COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MAY 17, 2004

FLAG RAISING REQUEST/FILIPINO-CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF VAUGHAN

Recommendation

The City Clerk recommends that the Philippine Flag be raised on June 12, 2004 at 12:00 noon for the balance of that day at the Civic Centre to commemorate the 106th anniversary of Philippine Independence.

Purpose

To respond to a request received from the Filipino-Canadian Association of Vaughan.

Background - Analysis and Options

The Filipino-Canadian Association of Vaughan (FCAV) has requested that the Philippine flag be raised at noon on June 12, 2004 at the Civic Centre to commemorate the 106th anniversary of Philippine Independence (Attachment #1). A number of municipalities will be raising the flag including Toronto, Mississauga, Brampton and Markham to commemorate the event.

The current flag policy does not specifically address raising flags for this purpose. The City Clerk has been directed to report on flags being lowered to half mast (approved by Council on March 29, 2004). Research is being conducted and a new flag policy will be brought forward for consideration. It is noted that the City of Vaughan signed a Friendship Agreement with Baguio City in the Philippines on April 25, 1997.

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

It is recommended that the Philippine flag be raised at noon on June 12, 2004 at the Civic Centre for the remainder of that day.

Attachments

Attachment #1 Letter from the Filipino-Canadian Association of Vaughan (FCAV), dated April 23, 2004

Report prepared by:

John D. Leach

Respectfully submitted,

John D. Leach City Clerk



Filipino-Canadian Association of Vaughan (FCAV)

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April 23, 2004

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Mr. John Leach City Clerk

Dear Mr. Leach:

To commemorate the 106th Anniversary of Philippine Independence, I would like to respectfully request permission to raise the Philippine flag on June 12, 2004, 12:00 noon, at the City Civic Centre. This day is very important in the history of the Filipinos as we pay tribute to our forefathers who fought for our freedom.

Every year, as we celebrate the Philippine Independence Day on June 12, we raise the Philippine flag in Toronto, Mississauga, Markham and other cities. This year, with the City of Vaughan's permission, we would like to raise it at the Civic Centre. The raising of Philippine flag is more fitting at the Civic Centre because of the Friendship Agreement that binds the City of Vaughan and Baguio City.

Following the flag raising, we would also like to request permission to use the foyer of the Civic Centre for reception and lunch - serving Filipino food. We hope to end the event by 2:00 p.m. or 3:00 p.m. at the latest.

On behalf of the Filipino-Canadian Association of Vaughan, I thank you very much.

Very truly yours,

En linda Assigne

.cc: His Worship, Michael Di Biase, Mayor City of Vaughan Hon. Alejandro B. Mosquera, Consul-General, Toronto