

**PROCLAMATION REQUEST –
MENTAL HEALTH WEEK MAY 3 - 10, 2004**

Recommendation

The City Clerk recommends:

- 1) That May 3 – 10, 2004 be proclaimed as “Mental Health Week”; and
- 2) That the proclamation be posted on the City’s website, published on the City Page, space permitting, and that staff issue a news release.

Purpose

To respond to the request received from the Mental Health Week Planning Committee

Background - Analysis and Options

The correspondence received from Barbara Davidge, Chair, Mental Health Week Planning Committee, dated April 5, 2004, is attached (Attachment #1).

The proclamation request meets the requirements of the City’s Proclamation Policy: *“That upon request, the City of Vaughan issue proclamations for events, campaigns or other similar matters: which are promoted by any organization that is a registered charity pursuant to Section 248 of the Income Tax Act”.*

The Mental Health Week Planning Committee has requested the City publicize this proclamation to raise public awareness of Mental Health and the significant influence it has on the overall well being of individuals, families and communities. The Corporate Communications department posts proclamations issued by the City on the City’s website under “Events – Proclamations”. Publishing proclamations on the City Page depends on space availability. Corporate Communications will, given sufficient lead-time, issue news releases in support of the proclamation.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

Conclusion

Staff is recommending the week of May 3 - 10, 2004 be proclaimed as “Mental Health Week” and that the proclamation be posted on the City’s website and published on the City Page, space permitting.

Attachments

- Attachment 1 - Correspondence from Barbara Davidge, Chair, Mental Health Week Planning Committee, dated April 5, 2004

Report prepared by:

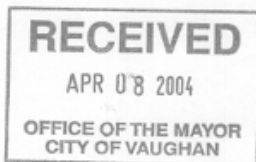
John D. Leach, City Clerk

Respectfully submitted,

John D. Leach, City Clerk

April 5, 2004

Mayor Michael Di Biase
City of Vaughan
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Vaughan, ON
L6A 1T1



CMHA
123635534R0001



Dear Mayor Di Biase:

The 2004 Mental Health Week is fast approaching, this year being held May 3rd to May 10th, 2004. Every year, Mental Health Week presents a wonderful opportunity to raise public awareness of Mental Health and the significant influence it has on the overall well being of individuals, families and communities.

This year's theme for the York Region Mental Health Week is **Emerging into Light and Making Connections**. Emerging into Light is a concept adopted by the Canadian Mental Health Association in 2001, and represents the importance of mental health and the rights and inclusion of people who have a mental illness. It is also about bringing mental illness out of the darkness and ensuring it is both visible and understood within our communities (*Emerging into Light*). The importance of learning to recognize, understand and, more importantly, support individuals who are struggling with this serious issue was the inspiration to also highlight **Making Connections** in our 2004 Mental Health Week theme.

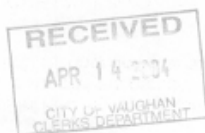
We are excited this year to have the generous participation of a number of community mental health organizations, who collectively support thousands of York Region's residents and families who are challenged by mental illness. This group has been working in collaboration to plan for Mental Health Week. Each organization has contributed both ideas and resources to support the group's collaborative efforts as they develop promotional and educational activities to highlight Mental Health Week in York Region.

In recognition and celebration of Mental Health Week, CMHA-York Region, on behalf of the organizations represented on the Mental Health Week Planning Committee, requests to have the City of Vaughan proclaim **Monday, May 3rd to Monday, May 10th, 2004** as Mental Health Week. Your support will help us in our efforts to raise awareness of this important issue within our community and will demonstrate the significance placed on mental health by the City of Vaughan staff and residents.

If you would like more information on Mental Health Week, please contact me at 905-841-3977 ext. 226.

Sincerely,

Barbara Davidge, Chair
Mental Health Week Planning Committee



Newmarket Youth and Recreation Centre and Kinsmen Sk8Park

