue-in-June.aspx
- Council Communications Package sent
- City Update issued
- Social media 4 posts total on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn

June 5

- Paid social media campaign launch on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Live until June 29.
- The "public meetings continue online" scrolling web banner launch on vaughan.ca.







Council -Hero.jpg

Attachment #2: Page 3 of 5

June 7:

- PSA: Have your say at Vaughan's virtual public meetings –
 https://www.vaughan.ca/news/Pages/Have-your-say-at-Vaughans-virtual-public-meetings.aspx
- Council Communications Package sent
- City Update issued
- Social media 4 posts total on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn

June 8:

Media Coverage on YorkRegion.com - http://c3.vaughan.ca/news/2020/06-June/clip6-8-1.html

June 9:

• Vaughan.ca/LiveCouncil social post: Committee of the Whole (1) – Tuesday, June 9 at 2 p.m.

June 11:

- Print ad: Vaughan Citizen PG. 3 https://edition.pagesuite-professional.co.uk/html5/reader/production/default.aspx?pubname=&pubid=1ad5b5a8-57bd-470f-a0a6-1a23c4c772ea
- Print ad: Thornhill Liberal PG. 5 https://edition.pagesuite-professional.co.uk/html5/reader/production/default.aspx?pubname=&pubid=0a976b76-0f62-4b56-bb1e-9c09620c65a8
- Online ad: Yorkregion.com live until June 25
- Vaughan.ca/LiveCouncil social post: Council Meeting Tuesday, June 9 at +/-4:30 p.m.

June 16:

• Vaughan.ca/LiveCouncil social post: Committee of the Whole (2) – Tuesday, June 16 at 2 p.m.

June 22:

 "Have your say" digital sign launch. This will remain up until end of virtual public meetings.

June 23:

- Vaughan.ca/LiveCouncil social post: Ready, Resilient and Resourceful (RRR) Committee of Council Tuesday, June 23 at 10:30 a.m.
- Vaughan.ca/LiveCouncil social post: Committee of the Whole (Public Hearing) Tuesday, June 23 at 7 p.m.

June 25:

 Vaughan.ca/LiveCouncil social post: Committee of the Whole (Public Hearing) – Thursday, June 25 at 7 p.m.

June 29:

- Vaughan.ca/LiveCouncil social post: Committee of the Whole Monday, June 29 at 1 p.m.
- Vaughan.ca/LiveCouncil social post: Council Meeting Monday, June 29 at 2 p.m.

June 30:

Council Communications Package sent re: Board of Trade

July 2:

- PSA: Virtual public meetings continue in July https://www.vaughan.ca/news/Pages/Virtual-public-meetings-continue-in-July.aspx
- Council Communications Package sent
- City Update issued
- Social media 4 posts total on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn

July 3:

• The "public meetings continue online" scrolling web banner launch on vaughan.ca. This will be live until July 15.



July 6:

 Paid social media campaign launch on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Live until July 15.

July 7:

 Vaughan.ca/LiveCouncil social post: Committee of the Whole (Public Hearing) – Tuesday, July 7 at

July 8:

 Vaughan.ca/LiveCouncil social post: Special Committee of the Whole – Wednesday July 8 at 7 p.m.

July 13:

- Vaughan.ca/LiveCouncil social post: Committee of the Whole (1) Monday, July 13 at 2 p.m.
- Vaughan.ca/LiveCouncil social post: Committee of the Whole (Public Hearing) Monday, July 13 at 7 p.m.

July 15:

Vaughan.ca/LiveCouncil social post: Special Council Meeting – Wednesday, July 15 at 2 p.m.



Committee of the Whole (1) Report

DATE: Monday, July 13, 2020 **WARD(S):** ALL

TITLE: PROCLAMATION REQUEST WORLD ALZHEIMER'S DAY

FROM:

Wendy Law, Deputy City Manager, Administrative Services and City Solicitor

ACTION: DECISION

Purpose

To seek Council approval to proclaim September 21, 2020 as World Alzheimer's Day and that the Corporate and Strategic Communications department be directed to promote this proclamation through the corporate channels.

Report Highlights

- Respond to the request received from the Alzheimer Society of York Region (AS York).
- Proclamation requested for September 21, 2020.

