

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

Item 20, 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.

**20. PROCLAMATION REQUEST: GENDER EQUALITY WEEK IN VAUGHAN**

**The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendations contained in the resolution of Mayor Bevilacqua, dated April 13, 2021:**

**Member's Resolution**

Submitted by: Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua

**Whereas**, the City of Vaughan remains committed to increasing awareness of the significant contributions women have made and continue to make to the growth, character and identity of Vaughan, Canada and the world; and

**Whereas**, equality and compassion for all individuals continue to guide our city-building and service delivery efforts. Vaughan residents and employees share the responsibility of addressing the social and economic challenges faced by women, which are fundamental human rights issues; and

**Whereas**, women account for approximately half of the country's population, yet a lower proportion of Canadian politicians are women; and

**Whereas**, Canadian women face challenges in being promoted to executive or board management positions, and individuals who do reach such positions are often paid less than men in similar positions; and

**Whereas**, the City of Vaughan recognizes the importance of celebrating and commemorating the notable achievements and advancements of Canadian women; and

**Whereas**, all Canadians, in particular men and individuals who do not identify as women, are encouraged to become and remain engaged during Gender Equality Week and throughout the year, to achieve greater inclusiveness and full gender equality in Vaughan and throughout Canada; and

**Whereas**, in January 2020, the City adopted the Vaughan Inclusion Charter in support of the Inclusion Charter for York Region, a document that promotes and celebrates human rights, accessibility and a sense of belonging to promote equal access to opportunities for everyone; and

**Whereas**, in March 2019, Vaughan became the first municipality in Canada to endorse the Leadership Accord on Gender Diversity. Developed by Electricity Human Resources Canada, the Accord is a public commitment by organizations to promote the values of diversity, equality and inclusion; and

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**Whereas**, Gender Equality Week is the result of Bill C-309, the Gender Equality Week Act, which received Royal Assent on June 21, 2018, and is recognized during the fourth week of September; and

**Whereas**, marking Gender Equality Week is yet another way the City of Vaughan can generate awareness and demonstrate our commitment to addressing the challenges Canadian women and individuals of minority gender identity and expression continue to face; and

**Whereas**, Gender Equality Week is an opportunity to reflect upon our progress in advancing gender equality and focus on the work that remains ahead. With a collective effort and shared vision, together, we will continue working to ensure that gender identity is not an obstacle to reaching one's full potential.

**It is therefore recommended:**

1. **THAT** the City of Vaughan proclaim every fourth week in September as Gender Equality Week;
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

## **MEMBER'S RESOLUTION**

### **Committee of the Whole Report**

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**DATE:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021

**TITLE: PROCLAMATION REQUEST: GENDER EQUALITY WEEK IN  
VAUGHAN**

**FROM:**

Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua

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