

## Council Report

---

**DATE:** Tuesday, March 19, 2019

**WARD(S):** ALL

**TITLE: PROCLAMATION AND FLAG RAISING REQUEST  
WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY**

**FROM:**

Nick Spensieri, Deputy City Manager, Corporate Services

**ACTION:** DECISION

---

**Purpose**

To seek Council approval for the date of April 2, 2019 to be proclaimed as World Autism Awareness Day, that the City of Vaughan participate in an Autism Awareness flag raising event on April 2, 2019, and that the proclamation be posted on the City's website.

**Report Highlights**

- Respond to the request received from Autism Ontario York Region, received on March 14, 2019.
- Proclamation and flag raising event requested for April 2, 2019.

**Recommendations**

1. That April 2, 2019 be proclaimed as World Autism Awareness Day;
2. That the City of Vaughan participate in a flag raising event at City Hall on April 2, 2019 with the flag remaining raised for the balance of the day; and,
3. That the proclamation be posted on the City's website.

**Background**

Correspondence was received from the Chair, Raise the Flag Campaign, of Autism Ontario York Region on March 14, 2019 requesting a proclamation and flag raising.

Council has previously granted this request.

### **Previous Reports/Authority**

[Committee of the Whole, Report No. 10, Item 11](#)

### **Analysis and Options**

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

"That upon request, the City of Vaughan issue Proclamations for events, campaigns, or other similar matters: If the event, campaign or declaration is directly related to matters over which the City has jurisdictions or the City directly sponsors the event, campaign or other matter"; and

"Flags of non-partisan, non-profit, charitable organizations shall be flown at the City of Vaughan Civic Centre upon a written request to the City Clerk submitted one month in advance on the understanding that the individual flag will not be flown for a period longer than one week".

Autism Ontario is dedicated to increasing public awareness about autism and the issues faced by individuals with autism, their families and the professional with whom they interact. The association and its chapters share common goals of providing information and education, supporting research and advocating for programs and services for the autism community.

### **Financial Impact**

There is no expected financial impact with respect to this request.

### **Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations**

The York Region chapter serves 11,000 individuals with autism and their families in the region.

### **Conclusion**

Staff is recommending that April 2, 2019 be proclaimed as World Autism Awareness Day, that the City of Vaughan participate in an Autism Awareness flag raising event on April 2, 2019, and that the proclamation be posted on the City's website.

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

**Attachment**

1. Correspondence from the Chair, Raise the Flag Campaign, Autism Ontario York Region, dated March 11, 2019

**Prepared by**

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