

## **MEMBER'S RESOLUTION**

### **Committee of the Whole (2)**

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**DATE:** Monday, March 08, 2021

**TITLE: PROCLAIMING EDUCATION AND SHARING DAY IN THE CITY OF VAUGHAN**

**FROM:**

Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua

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**WHEREAS**, a quality education is one of the significant foundations for the continuing success of our province, country, and society at large; and in the city of Vaughan, we strive for the betterment of all of our citizens through an increased focus on education and sharing; and

**WHEREAS**, through providing access to an excellent education for all, especially children, with which to gain knowledge through rigorous study, we can create hope for a brighter, kinder and more united and prosperous future in the lives of so many; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the leading global advocates for the advancement of education, the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Schneerson, stressed the importance of moral and ethical education as the bedrock of humanity and the hallmark of a healthy society, and strongly urged that education be reinforced by the inculcation of strong moral values; and

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of the Rebbe's outstanding and lasting contributions toward improvements in world education, morality, and acts of charity, he was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, and the United States Congress has established his birthdate as a national day to raise awareness and strengthen the education of our children; and

**WHEREAS**, for more than forty years, the President of the United States has recognized and honored the Rebbe's vision each year on that day by proclaiming it "Education and Sharing Day USA"; and

**WHEREAS**, we presently battle a global pandemic, which has disrupted traditional models of education across our nation, while concurrently motivating a focus on the stronger core values we wish to impart to children and adults, beyond academic achievement; and

**WHEREAS**, Education and Sharing Day is another opportunity to reflect on the lasting contributions made by individuals who are committed to strengthening citizenship by advancing education; and

**WHEREAS**, we can nurture the unity of diverse peoples through encouraging increased acts of goodness and kindness, imbued with awareness that even a single positive act can make a major and positive impact to this world; and

**WHEREAS**, Vaughan is home to an active, engaged and thriving faith community. Rabbi Shalom Bakshi of the Chabad Jewish Centre of Woodbridge-Vaughan wrote on behalf of Chabad Lubavitch of Southern Ontario to the Vaughan Mayor's Office to raise further awareness about "Education and Sharing Day".

It is therefore recommended:

1. **THAT**, the City of Vaughan proclaim March 24, 2021 as Education and Sharing Day in the City of Vaughan; and
2. **THAT**, this proclamation recurs yearly on the appropriate day as it relates to each calendar year; and
3. **THAT**, the City's Corporate and Strategic Communications department promote this and future Education and Sharing Day proclamations on the City's corporate communications channels.