

## Committee of the Whole (2) Report

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**DATE:** Monday, March 09, 2020

**WARD(S):** ALL

**TITLE: PROCLAMATION AND FLAG RAISING REQUEST  
WORLD AUTISM ACCEPTANCE DAY**

**FROM:**

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

**ACTION:** DECISION

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**Purpose**

To seek Council approval to proclaim April 2, 2020 as World Autism Acceptance Day, that the City of Vaughan participate in a flag raising event at City Hall with Autism Ontario, and that the proclamation be posted on the City's website and the Corporate and Strategic Communications department be directed to promote this proclamation and flag raising through the corporate channels.

**Report Highlights**

- Respond to the request received from Autism Ontario, received on March 2, 2020.
- Proclamation requested for April 2, 2020 and flag raising event requested on or around the same date.

**Recommendations**

1. That April 2, 2020 be proclaimed as "World Autism Acceptance Day";
2. That the City of Vaughan participate in a flag raising event at City Hall with Autism Ontario to celebrate World Autism Awareness Day on a date and time to be determined; and,
3. That the proclamation be posted on the City's website and the Corporate and Strategic Communications department be directed to promote this proclamation and flag raising through the corporate channels.

## **Background**

Autism Ontario is a prominent collective voice in representing the autism community in York Region. They are dedicated to increasing public awareness about autism and the day-to-day issues faced by individuals with autism, their families, and the professionals they interact with.

Council has previously granted this request.

## **Previous Reports/Authority**

[Council – March 19, 2019](#)

## **Analysis and Options**

The proclamation request meets the requirements of the City's Proclamation Policy and Flag Raising/Half Mastings 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"; and

"Flags of non-partisan, non-profit, charitable organizations shall be flown at the City of Vaughan Civic Centre upon a written request to the City Clerk submitted one month in advance on the understanding that the individual flag will not be flown for a period longer than one week".

## **Financial Impact**

Not applicable.

## **Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations**

Not applicable.

## **Conclusion**

Staff is recommending that April 2, 2020 be proclaimed as World Autism Acceptance Day, that the City of Vaughan participate in a flag raising event at City Hall with Autism Ontario on a date and time to be determined, and that the proclamation be posted on the City's website and the Corporate and Strategic Communications department be directed to promote this proclamation and flag raising through the corporate channels

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

**Attachment**

1. Correspondence from Chair, Raise the Flag Campaign, dated March 2, 2020

**Prepared by**

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