

MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

Committee of the Whole Report

DATE: Tuesday, April 13, 2021

**TITLE: PROCLAMATION REQUEST: CANADIAN MULTICULTURALISM
DAY IN VAUGHAN**

FROM:

Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua

Whereas, on November 13, 2002, the Government of Canada, by Royal Proclamation, designated June 27 of each year as Canadian Multiculturalism Day; and

Whereas, Canadian Multiculturalism Day is an opportunity to celebrate our diversity and shared commitment to advancing issues of democracy, equality and mutual respect. It is a chance to formally recognize the nation-building contributions of Canada's various multicultural groups and communities; and

Whereas, cultural programs are fundamental to give shape to a community's identity as well as drive economic development, tourism, place-making and city-building; and

Whereas, more than 90 per cent of the foreign-owned companies operating in York Region are based in Vaughan and our southern York Region neighbouring communities; and

Whereas, nearly half of Vaughan's population was born abroad and citizens speak 105 different languages; and

Whereas, the City of Vaughan hosts numerous city-wide cultural programs and celebrations throughout the year for residents and visitors to help sew the social fabric across the city; and

Whereas, signature events like the City's Christmas Tree Lighting, Chinese New Year, Menorah Lighting Ceremony and Vaughan Culture Days have become annual traditions, as have cultural celebrations such as Black History Month and Islamic Heritage Month, along with several other cultural and community flag raisings; and

Whereas, the City of Vaughan is committed to advancing a culture of co-operation, and adopted the Vaughan Inclusion Charter in January 2020 in support of the Inclusion Charter for York Region, which is a community initiative to create a fair and equal environment for all.

It is therefore recommended:

1. **THAT** the City of Vaughan proclaim every June 27 as Canadian Multiculturalism Day;
2. **THAT** the proclamation be posted on the City's website and the Corporate and Strategic Communications department be directed to promote the proclamation on corporate communications channels.