

CITY OF VAUGHAN
EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 20, 2021

Item 13, Report No. 16, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on April 20, 2021.

13. PROCLAMATION REQUESTS: CANCER AWARENESS WEEK; MS AWARENESS DAY; AND DEAFBLIND AWARENESS MONTH

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendations contained in the report of the Deputy City Manager, Administrative Services and City Solicitor, dated April 13, 2021:

Recommendations

1. That April 21 - 27, 2021 be proclaimed as Cancer Awareness Week, and the illumination of City Hall in Yellow and Blue;
2. That May 30, 2021 be proclaimed MS Awareness Day;
3. That June 2021 be proclaimed as Deafblind Awareness Month; and
4. That the proclamations be posted on the City's website and the Corporate and Strategic Communications department be directed to promote the above-noted proclamations through the various corporate channels.

Committee of the Whole (2) Report

DATE: Tuesday, April 13, 2021

WARD(S): ALL

TITLE: PROCLAMATION REQUESTS: CANCER AWARENESS WEEK;
MS AWARENESS DAY; AND DEAFBLIND AWARENESS
MONTH

FROM:

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

ACTION: DECISION

Purpose

To seek approval for proclamation requests for: Cancer Awareness Week, Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Awareness Day and Deafblind Awareness Month.

Report Highlights

- Respond to requests from Vaughan in Motion, York Region Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Community, and the Canadian Helen Keller Centre/National Deafblind Awareness Committee.
- Proclamation requests are for dates between April and June 2021.

Recommendations

1. That April 21 - 27, 2021 be proclaimed as Cancer Awareness Week, and the illumination of City Hall in Yellow and Blue;
2. That May 30, 2021 be proclaimed MS Awareness Day;
3. That June 2021 be proclaimed as Deafblind Awareness Month; and
4. That the proclamations be posted on the City's website and the Corporate and Strategic Communications department be directed to promote the above-noted proclamations through the various corporate channels.

Background

Cancer Awareness Week

Correspondence was received from Vaughan in Motion for Cancer Care on March 21, 2021 requesting a proclamation and illumination.

Vaughan in Motion is a volunteer-based, not for profit organization that has been active in raising awareness for cancer and fund-raising for the local hospital since 1997.

The proclamation request has been previously approved by Council.

MS Awareness Day

Correspondence was received from the York Region MS Community on March 14, 2021 requesting a proclamation.

The York Region MS Community services members in the York Region area with financial and equipment subsidies. The group is hoping that by creating further awareness of MS with events such as the proclamation and flag raising, funding to members will increase.

This request has been previously approved by Council.

Deafblind Awareness Month

Correspondence was received from the Canadian Helen Keller Centre/National Deafblind Awareness Committee on February 18, 2021 requesting a proclamation.

The National Deafblind Awareness working group celebrates the achievements and contributions that individuals who are deafblind make from coast to coast. Their goal is to help members of the community understand the distinct disability of deafblindness in order to help remove the barriers they face.

Previous Reports/Authority

Cancer Awareness Week – [Committee of the Whole - April 2018](#)

MS Awareness Day – [Committee of the Whole - March 2020](#)

Analysis and Options

Cancer Awareness Week

The proclamation request meets the requirements of the City's Proclamation Policy as follows:

“An official and ceremonial statement made by or under the authority of Council, recognizing a cause, event or commemoration of significance to the City of Vaughan and its citizens.

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

2.1.3. Charitable and non-profit fundraising campaigns;

2.1.4. Public awareness campaigns;”

MS Awareness Day

The proclamation request meets the requirements of the City’s Proclamation Policy as follows:

“An official and ceremonial statement made by or under the authority of Council, recognizing a cause, event or commemoration of significance to the City of Vaughan and its citizens.

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

2.1.3. Charitable and non-profit fundraising campaigns;

2.1.4. Public awareness campaigns;”

Deafblind Awareness Month

The proclamation request meets the requirements of the City’s Proclamation Policy as follows:

“An official and ceremonial statement made by or under the authority of Council, recognizing a cause, event or commemoration of significance to the City of Vaughan and its citizens.

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

2.1.3. Charitable and non-profit fundraising campaigns;

2.1.4. Public awareness campaigns;

Financial Impact

There are no expected financial impacts with respect to these requests.

Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations

Not applicable.

Conclusion

Having reviewed the requests, staff is recommending that April 21-27, 2021 be proclaimed as Cancer Awareness Week, and that City Hall be illuminated in Yellow and Blue; that May 30, 2021 be proclaimed as MS Awareness Day; that June 2021 be proclaimed as Deafblind Awareness Month, and finally that proclamations be posted on the City's website and that the Corporate and Strategic Communications Department be directed to promote the proclamations through the various corporate channels.

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

Attachments

1. Correspondence from the President and Co-founder, Vaughan in Motion for Cancer Care, received March 21, 2021.
2. Correspondence from York Region MS Community, received March 14, 2021.
3. Correspondence from the Canadian Helen Keller Centre/National Deafblind Awareness Committee, received February 18, 2021.

Prepared by

Shari Gouzvaris, Supervisor, City Clerk's Administrative Services, ext. 8280

Approved by



Wendy Law
Deputy City Manager
Administrative Services
& City Solicitor

Reviewed by



Jim Harnum, City Manager

From: [Peter Badali](#)
To: [Gouzvaris, Shari](#)
Subject: [External] Vaughan in Motion Requests for Flag-raising, Proclamation & Illumination
Date: March-21-21 5:28:00 PM

Dear Shari,

In reply to your email the directors and committee members of Vaughan in Motion for Cancer Care we would like to request the following from the city of Vaughan.