Recommendations

- 1. That September 21, 2020 be proclaimed as "World Alzheimer's Day"; and,
- 2. That the proclamation be posted on the City's website and the Corporate and Strategic Communications department be directed to promote this proclamation through the corporate channels.

Background

AS York has been helping people impacted by Alzheimer's Disease and other dementias (ADOD) since 1985. It offers public education, support groups, social workers and dementia-specific programs for people diagnosed with the disease.

By proclaiming this day, AS York hopes that it will highlight the importance of talking about ADOD. The organization believes that opening up dialogue about the disease can show that people are more then their diagnosis, and with the right support, they can be contributing members of the community for a long time.

Council has previously granted a similar request.

Previous Reports/Authority

Committee of the Whole (September 17, 2019) - Dementia Friendly Day

Analysis and Options

The proclamation request meets the requirements of the City's Proclamation Policy, as follows:

- 2.1. For the purposes of section 2, a proclamation may be issued for:
 - 2.1.1. Public awareness campaigns

Financial Impact

Not applicable.

Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations

AS York provides support and education to those with the disease across the Regional Municipality of York.

Conclusion

Staff is recommending that September 21, 2020 be proclaimed as World Alzheimer's Day, that the proclamation be posted on the City's website and that the Corporate and Strategic Communications department be directed to promote this proclamation through the corporate channels.

For more information, please contact: Todd Coles, City Clerk, ext. 8281

Attachment

1. Correspondence from the Communications and Fund Development Coordinator, AS York, received on July 2, 2020

Prepared by

Julia Bartolomeo, Supervisor, City Clerk's Administrative Services, ext. 8280



Lisa Day Communications and Fund Development Coordinator 2-240 Edward St. Aurora ON L4G 3S9 cell: 647-204-5761

June 30, 2020

Dear City Clerk Barbara McEwan,

My name is Lisa Day and I am the communications and fund development coordinator at the Alzheimer Society of York Region (AS York). For the second year in a row, AS York is participating in a province-wide initiative titled "Go Blue for Alz" on Sept. 21, World Alzheimer's Day. Go Blue for Alz is when landmarks across the province will be lit up blue, the colour of the Alzheimer Society in Canada, in order to honour and raise awareness about people impacted by dementia. AS York is asking municipalities across York Region to light up a landmark blue in support of the more than 17,000 York Region residents who have been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias (ADOD) and for the 10 to 12 people who are directly impacted by a diagnosis.

By lighting up blue, the City of Vaughan is raising awareness about ADOD, and family, friends and neighbours impacted by this fatal disease. While not a normal part of aging, age is the No. 1 risk factor for developing ADOD. Currently, there is no cure.

In addition, we would love for the City of Vaughan to again proclaim Sept. 21 as World Alzheimer's Day. By proclaiming this day, the City is showing its residents the importance of talking about ADOD. By talking about the disease, we are showing fellow Vaughan residents people are more then their diagnosis and with the right support, they can be contributing members of the community for a long time.

The Alzheimer Society of York Region has been helping people impacted by ADOD since 1985. It offers public education, support groups, social workers and three DAY programs, that offer dementia-specific programs for people diagnosed with the disease and respite for their caregivers.

Please let me know if you require any other information about ADOD, going blue for Alzheimer's and proclaiming World Alzheimer's Day on Sept. 21.

Sincerely, Lisa Day



MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

Meeting/Date	Monday, July 13, 2020 – Committee of the Whole (1)
Title:	Nelson Mandela International Day in Vaughan
Submitted by:	Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua

Whereas, in November 2009, the UN General Assembly declared July 18 "Nelson Mandela International Day" in recognition of the former South African President's contribution to the culture of peace and freedom;

Whereas, this declaration recognizes Nelson Mandela's values and his dedication to the service of humanity in: conflict resolution; race relations; promotion and protection of human rights; reconciliation; gender equality and the rights of children and other vulnerable groups; the fight against poverty; the promotion of social justice, as well as acknowledging his contribution to the struggle for democracy internationally and the promotion of a culture of peace around the world;

Whereas, upon his passing in 2013, the City of Vaughan established a tribute to Nelson Mandela and his life's work which included lowering City flags and establishing a book of condolences that was located in the atrium of Vaughan City Hall for staff and visitors to leave a message;

Whereas, the years 2015 to 2024 have been designated by the United Nations as the International Decade for People of African Descent and in 2018, Vaughan Council endorsed this with a City proclamation:

