

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE APRIL 16, 2007

PROCLAMATION REQUEST ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH

Recommendation

The City Clerk recommends:

- 1) That May 2007 be proclaimed as "Asian Heritage Month" in the City of Vaughan; and
- 2) That the proclamation be posted on the City's website

Economic Impact

N/A

Communications Plan

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.

Purpose

To respond to requests from the Federation of Canadian Chinese in York Region and the Canadian Multicultural Council, Asians in Ontario.

Background - Analysis and Options

The Federation of Canadian Chinese in York Region and the Canadian Multicultural Council, Asians in Ontario have asked that May be declared Asian Heritage Month in an effort to recognize the contribution made by the Asian society, to develop harmony of the many ethno cultural groups that make up York Region, and to support and promote a similar declaration by the Government of Canada.

The organizations requesting the proclamation does not meet the City's Proclamation Policy, in that the organizations are not a registered charity with the Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations, however, the City has proclaimed this proclamation in the past.

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.

Regional Implications

The promotion of intercultural development and harmony of the many ethno cultural groups in York Region.

Conclusion

Staff is recommending that May 2007 be proclaimed as "Asian Heritage 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 Federation of Canadian Chinese in York Region, dated March 8, 2007

Attachment #2 Copy of correspondence received from the Canadian Multicultural Council, Asians, in Ontario, dated March 21, 2007

Report prepared by:

John D. Leach, City Clerk

Respectfully submitted,

John D. Leach,
City Clerk

Janice Atwood-Petkovski,
Commissioner of Legal and Administrative Services



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Mayor Linda Jackson and Members of Council
City of Vaughan
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Vaughan, Ontario
L6A 1T1

c/o Councillor Sandra Yeung Racco

March 8, 2007

Dear Mayor Jackson and Councillors:

Happy Chinese New Year of the Boar to you and your family. May this year be a very successful and prosperous one for your city.

As a non-profit organization dedicated to the welfare of the Chinese people in the area and to the intercultural development and harmony of the many ethno cultural groups that made up the York Region, FCCYR always has the wellbeing of the community in mind. To this end, we are writing to request that the City of Vaughan proclaim May as Asian Heritage Month, as a measure to support and promote a similar declaration by the Government of Canada for the month of May.

This action will not only enhance the image of Asians living in the region, it will also serve to better the understanding of the non-Asian cultural groups for the Asian population in the community. We are sure that such a step will be of great benefit to the City of Vaughan and the York Region.

Please give this proposal your consideration and thank you for your kind attention in this matter.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr. Ken Ng
Chairman, FCCYR

CANADIAN MULTICULTURAL COUNCIL, ASIANS IN ONTARIO

6 Garamond Court Don Mills, Ontario M3C 1Z5 Tel. 416 4412345 Fax 416 441 2347

ATTACHMENT #2

Wednesday March 21st, 2007

*Councillor Sandra Racco
Vaughan Township*

Re: Asians Heritage Month in Month of May

RECEIVED
MAR 26 2007
CLERK'S DEPT.

On behalf of the Canadian Multicultural Council-Asians in Ontario, we would be honoured to have Township of Vaughan declare the Month of May as Asian Heritage Month.

Asian Heritage Month of May was moved through the Senate five years ago motioned by Senator Vivienne Poy. It is a National celebration to recognize the contribution made by the Asian society and for the country of origin to promote their rich cultural heritage and build together a great country Canada!

Please ask your Mayor and Councillors to honour our Asian society by declaring the Township of Vaughan approves the Month of May as Asian Heritage Month!

With respect and appreciation!

*Manmohan Singh
President*

c.c. CMC-Asians in Ontario Board of Directors