

MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

Committee of the Whole (1)

DATE: Tuesday, June 04, 2024

TITLE: ITALY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MISSION – 2024

FROM:

Mayor Steven Del Duca

Whereas, Council approved a July Economic Development Mission to Italy in January 2024 to solidify the cultural and political ties with central Italy (an important source of immigration to Vaughan, and advance trade and investment opportunities with Italian firms engaged in the 2023 mission; and

Whereas, given Vaughan's economic and demographic characteristics, Italy is a gateway to Europe for Vaughan; and

Whereas, in October 2023, the city conducted a mission to Italy that introduced Vaughan to 44 companies and ten government trade, investment, and development agencies; and

Whereas, since 1992, Vaughan has a relationship with Sora; and

Whereas, Italy remains Canada's third largest merchandise trading partner in the European Union (EU). Trade between Canada and Italy in 2022 was nearly \$12B. Agri-food products were the leading export from Canada to Italy in 2022, with consumer goods and energy products taking the second and third spots.

It is therefore recommended:

1. In lieu of the Head of Council's participation in the 2024 Italy Economic Development mission, one (1) Member of Council as identified by the Mayor, under delegated authority from Council be chosen to also take part in the mission with the two other council delegates; and

2. That, authority is delegated to the Deputy Mayor, on behalf of the Mayor, to enter into non-binding memoranda and letters of understanding in form satisfactory to the Chief, Communications and Economic Development or designate; and
3. That, these recommendations be ratified by Council.