

Committee of the Whole (2) Report

DATE: Tuesday, June 17, 2025

WARD(S): ALL

TITLE: PROCLAMATION REQUESTS: NATIONAL DROWNING PREVENTION WEEK, WORLD CEREBRAL PALSY DAY, REGISTERED VETERINARY TECHNICIAN MONTH, AND NATIONAL ANIMAL SHELTER AND RESCUE APPRECIATION WEEK

FROM:

Michael Genova, Deputy City Manager, Strategic Initiatives

ACTION: DECISION

Purpose

To seek approval for the above-noted proclamation requests.

Report Highlights

- Respond to the proclamation requests received for:
 - National Drowning Prevention Week
 - World Cerebral Palsy Day
 - Registered Veterinary Technician Month
 - National Animal Shelter and Rescue Appreciation Week

Recommendations

1. THAT the following be proclaimed in 2025:
 - a. The week of July 20 to July 26 as "National Drowning Prevention Week";
 - b. October 6 as "World Cerebral Palsy Day";
 - c. The month of October as "Registered Veterinary Technician Month"; and
 - d. The week of November 1 to November 8 as "National Animal Shelter and Rescue Appreciation Week"; 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

National Drowning Prevention Week

A proclamation request was received from the City of Vaughan's Recreation Services department on April 29, 2025.

Swimming is a life-saving skill and is a service that the City of Vaughan's Recreation Services department offers. This week is designated to bring awareness to water safety and provide education on drowning prevention.

World Cerebral Palsy Day

A proclamation request was received from Flex for Access on April 28, 2025.

Flex for Access is a registered non-profit organization for Cerebral Palsy. They use fitness and sport as a means of managing Cerebral Palsy and other physical disabilities and injuries.

Council has previously granted this request.

Registered Veterinary Technician Month

A proclamation request was received from the City of Vaughan's Animal Services department on November 4, 2024.

Registered Veterinary Technician Month recognizes and celebrates the integral work that veterinary technologists do, and the crucial service in the field of animal healthcare.

Council has previously granted this request.

National Animal Shelter and Rescue Appreciation Week

A proclamation request was received from the City of Vaughan's Animal Services department on November 4, 2024.

National Animal Shelter and Rescue Appreciation Week recognizes the animal shelters and rescues that provide care to millions of displaced and lost animals. Devoted staff come to the aid of these animals, providing temporary shelter until they are returned to their owners or are adopted into their forever homes.

Council has previously granted this request.

Previous Reports/Authority

World Cerebral Palsy Day

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Registered Veterinary Technician Month

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National Animal Shelter and Rescue Appreciation Week

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Analysis and Options

The proclamation requests listed below meet the requirements of the City's Proclamation Policy 03.C.10, as per section 2.1.4 "*Public awareness campaigns*":

- National Drowning Prevention Week
- World Cerebral Palsy Day
- Registered Veterinary Technician Month
- National Animal Shelter and Rescue Appreciation Week

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 be proclaimed in 2025:

1. The week of July 20 to July 26 as "National Drowning Prevention Week";
2. October 6 as "World Cerebral Palsy Day";
3. Registered Veterinary Technician Month; and
4. National Animal Shelter and Rescue Appreciation Week.

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 – National Drowning Prevention Week
2. Proclamation Request Form – World Cerebral Palsy Day
3. Proclamation Request Form – Registered Veterinary Technician Month
4. Proclamation Request Form – National Animal Shelter and Rescue Appreciation Week

Prepared by

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