

## Committee of the Whole (2) Report

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**DATE:** Tuesday, March 8, 2022

**WARD(S):** ALL

**TITLE:** PROCLAMATION REPORTS  
JOURNEY TO FREEDOM COMMEMORATION, AUTISM  
AWARENESS MONTH & BUILDING SAFETY MONTH

**FROM:**

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

**ACTION:** DECISION

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**Purpose**

To seek approval for the proclamation requests received for: Journey to Freedom Commemoration, Autism Awareness Month, and Building Safety Month.

**Report Highlights**

- Respond to the request by the Vietnamese Association of Vaughan to proclaim Journey to Freedom Commemoration
- Respond to the request from Waves of Changes for Autism to proclaim Autism Awareness Month
- Respond to the request from the Building Standards Department to proclaim Building Safety Month

**Recommendations**

1. That a date in April, to be determined in consultation with the requestor, be proclaimed as “Journey to Freedom Commemoration”;
2. That April be proclaimed as “Autism Awareness Month”;
3. That May be proclaimed as “Building Safety 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**

### **Journey to Freedom Commemoration**

The Vietnamese Association of Vaughan has submitted a request for proclamation to recognize Journey to Freedom Commemoration. The Office of the City Clerk, in consultation with the requestor, will determine a date in April for the proclamation.

This commemoration celebrates the Vietnamese boat refugees of the Vietnamese-Canadian community.

### **Autism Awareness Month**

Waves of Changes for Autism, in partnership with Autism Ontario, submitted a request for proclamation to recognize April as Autism Awareness Month. Council has previously granted this request in past years.

Waves of Changes has also requested a flag raising and illumination for World Autism Awareness Day on April 2, 2022. As per the City's Flag Raising Policy and the City's Illumination Policy, the City Clerk will review these requests accordingly.

### **Building Safety Month**

The Building Standards Department, on behalf of the Ontario Building Officials Association (OBOA), submitted a request for proclamation to recognize May as Building Safety Month.

The City of Vaughan has been involved in promoting awareness of Building Safety Month in past years.

## **Previous Reports/Authority**

**Autism Awareness Month:** [Committee of the Whole - March 8, 2021](#)

## **Analysis and Options**

### **Journey to Freedom Commemoration**

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

- 2.1. For the purposes of section 2, a proclamation may be issued for:
  - 2.1.1. Arts, culture or heritage commemorations in the City of Vaughan

### **Autism Awareness Month**

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

- 2.1. For the purposes of section 2, a proclamation may be issued for:  
2.1.4. Public awareness campaigns

### **Building Safety Month**

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

- 2.1. For the purposes of section 2, a proclamation may be issued for:  
2.1.4. Public awareness campaigns

### **Financial Impact**

There is no financial impact expected with respect to this request.

### **Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations**

Not applicable.

### **Conclusion**

Having reviewed the requests, staff is recommending: that a date in April, to be determined in consultation with the requestor, be proclaimed as "Journey to Freedom Commemoration"; that April be proclaimed as "Autism Awareness Month"; that May be proclaimed as "Building Safety Month"; and, finally, 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.

**For more information**, please contact: Todd Coles, City Clerk

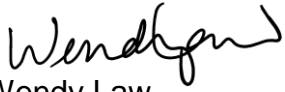
### **Attachments**

1. Correspondence from the Vietnamese Association of Vaughan, received on February 15, 2022
2. Correspondence from Waves of Changes for Autism, received on March 1, 2022
3. Correspondence from the Building Standards Department (sent on behalf of the OBOA), received on March 1, 2022

### **Prepared by**

Julia Bartolomeo, Supervisor, City Clerk's Administrative Services, ext. 8280

**Approved by**



Wendy Law  
Deputy City Manager  
Legal and Administrative Services &  
City Solicitor

**Reviewed by**



Nick Spensieri, City Manager