

**PROCLAMATION REQUEST –
RED CROSS MONTH**

Recommendation

The City Clerk recommends:

- 1) That March 2005 be proclaimed as “**Red Cross Month**”; 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 Community Services Coordinator of the Canadian Red Cross.

Background - Analysis and Options

The correspondence received from the Community Services Coordinator of the Canadian Red Cross, dated February 1, 2005, 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 Canadian Red Cross wishes to raise awareness of the services Red Cross provides; not only around the world, but in each and every Canadian community. 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 March 2005 be proclaimed as “Red Cross Month” and that the proclamation be posted on the City’s website and published on the City Page, space permitting.

Attachments

Attachment #1 - Correspondence from the Canadian Red Cross, dated February 1, 2005

Report prepared by:

John D. Leach, City Clerk

Respectfully submitted,

John D. Leach, City Clerk



Canadian Red Cross
Croix-Rouge canadienne

February 1, 2005

The City of Vaughan
Attn: Mayor Di Biase
2141 Major Mackenzie Dr
Vaughan, ON
L6A 1T1

Dear Mayor Di Biase:

March is Red Cross Month and on behalf of the Canadian Red Cross, Region of York Branch, I would like to request your support for our campaign through an official proclamation. I have attached a template proclamation for your review. Please feel free to contact us to answer any questions you may have.

As the Red Cross partners with the fire departments in every municipality in York Region, we are once again requesting that our flag be raised at local fire halls to celebrate this partnership. We will be contacting the fire department as we did last year. Red Cross would be pleased to supply a flag to be flown for the month of March if you require a new one. You will also see many of our volunteers at the GO stations on March 1, raising awareness of our local work.

Our goal during March is to raise awareness of the services Red Cross provides; not only around the world, but in each and every Canadian community we serve. Across Canada, the Red Cross offers many valuable community services including Meals on Wheels, Transportation Services and Home Healthcare Equipment loans, and disaster response.

When disaster strikes, Red Cross staff and volunteers leap to action to help those affected. In the aftermath of a house fire, flood, tornado, storm or any other emergency, Red Cross is there to provide for basic needs including food, shelter and clothing.

This March, we want Canadians to get to know us better. With your help, more Canadians will understand what their Red Cross can do for them.

Thank you in advance for your support. I would be pleased to provide you with more information or discuss the proclamation or flag-raising ceremony with you in person. I can be reached at 905-830-9565, 1-800-361-9448.

Sincerely,

Carol Law
Community Services Coordinator

Attachment #1

RECEIVED
FEB - 4 2005
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF VAUGHAN

RECEIVED
FEB 08 2005
CITY OF VAUGHAN
CLERKS DEPARTMENT

ACROSS THE WORLD.
ACROSS THE STREET.
When help is needed. The Red Cross.



March is Red Cross Month 2005

Anywhere. Anytime. Red Cross

Proclamation

Whereas, the Canadian Red Cross Society has been engaged in preventing and alleviating human suffering across Canada and around the world, and

Whereas, the Canadian Red Cross Society has helped thousands of Canadians through its Disaster Relief and Community Services, including our own citizens of The City of Vaughan, and

Whereas, the Canadian Red Cross Society is a reflection of the Canadian spirit of generosity, caring and selflessness,

Therefore, I Michael Di Biase of The City of Vaughan hereby proclaim March 2005 as Red Cross Month here in The City of Vaughan. I also urge all residents of The City of Vaughan to support The Canadian Red Cross Society and our community by regularly volunteering their time or by financially supporting Red Cross programs, across the world and across the street.

In witness whereof, I have herewith set my hand and caused the great seal of The City of Vaughan to be affixed.



Canadian Red Cross
Croix-Rouge canadienne

Canadian Red Cross Asia Earthquake and Tsunamis Relief Efforts



Canadian Red Cross Donations in Action

Ontario's Contribution

Ontario residents have contributed \$56 million to Red Cross tsunami relief efforts, a significant portion of the more than \$120 million donated by individuals from across the country as of January 18.

Charitable fundraising efforts have been widespread with more than 2,000 events and community efforts already held or underway across the province.

The Ontario government's contribution of \$5 million is greatly appreciated and is one of the largest contributions from a provincial government.

Canadians in Action

Canadian Red Cross Secretary General Pierre Duplessis will be returning from relief operations in India, Sri Lanka and Indonesia this week and is eager to share news from the front lines with provincial premiers and offer his thanks for their support.

Canada is sending many highly trained delegates to operations in the field with more being called on a weekly basis. Ontario's Doug Mole, of Fonthill, is headed for The Maldives where he will be the head of relief operations. Delegates Colin Mackay and Igor Dmitryuk of Toronto are both expected to fly to Indonesia this week. Ottawa delegates Pat Laberge and Seifu Demeke Dele are headed for Sri Lanka and Indonesia. More Ontario residents are expected to be deployed in the weeks ahead.

Red Cross has sent 102 metric tonnes of supplies on flights from Canada to the affected countries and anticipates spending at least \$60 million of Canadian donations in the initial emergency phase.

International Efforts

Indonesia

Red Cross has established a 100-bed hospital with 39 staff, managed by the Norwegian Red Cross.

800 volunteers from the Indonesian Red Cross mobilized to conduct search and rescue, provide first aid, distribute emergency and medical supplies, offer psychosocial support to traumatized people, bury bodies, and help locate and reunify family members. Safe drinking water and family parcels have been brought to 60,000 affected families in the Aceh Province. Red Cross has also assisted in identifying human remains and returning the dead to families.

International Emergency Relief Units specializing in health care, water and sanitation and logistics are working in Indonesia.

Pumps sent by the Canadian Red Cross and water purification powder from the Kuwaiti Red Crescent Society have been transported to Meulaboh.

Aceh

The International Red Cross and the Singapore Red Cross is supporting the relief operation. More than 1000 tonnes of relief supplies have arrived at the centre, where 60,000 family kits are being assembled at a pace of 5,000 kits per day to meet the basic needs of up to 300,000 people. Two aircraft and cargo vessels continue bringing relief goods to Aceh on a daily basis. The Indonesian Red Cross Society and other international partners have focused on distributing non-food items, restoring access to clean water and providing hospitals with medical supplies.