

MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

Committee of the Whole Report

DATE: Tuesday, April 13, 2021

**TITLE: PROCLAMATION REQUEST: PRIDE MONTH AND PRIDE WEEK
IN VAUGHAN**

FROM:

Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua

Whereas, recognized each June to commemorate the Stonewall riots in 1969, Pride Month is an opportunity to reflect on the progress made to acknowledge and protect the rights of LGBTQ2+ communities; and

Whereas, since 2003, the City of Vaughan has proclaimed Pride Week every year; since 2006, flown the rainbow flag during each Pride Week; and since 2016, hosted an official flag-raising ceremony; and

Whereas, the City of Vaughan remains committed to celebrating Pride Month by paying tribute to the individuals and groups in our community who have fought to achieve equality and acceptance – and continue that effort today; and

Whereas, Pride Month is an opportunity to celebrate our vibrant and proud LGBTQ2+ community as well as the countless contributions and progress made towards building a more inclusive society. It is a meaningful way to honour the pioneers, trailblazers and all Canadians who work tirelessly to raise awareness about the rich culture and history of LGBTQ2+ rights; and

Whereas, Vaughan is one of Canada's fastest growing and most diverse communities and embraces all dimensions of diversity. In January 2020, Council endorsed and adopted the Vaughan Inclusion Charter 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 as Pride Month;
2. **THAT** the City of Vaughan proclaim June 18-27, 2021 as Pride Week;
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.