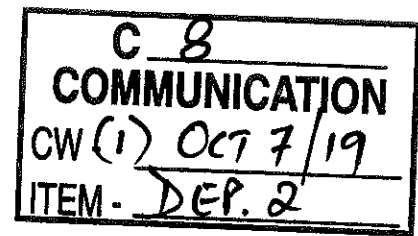


**EVENT : VAUGHAN SANTAFEST PARADE**

**ADDRESSED TO: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**OCTOBER 7, 2019**



**PURPOSE:**

To request the ongoing partnership and joint working relationship between the City of Vaughan and Vaughan SantaFest Parade. On behalf of SantaFest Parade Committee, we are seeking continued "Service-in-kind" support. As we roll off a 3 year term with regards to "Services-in-kind" commitment, this year, the Parade Committee requests the Committee of the Whole to grant "Service-in-Kind" for another term of 3 years (2019-2021), which will allow for strategic planning and future budgeting.

The SantaFest Parade would not be possible without the ongoing support of Council, and the participation and commitment of our city staff.

The SantaFest Parade has become a long standing tradition in our community which has brought years of community spirit, civil pride and collaboration within our great city of Vaughan.

This year, the Vaughan SantaFest Parade Celebrates **20 Years**. And through the years, the Parade has evolved and grown to become one of the largest yearly events. The parade encourages Vaughan Public and Private schools to participate; local businesses to be involved; And neighbouring families of all ethnicities to come together to celebrate the spirit of the season.

Annually, the parade has over 2,000 participants, including community volunteers, public and private schools & Libraries, local businesses and city staff and neighbouring families. This event brings together over 25,000 spectators year-after-year. Thus, to coordinate such vast amount of people and secure safety of all who attend, the need for City support is essential. Since the parade inception, the City of Vaughan, has provided In-Kind support and services to effectively and efficiently organize a safe parade.

The SantaFest Committee is made up of local volunteers working jointly and in partnership with City of Vaughan staff. Each year, through fund raising, the committee raises funds that are applied to various programs that encourage local schools to participate and are applied to various parade costs.

In summary, SantaFest is requesting continuation of support for **2019, 2020 and 2021.**

Respectfully submitted

Richard Smith

Co-Chair Vaughan SantaFest Parade