

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – OCTOBER 1, 2007**

### **INTERIM REPORT OF PANEL 1, TASK FORCE ON DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL AND PARTICIPATION**

#### **Recommendation**

Councillor Tony Carella and Mr Steven Del Duca, Co-Chairs of Panel 1 of the Task Force on Democratic Participation and Renewal recommend approval of the work plan proposed by the panel, as described below.

#### **Economic Impact**

Nil

#### **Purpose**

To endorse the work plan proposed by Panel 1 of the Task Force

#### **Communication Plan**

The Corporate Communications Department will, with the assistance of the co-chairs, issue a press release announcing the launch of Panel 1 of the Task Force on Democratic Renewal and Participation.

#### **Background – Analysis and Options**

Panel 1 of the Task Force---charged with increasing to 50% the turnout of previously qualified voters in the next municipal election, in 2010---met for the first time on September 18, 2007, to review the timeline assigned to the Panel, as well as the various tasks the panel might undertake in furtherance of its assigned goal. To that end, a draft work plan was discussed, including such tasks as: key informant interviews, key informant surveys, the review of written comments invited from the public, community meetings to receive oral comments from the public, a literature review, the review of legislation and regulations dealing with municipal elections, media interviews of panelists, a review of current municipal election practices, and the inventorying of various means of communicating the panel's message to the public.

Following discussion of the above tasks, panelists suggested others for addition to this list. These additions included: the use of social communications networks (e.g., Facebook), participation of panelist in community events where information can be distributed to the public, quantitative and qualitative analysis of the issue (polling and focus groups, respectively), City-facilitated advertising (e.g., on the City website, in the semi-annual Recreation Guide), a dedicated website, an on-line survey, and public education initiatives driven solely by the panel, or in cooperation with not-for-profit/public interest groups. Panelist then indicated to which of these tasks they wish to be assigned.

The panel intends to meet twice this fall, to finalize the list of task they will undertake, and who will be involved in the various tasks. The next report of the Panel will provide an update on the progress of the panel to that scheduled date, March 31, 2008.

#### **Regional Implications**

Nil

### **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**

Panel 1 of the Task Force on Democratic Participation and Renewal has met in inaugural session, to review its assigned timeline and to discuss and expand a list of tasks the panel will undertake in furtherance of its assigned goal.

### **Attachments**

None

### **Report prepared by:**

Councillor Tony Carella

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Carella  
Councillor – Ward 2  
Co-Chair, Panel 1, Task Force on Democratic Participation and Renewal

Steven Del Duca  
Co-Chair, Panel 1, Task Force on Democratic Participation and Renewal