

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 29, 2020

Item 14, Report No. 40, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on September 29, 2020.

14. PROCLAMATION REPORT - WRONGFUL CONVICTION DAY

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 22, 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.

Committee of the Whole (2) Report

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

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



Delivered Via Email

September 14, 2020

City Clerk's Administrative Services
City of Vaughan
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Vaughan, ON L6A1T1

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Wrongful Conviction Day Proclamation Request

On behalf of the Wrongful Conviction Committee, I am writing to request that the City of Vaughan **October 2, 2020 as "Wrongful Conviction Day"**.

Wrongful Conviction Day is a global movement launched by the committee on October 2, 2014. The primary purpose of this important initiative is to recognize the tremendous personal, social and legal costs associated with wrongful criminal convictions. This day recognizes those persons who have been forced to endure the tremendous consequences brought by a wrongful criminal conviction. 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.

It is important to raise awareness in order to work toward the prevention of further wrongful convictions. Proclaiming October 2nd as Wrongful Conviction Day can direct the public's attention to this issue and generate support and understanding. The committee is committed to raising awareness of and advocacy against wrongful convictions globally.

Our organization, partners in Wrongful Conviction Day, and those who have been wrongly convicted would greatly appreciate your support.

Respectfully,

Marisa Parsons
Advocacy Coordinator, International Wrongful Conviction Day Committee