

MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

Committee of the Whole (1)

DATE: Tuesday, February 28, 2023

**TITLE: 100th YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION – WOODBRIDGE
HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

FROM:
COUNCILLOR ADRIANO VOLPENTESTA

Whereas, on April 23, 1923, a number of keen gardeners in the Woodbridge area met to form the Woodbridge and District Horticultural Society (WHS) with Dr. Garnet McLean as its first president; and

Whereas, the WHS has remained active in the community, including the surrounding areas of Thistletown, Edgeley, Smithfield, Kleinburg and Nobleton; and

Whereas, the WHS took advantage at every opportunity to introduce new varieties of flowers and bulbs; and

Whereas, the flower shows attained prominence and became the community's prime social events. The shows were held in the Orange Hall on Wallace Street and the John Watson Automobile Showroom on Pine Street, featuring displays of exceptional exhibits and orchestral performances; and

Whereas, the WHS continues to hold regular meetings at the Woodbridge Memorial Arena and has hosted the District 15 Annual Meeting. Members of the WHS are not only residents of Vaughan but many of the surrounding areas; and

Whereas, the WHS continues to contribute by caring for gardens and raising funds to purchase materials to beautify the community. They have planted, maintained and cared for the gardens at Memorial Hill, Woodbridge Post Office, Kleinburg Public School, The Historical Wallace House, Fred Armstrong Park and the Fire Hall Parkette; and

Whereas, WHS members continue to decorate the village of Woodbridge, by beautifying the bridges of Woodbridge Ave., Islington Ave. and Clarence Street. In addition, WHS members organize their annual Garden Tours, support the Christmas in the Village events and the Woodbridge Fall Fair.

It is therefore recommended:

1. That a 100th Year Anniversary celebration event be organized to commemorate this milestone with WHS members, Members of Council and staff at the April 25th Council meeting and provide them with the use of the Garden Room to hold a reception prior to the event; and
2. That the City install a plaque in the garden at the Historical Wallace House, recognizing the work and dedication by WHS in maintaining and caring for the gardens; and
3. That the WHS work with the City of Vaughan Archives Department staff to organize a display case at the Woodbridge Memorial Arena displaying various materials pertaining to their role in participating in the Woodbridge community; and
4. That the Corporate and Strategic Communications department uses its corporate channels to support this resolution, as appropriate; and
5. That Vaughan Public Libraries be requested to work with WHS to explore holding a speaker series showcasing gardening topics.