

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - FEBRUARY 19, 2008**

### **DECLARATION OF COOPERATION THROUGH RECIPROCAL AGREEMENTS AND JOINT PROGRAM INITIATIVES**

#### **Recommendation**

Councillor Bernie DiVona, Chair of Council/School Board Liaison Committee recommends:

1. That Council receive the attached Declaration of Cooperation Through Reciprocal Agreements and Joint Program initiatives;
2. That Staff be directed to forward the "declaration" to the York Region District School Board and the York Catholic District School Board for their review; and
3. That a final "declaration" be approved by Council prior to the Ontario Education Week – April 26 to May 2, 2008.

#### **Economic Impact**

There is no economic impact.

#### **Communications Plan**

Corporate Communications to issue a media release and advisory, post to City of Vaughan website and provide photography for the signing ceremony.

#### **Purpose**

To formalize and approve the draft of the "declaration" by all parties.

#### **Background - Analysis and Options**

The Council/School Board Liaison Committee undertook an initiative to identify and summarize the formal reciprocal agreements and program initiatives that exist between the City of Vaughan, York Region District and York Catholic District School Boards.

The Council/School Board *Liaison* Committee is a *non-statutory* advisory committee of the City of Vaughan with a mandate to promote discussion on issues of mutual concern between representatives of all three organizations. While the committee's mandate is to discuss and resolve issues, it recognized the need to better understand many of the agreements and initiatives that exist between the agencies. In so doing, it would create a better appreciation of the excellent cooperation and support that the City of Vaughan and York Region District and York Catholic District School Boards share in fostering cooperation, building strong communities and implementing opportunities to maximize utilization of shared resources.

A subcommittee was established under the direction of Council/School Board Liaison Committee Chair, Bernie DiVona. The subcommittee was responsible for gathering, reviewing and summarizing the formal agreements and program initiatives that presently exist.

The Reciprocal Agreement provides a summary of *formal reciprocal agreements and program initiatives* that the City of Vaughan shares with either/or both Boards of Education. For the purpose of this report, *formal reciprocal agreements* are defined as *either a policy document or a legal agreement* that outlines the services each agency shares or provides. Agreements such

as the York Public Buyers Cooperative, Shared Use Facility Agreements, School Crossing Guards Program are examples of established agreements.

The Reciprocal Agreement also provides a summary of the *ongoing general program initiatives* between the City of Vaughan departments and local Vaughan high schools and elementary schools. Program initiatives include everything from the use of program space to educational and recreational programs and events. While the list is not exhaustive, it does capture many examples of collaboration and cooperation.

### **Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020**

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council as specified in the Vision under service excellence and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

### **Regional Implications**

N/A

### **Conclusion**

To finalize the Declaration of Cooperation Through Reciprocal Agreements and Joint Program Initiatives.

### **Attachments**

Declaration of Cooperation Through Reciprocal Agreements and Joint Program Initiatives.

### **Report prepared by:**

Councillor DiVona, ext. 8381

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Bernie DiVona  
Chair  
Council/School Liaison Committee

**DECLARATION OF COOPERATION THROUGH RECIPROCAL AGREEMENTS AND JOINT PROGRAM INITIATIVES**

*Presented by the Vaughan Council/School Board Liaison Committee*

**WHEREAS** the City of Vaughan has established a mutually cooperative approach with the staff and trustees of the York Region District and York Catholic District School Boards for improving the educational and recreational opportunities in our community;

**AND WHEREAS** the Vaughan Council/School Board Liaison Committee continues to invest in Vaughan's future and promote the health and wellness of residents, and in particular our youth, by developing cooperative recreational programs conducive to positive social interaction and an improved quality of life;

**AND WHEREAS** the spirit of cooperation and dedication to a shared vision are the basis of the working partnership set out in the Reciprocal Agreements and Program Initiatives Report;

**AND WHEREAS** the City of Vaughan and the York Region District and York Catholic District School Boards recognize the value of ongoing productive relations aimed at expanding and enhancing the use of public facilities;

**THEREFORE** the signatories to the aforementioned report endorse this reciprocal agreement and resolve that these principles of cooperation be fully supported;

**AND THAT** the Vaughan Council/School Board Liaison Committee realizes the full potential of this partnership model and lends its support to similar arrangements and agreements that further existing and future programs for the benefit of the residents of Vaughan.