

Committee of the Whole (2) Report

DATE: Tuesday, May 14, 2024

WARD(S): ALL

TITLE: PROCLAMATION REQUESTS:

MENSTRUAL HEALTH DAY, NATIONAL DEAFBLIND AWARENESS MONTH, BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH, SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD APPRECIATION WEEK AND FILIPINO DAY

FROM:

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

ACTION: DECISION

Purpose

To seek approval for the above-noted proclamation requests.

Report Highlights

- Respond to the proclamation requests received for the months of May and June.

Recommendations

1. THAT the following be proclaimed:
 1. The day of May 28, 2024, as “Menstrual Health Day”;
 2. The month of June 2024 as “National Deafblind Awareness Month”;
 3. The month of June 2024 as “Brain Injury Awareness Month”;
 4. The week of June 3 to June 7, 2024, as “School Crossing Guard Appreciation Week”, and that this week is proclaimed on an annual basis going forward with dates determined by Transportation and Fleet Management Services;
 5. That the day of June 9, 2024, be proclaimed as “Filipino Day”; and
2. THAT the proclamations be posted on the City’s website and that the Communications, Marketing and Engagement department be directed to promote the above noted proclamations through the various corporate channels.

Background

Menstrual Health Day

Correspondence was received from The Period Purse on April 19, 2024, making the request for proclamation.

The Period Purse is an organization that works to create equity through access, education, and advocacy. As per information on the organization's website, Menstrual Health Day is a day to reduce the stigma around periods and bring awareness to the work being done towards reaching menstrual equity.

National Deafblind Awareness Month

Correspondence was received from the Canadian Helen Keller Centre/National Deafblind Awareness Committee on February 6, 2024, making the request for proclamation. June is celebrated as National Deafblind Awareness Month, marking the birth month of Helen Keller, who is one of the most famous people who was deafblind. Recognizing this month builds awareness around the distinct experience of Canadians who are deafblind.

Council has previously granted this request.

Brain Injury Awareness Month

Correspondence was received from the Brain Injury Association of York Region (BIAYR) on April 16, 2024, making the request for proclamation. The BIAYR is a non-profit organization providing support, education and advocacy to individuals who have survived brain injury, as well as their families.

June is Brain Injury Awareness Month in Canada. According to BIAYR, approximately 1.5 million Canadians live with the effects of an acquired brain injury.

Council has previously granted this request.

School Crossing Guard Appreciation Week

Correspondence was received from the Transportation and Fleet Management Services at the City of Vaughan on April 17, 2024, making the request for proclamation.

School Guard Appreciation Week provides a venue through which municipalities across Ontario can celebrate, educate, and promote the vital contributions that school crossing guards make to support the community and keep the road network safe.

Council has previously granted this request.

Filipino Day

Correspondence was received from the Filipino-Canadian Association of Vaughan (FCAV) on April 2, 2024, making the request for proclamation. The organization has also requested a flag raising for the same day, which will be reviewed by the City Clerk as per the City's Flag Raising Policy (03.C.11).

Philippine Independence Day, which occurs on June 12, is celebrated each year by Filipinos across the world. This is a national day of the Philippines to commemorate ancestors who sacrificed their lives for sovereignty.

Council has previously granted this request.

Previous Reports/Authority

National Deafblind Awareness Month

[Committee of the Whole \(2\) - May 9, 2023](#)

Brain Injury Awareness Month

[Committee of the Whole \(2\) - May 9, 2023](#)

School Crossing Guard Appreciation Week

[Committee of the Whole \(2\) - May 9, 2023](#)

Filipino Day

[Committee of the Whole \(2\) – April 12, 2022](#)

Analysis and Options

Menstrual Health 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

National Deafblind Awareness Month

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

Brain Injury Awareness Month

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

School Crossing Guard Appreciation Week

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

Filipino 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:
 - 2.1.1. Arts, culture or heritage commemorations in the City of Vaughan

Financial Impact

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

Operational Impact

The Communications, Marketing and Engagement team will oversee the promotion of these proclamations on corporate channels.

Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations

Not applicable.

Conclusion

Having reviewed the requests, staff is recommending that the following dates be proclaimed:

1. The day of May 28, 2024, as "Menstrual Health Day";
2. The month of June 2024 as "National Deafblind Awareness Month";
3. The month of June 2024 as "Brain Injury Awareness Month";
4. The week of June 3 to June 7, 2024, as "School Crossing Guard Appreciation Week", and that this week is proclaimed on an annual basis going forward with dates determined by Transportation and Fleet Management Services; and
5. That the day of June 9, 2024, be proclaimed as "Filipino Day".

Additionally, staff recommends that the proclamations be posted on the City's website and that the Communications, Marketing and Engagement department be directed to promote the above noted proclamations through the various corporate channels.

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

Attachments

1. Proclamation Request Form from The Period Purse
2. Proclamation Request Form from Canadian Hellen Keller Centre/National Deafblind Awareness Committee
3. Proclamation Request Form from BIAYR
4. Proclamation Request Form from Transportation and Fleet Management Services, City of Vaughan
5. Proclamation Request from FCAV

Prepared by

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