

## Committee of the Whole (2) Report

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**DATE:** Wednesday, March 8, 2023      **WARD(S):** ALL

**TITLE:** PROCLAMATION REQUESTS  
SAVE SOIL DAY AND WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY

**FROM:**

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

**ACTION:** DECISION

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**Purpose**

To seek approval for the proclamation requests received for Save Soil Day and World Down Syndrome Day.

**Report Highlights**

- Respond to the request received on behalf of Conscious Planet for a proclamation.
- Respond to the request received on behalf of the Down Syndrome Association of York region for a proclamation.

**Recommendations**

1. THAT March 21, 2023, be proclaimed as “Save Soil Day”;
2. THAT March 21, 2023, be proclaimed as “World Down Syndrome Day”;
3. THAT Council ratify these recommendations at the Council meeting on March 21, 2023; and,
4. THAT the proclamation be posted on the City’s website and the Corporate and Strategic Communications department be directed to promote the above-noted proclamation through the various corporate channels.

## **Background**

### **Save Soil Day**

This request for proclamation was received in the Office of the City Clerk on February 9, 2023.

As per the information provided by the requestor, Save Soil is a global movement uniting world leaders, visionaries, influencers and citizens behind a common purpose to Save Soil. This movement was launched in 2022 and is a joint initiative with Conscious Planet and Isha Foundation in partnership with the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and other leading institutions.

### **World Down Syndrome Day**

This request for proclamation was received in the Office of the City Clerk on February 15, 2023.

World Down Syndrome Day is held on March 21 each year as a global awareness day which has been observed by the United Nations since 2012. The Province of Ontario has also proclaimed March 21 to be Ontario Down Syndrome Day in past years. City of Vaughan Council has previously granted this request.

The organization has also requested an illumination and flag raising, which have been reviewed and approved by the City Clerk as per the City's Illumination Policy (03.C.12) and Flag Raising Policy (03.C.11).

## **Previous Reports/Authority.**

### **World Down Syndrome Day**

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## **Analysis and Options**

### **Save Soil Day**

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:
  - 2.1.4. Public awareness campaigns

### **World Down Syndrome Day**

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:

#### 2.1.4. Public awareness campaigns

### **Financial Impact**

There is no financial impact expected in regards to these requests.

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

None.

### **Conclusion**

Having reviewed the requests, staff is recommending that March 21, 2023, be proclaimed as “Save Soil Day”, that March 21, 2023, be proclaimed as “World Down Syndrome Day”, that the proclamations be posted on the City’s website and that the Corporate and Strategic Communications department be directed to promote the proclamations through the various corporate channels.

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

### **Attachments**

1. Correspondence sent on behalf of Conscious Planet, received February 9, 2023
2. Correspondence sent on behalf of the Down Syndrome Association of York Region, received on February 15, 2023

### **Prepared by**

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

### **Approved by**



Wendy Law  
Deputy City Manager  
Legal and Administrative Services  
& City Solicitor

### **Reviewed by**



Nick Spensieri, City Manager