

MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

Committee of the Whole Report

DATE: Tuesday, April 13, 2021

**TITLE: PROCLAMATION REQUEST: INDIGENOUS HISTORY MONTH
AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY IN VAUGHAN**

FROM:

Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua

Whereas, the Government of Canada acknowledges June as National Indigenous History Month and National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21 as a way to honour the history, heritage and diversity of Indigenous peoples in Canada as well as recognize the strength of present-day Indigenous communities; and

Whereas, our city sits on the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, the Anishinaabeg of the Williams Treaty First Nation, the Huron-Wendat and the Métis Nation with a history dating back centuries; and

Whereas, each Council meeting begins with a land acknowledgement, to reflect and recognize our relationship with the land, as we continue to foster a city with strong social cohesion and a clear sense of its culture and heritage; and

Whereas, there are strong historical and cultural ties between the City of Vaughan and the Huron-Wendat Nation. The final resting place of many of their ancestors is located within our community, and we are honoured to act as guardians to these sacred grounds; and

Whereas, Vaughan is home to a site containing the remains of Huron-Wendat Nation ancestors, as well as a 500-year-old village believed to have once been home to as many as 2,000 Indigenous Peoples, and we continue to demonstrate leadership in safeguarding the sanctity of historically significant sites; and

Whereas, Indigenous History Month represents an opportunity to demonstrate and pay tribute to the strong Indigenous heritage in our city and across Canada.

It is therefore recommended:

1. **THAT** the City of Vaughan proclaim every June as Indigenous History Month;
2. **THAT** the City of Vaughan proclaim every June 21 as National Indigenous Peoples Day;
3. **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.