

## **MEMBER'S RESOLUTION**

### **Committee of the Whole (1)**

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**DATE:** Tuesday, September 12, 2023

**TITLE: ISLAMIC HERITAGE MONTH FLAG RAISING**

**FROM:**

Mayor Steven Del Duca

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**Whereas**, people of the Muslim faith come from around the world, are ethnically diverse and represent many interpretations of Islam; and

**Whereas**, Muslims have positively shaped the growth of world society through advancements in science, art, business, literature, math and many other cultural pursuits; and

**Whereas**, the dynamic Muslim community in Vaughan is an essential part of our city's cultural fabric and a key contributor to our ongoing success; and

**Whereas**, Islamic Heritage Month serves to celebrate, inform, educate and share with fellow Canadians the rich heritage of Muslims and their contributions; and

**Whereas**, in 2020, Vaughan Council proclaimed Islamic Heritage Month on a recurring basis; and

**Whereas**, Islamic Heritage Month also represents an opportunity to acknowledge the challenges faced by Muslim Canadians in the form of Islamophobia and hate-fueled violence, and support a safer and more welcoming city for Muslim residents; and

**Whereas**, the City of Vaughan proudly celebrates its diversity with a cultural mosaic of more than 217 ethnic or cultural origins, a population that speaks 113 different languages and nearly half our residents born in a country other than Canada; and

**Whereas**, the City's flag-raising events and illuminations, among other corporate initiatives and opportunities can bring the Vaughan community together to celebrate meaningful occasions.

**It is therefore recommended:**

1. THAT notwithstanding the City of Vaughan's Flag Protocol Corporate Policy (03.C.11), that a flag-raising take place to mark Islamic Heritage Month in October on a recurring basis, as requested by the community organization *Muslim Women of Vaughan*.

**Financial and Staff Resource Impact**

The costs and staff resources associated with this resolution would be similar to any other flag-raising held at the City of Vaughan.