

## Committee of the Whole (2) Report

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**DATE:** Tuesday, September 22, 2020

**WARD(S):** ALL

**TITLE: PROCLAMATION REPORT - WRONGFUL CONVICTION 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 October 2, 2020 as Wrongful Conviction Day, that the proclamation be posted on the City's website, and that the Corporate and Strategic Communications department be directed to promote this proclamation through the corporate channels.

**Report Highlights**

- Respond to the request received from the International Wrongful Conviction Day Committee.
- Proclamation requested for October 2, 2020.

**Recommendations**

1. That October 2, 2020 be proclaimed as "Wrongful Conviction Day"; and,
2. That the proclamation be posted on the City's website and the Corporate and Strategic Communications department be directed to promote this proclamation through the corporate channels.

**Background**

Correspondence was received from the International Wrongful Conviction Day Committee on September 14, 2020 making the request.

Wrongful Conviction Day is a global movement launched by the Committee in 2014.

The purpose of this day is to inform and educate the broader international community on the causes, consequences and complications associated with wrongful criminal convictions. Proclaiming the date of October 2 as Wrongful Conviction Day would help direct the public's attention to this issue and hopefully generate support for the cause.

Council has previously granted this request.

### **Previous Reports/Authority**

[Committee of the Whole - September 24, 2019](#)

### **Analysis and Options**

The proclamation request meets the requirements of the City's Proclamation Policy 03.C.10, as follows:

2.1. For the purposes of section 2, a proclamation may be issued for:

2.1.4. Public awareness campaigns

### **Financial Impact**

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

### **Conclusion**

Staff is recommending that October 2, 2020 be proclaimed as Wrongful Conviction Day, that the proclamation be posted on the City's website and the Corporate and Strategic Communications department be directed to promote this proclamation through the corporate channels.

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

### **Attachment**

1. Correspondence from Advocacy Coordinator, International Wrongful Conviction Day Committee, dated September 14, 2020

### **Prepared by**

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

**Approved by**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wendy Law". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Wendy" being more prominent than the last name "Law".

Wendy Law  
Deputy City Manager  
Administrative Services & City Solicitor

**Reviewed by**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Harnum". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jim" being more prominent than the last name "Harnum".

Jim Harnum, City Manager