1. A Vaughan in Motion Flag-Raising Ceremony on April 21st.
2. A Proclamation of “Cancer Awareness Week” for the week of April 21-27.
3. An Illumination of City Hall in the colours of “Yellow & Blue”; the colours of Cancer and our organization on April 21st.

“Vaughan in Motion for Cancer Care is a 100% volunteer-staffed, registered charity dedicated to funding the \$1,000,000 Gift for the Medical Surgical Inpatient Unit where 50% of surgeries are cancer related; with state of the art technology at the Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital, Canada’s first SMART Hospital”.

Shari, thank you very much for your kind support.

Peter Badali,
President & Co-founder,
Vaughan in Motion for Cancer Care.

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions all of our events will now happen in 2021/22 with the dates to be confirmed. All sponsorships and ticket sales made for our 2020 events will be honoured for the 2021/22 events:

- * GALA for Cancer Care - at the Terrace.
- * WALK for Cancer Care-in Vaughan Mills.
- * PASSION for FASHION - at the Terrace.
- * GOLF for Cancer Care - at Cardinal RedCrest Golf Club
- * HOLD’EM POKER TOURNAMENT - at Premier Place Banquet Hall

*For ticket information please visit our website:
www.vaughaninmotion.com or email us at
info@vaughaninmotion.com or call me at
416-821-6061.*

YORK REGION
MULTIPLE **S**CLEROSIS
COMMUNITY

York Region MS Community
9350 Yonge Street, P.O. Box 61528
Richmond Hill, Ontario, L4C 0C9

Attention: Todd Coles
City Clerk's Office

Dear Todd

I am sending you this letter as our annual effort to put forth a Proclamation to council of making May 30th 2021, MS Day in the City of Vaughan. Would it be possible to hold a virtual Flag Raising Event for Multiple Sclerosis in the City of Vaughan in the month of May. We all know that the Covid 19 virus created such havoc all around the world and many traditions were delayed or cancelled and hopefully not forgotten. Our mission is to bring awareness to the community that the York Region My MS Family Chapter is here to help and support all those living with this debilitating disease. York Region continues to be one of Canada's fastest growing regions and every week our membership continues to grow with someone being diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis.

Last year would have been our 7th year of raising our MS Community Flag in the City of Vaughan. We would like to re-start this tradition by holding a virtual flag raising event or a limited in person flag raising event and have a specified day May 30th which is also designated as World MS Day, as MS Day in the City of Vaughan. We are working extra hard in making sure that our message is being heard and that our MS members living in Vaughan and throughout York Region are getting the necessary care that they need in order to live every day in dignity and without hardships. The flag raising event would boost the MS Awareness Campaign in Vaughan and allow us to reach out to those who are newly diagnosed with this debilitating disease as well to stay in formed with those already living with Multiple Sclerosis.

In closing Todd, how can we make May 30th, 2021 an MS Day in the City of Vaughan a reality? I look forward to hearing from you on this matter and to designate May 30th as MS Awareness Day in the City of Vaughan.

Peter Busciglio
York Region My MS Family Community
416.816.4787



Canadian Helen Keller Centre

101-422 Willowdale Ave., Toronto, ON M2N 5B1
Tel: (416) 730-9501 | TTY: (416) 730-9187
Fax: (416) 730-1350 | www.chkc.org

Registered Charitable # 86423 9082 RR0001

Centre canadien Helen Keller

101-422, ave Willowdale, Toronto, ON M2N 5B1
Tél: (416) 730-9501 | ATS: (416) 730-9187
Télééc: (416) 730-1350 | www.chkc.org

Organisme de bienfaisance enregistré # 864239082 RR0001

Attachment 3

Proclamation June 1, 2021

National Deafblind Awareness Month

On December 21, 2000, the Ontario Legislature officially proclaimed the month of June in each year as Deaf-Blind Awareness Month, to recognize that "Deafblindness is a unique disability that incorporates the sensory loss of both sight and hearing" and was created to help "recognize that increased public awareness of this disability is crucial to increase opportunities for those who live with it."

The Canadian Senate passed a motion on May 28, 2015 also recognizing June as Deafblind Awareness Month across Canada. This motion helps "to promote public awareness of deafblind issues and to recognize the contribution of Canadians who are deafblind."

June is also the birth month of Helen Keller, an internationally recognized person who was deafblind.

Join us in celebrating National Deafblind Awareness Month virtually in communities across Canada. Throughout the month, community objects across the country will be yarn bombed, a form of street art where yarn that is knit, crochet, or wrapped, adorns an object in a public space. This largescale global tactile arts project symbolizes the coming together of people in the field of deafblindness, with the goal of raising awareness and knowledge about this unique disability.

The National Deafblind Awareness working group includes individuals who are deafblind, service providers and consumer groups working in partnership to plan annual awareness campaigns each June that celebrate the achievements and contributions that individuals who are deafblind make from coast to coast. Our goal is to share information with members of the public about the unique disability of deafblindness and the supports, available through Intervenor Services. We are interested in helping members of the public, media and elected officials understand the distinct disability of deafblindness so that they can learn how to remove barriers that individuals who are deafblind face in their daily lives.

Please note, due to the unpredictable circumstances surrounding COVID-19, opportunities to hold events may be restricted or postponed for the health and safety of communities across Canada.

Please join us in proclaiming June as National Deafblind Awareness Month.
Let us make a wave from coast to coast.

Regards,

Lee Simpson
Canadian Helen Keller Centre/National Deafblind Awareness Committee



DEAFBLIND AWARENESS MONTH

Make a *wave* from coast to coast

MOIS DE LA SENSIBILISATION À LA SURDICÉCITÉ

Créez une *vague* d'un océan à l'autre