Whereas, the International Decade for People of African Descent provides a unique opportunity to highlight the important contributions that people of African descent have made to Canadian society, and also provides a platform for engaging in the fight against anti-Black racism, discrimination and the inequalities that Canadians of African descent continue to face;

Whereas, each February, the City of Vaughan celebrates Black History Month and honours the men and women who have made lasting contributions to city-building and nation-building;

Whereas, to support the goal of creating an inclusive community, in March 2019, the City of Vaughan became the first municipality in Canada to endorse the Leadership Accord on Gender Diversity to promote the values of diversity, equality and inclusion;

Whereas, to further the City of Vaughan's commitment to advancing a culture of co-operation, earlier this year, Council endorsed and adopted the Vaughan Inclusion Charter in support of the Inclusion Charter for York Region, which is a community initiative to create a fair and equal environment for all. To ensure this is achieved, Council appointed a Diversity and Citizen Engagement Task Force. Additionally, Council took another important step forward by requesting that staff immediately develop a plan that will create a new senior employment position to provide leadership in fostering diversity, inclusion and accessibility at the City;

Whereas, the City of Vaughan is committed to honouring individuals and organizations who have and continue to make meaningful, significant and enduring contributions to our city, our nation and the world;

It is therefore recommended that:

- 1. The Mayor proclaim July 18 as Nelson Mandela International Day in Vaughan;
- 2. That the proclamation be posted on the City's website and the Corporate and Strategic Communications department be directed to promote the proclamation on corporate communications channels.

Respectfully submitted,



MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

Meeting/Date	COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (1) – JULY 13, 2020
Title:	RACISM DIRECTED TOWARDS ASIAN-CANADIAN COMMUNITY
Submitted by:	Ward 4 Councillor Sandra Yeung Racco

Whereas, since the emergence of the global COVID-19 pandemic, media outlets have reported a disturbing rise in racist behaviour toward Asian communities; and

Whereas, the City of Vaughan unequivocally denounces all forms of racism, bigotry and discrimination; and

Whereas, Vaughan is home to an active, engaged and thriving Asian-Canadian community made up of successful professionals, concerned citizens, dedicated city-builders and compassionate family members; and

Whereas, the City's Cultural Heritage Events program is an opportunity to further enrich, engage and educate all people about the contributions made by individuals of Asian heritage; and

Whereas, each year, Council hosts Lunar New Year festivities that include a traditional lion dance, eye-dotting ceremony and other celebrated cultural performances; and

Whereas, the Vaughan Mayor's Lunar Gala, inspired by the Chinese Moon Festival, is a celebration of Asian culture with entertainment, activities and traditional foods, that bring people together to raise funds for community causes, including the new Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital; and

Whereas, in 1995, the City established a Friendship City partnership with Yangzhou, China, and in 1997, entered into a Twin City arrangement with Baguio, Philippines; and

Whereas, in March of 2019, the City was formally invited to take part in the annual Smart City Summit and Expo in Taipei, Taiwan. This international conference brings together thought leaders from local governments, along with recognized professionals from public-and private-sector organizations. Vaughan's participation in the global conference presented opportunities to share existing best practices, learn about emerging and innovative trends in city-building and actively engage economic development leads; and

Whereas, to further the City's commitment to advancing a culture of co-operation and inclusion, earlier this year, Mayor Bevilacqua formally signed the Vaughan Inclusion Charter in support of the Inclusion Charter for York Region, which is a community initiative to create a fair and equal environment for all; and

Whereas, to help advance a mandate of diversity and inclusion, Council unanimously voted to create a Diversity and Citizen Engagement Task Force and endorsed Mayor Bevilacqua's Member's Resolution to establish a new employment opportunity in the form of a full-time permanent employment (FTE) opportunity – Diversity & Inclusion Officer.

It is therefore recommended:

- 1) That City Council unanimously and vigorously denounce acts of hatred, discrimination, and violence directed against people of various Asian origins; and
- 2) That, once meetings formally begin, this Member's Resolution is forwarded to members of the City's new Diversity and Citizen Engagement Task Force to inform their work; and
- 3) That this Member's Resolution be forwarded to York Region, all York Region area municipalities, Vaughan's Members of Provincial Parliament and Members of Parliament.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Yeung Racco, Ward 4 Councillor