

## **CITY OF VAUGHAN**

### **EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 2, 2019**

Item 12, Report No. 24, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on October 2, 2019.

#### **12. PROCLAMATION REQUEST CARIBBEAN HERITAGE MONTH**

**The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Deputy City Manager, Administrative Services and City Solicitor, dated September 17, 2019:**

##### **Recommendations**

1. That October 2019 be proclaimed as "Caribbean Heritage Month",  
and
2. That the proclamation be posted on the City's website.

## Committee of the Whole (1) Report

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**DATE:** Tuesday, September 17, 2019

**WARD(S):** ALL

**TITLE: PROCLAMATION REQUEST  
CARIBBEAN HERITAGE MONTH**

**FROM:**

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

**ACTION:** DECISION

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**Purpose**

To seek Council approval to proclaim October 2019 as Caribbean Heritage Month and that the proclamation be posted on the City's website.

**Report Highlights**

- Respond to the proclamation request received from the Founder and President of the Caribbean Women's Society.
- Proclamation requested for the month of October.

**Recommendations**

1. That October 2019 be proclaimed as "Caribbean Heritage Month", and
2. That the proclamation be posted on the City's website.

**Background**

Correspondence was received from the Founder and President of the Caribbean Women's Society in the Office of the City Clerk on May 9, 2019 making the request for proclamation.

Ontario is home to a large Caribbean-Canadian community; this diverse group represents forty-two Caribbean nations, regions, and territories. By proclaiming the month of October as Caribbean Heritage Month, the municipality would be joining

several other municipalities in the GTA in recognizing the contributions Caribbean-Canadians have made to the province's social, economic, political and cultural fabric.

### **Previous Reports/Authority**

Not applicable.

### **Analysis and Options**

This proclamation request meets the requirements of the City's Proclamation Policy, as follows:

"That upon request, the City of Vaughan issue Proclamations for events, campaigns, or other similar matters: If the event, campaign or declaration is directly related to matters over which the City has jurisdiction or the City directly sponsors the event, campaign or other matter."

### **Financial Impact**

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

### **Conclusion**

Staff is recommending that October 2019 be proclaimed as Caribbean Heritage Month and that the proclamation be posted on the City's website.

**For more information**, please contact: Todd Coles, City Clerk, x8281

### **Attachment**

1. Correspondence from Founder and President, Caribbean Women's Society, received on May 9, 2019

### **Prepared by**

Julia Bartolomeo, Supervisor, City Clerk's Administrative Services, x8280



[www.ourcws.com](http://www.ourcws.com)  
[admin@ourcws.com](mailto:admin@ourcws.com)

Dear Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua,

Please accept this letter of request to the join the City of Toronto, City of Markham, City of Pickering, City of Brampton, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, Mayor of Toronto and Premier of Ontario in supporting Caribbean Women's Society and the Caribbean-Canadian community by proclaiming October as Caribbean Heritage Month in the City of Vaughan.

As background, Ontario is home to a large and vibrant Caribbean-Canadian community; a rich and diverse group representing forty-two Caribbean nations, regions and territories (more info here: [www.ourchm.ca](http://www.ourchm.ca)).

Since the first Caribbean immigrants arrived in Canada in the late 1700's, Caribbean-Canadians from across Ontario have made significant contributions across all fields; including, science, education, medicine, broadcasting, law, politics, business, sports and culture.

Caribbean-Canadians have helped build the City of Vaughan, Ontario and the country, into the multicultural success story that it is and have helped to build this province into the best place to live, work and raise families. They continue to help foster growth, prosperity and innovation throughout Ontario and Canada.

October is a significant month for the Caribbean-Canadian community. With the points system incorporated into the Immigration Regulations in October 1967, it meant that visitors, including Caribbeans, and their families were given the right to apply for immigrant status while in Canada. By 1970, immigration from, in part, the Caribbean represented over 23% of the total; compared to 10% four years previously.

Caribbean Heritage Month is an opportunity to remember, celebrate and educate future generations about Caribbean-Canadians and the important role that they have played and continue to play in communities across Ontario.

By proclaiming the month of October as Caribbean Heritage Month, the City of Vaughan would be recognizing the important contributions that Caribbean-Canadians have made to the City of Vaughan's, Ontario's and the country's social, economic, political and cultural fabric.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

Camille Kerr, Founder and President  
[admin@ourcws.com](mailto:admin@ourcws.com)

RECEIVED  
MAY 09 2019  
CLERK'S DEPT.