

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – OCTOBER 6, 2008**

### **PROCLAMATION REQUEST – RESTORATIVE JUSTICE WEEK NOVEMBER 16 TO NOVEMBER 23, 2008**

#### **Recommendation**

The City Clerk recommends:

- 1) That November 16 to November 23, 2008 be proclaimed as “Restorative Justice Week”; and
- 2) That the proclamation be posted on the City’s website and published on the City Page, space permitting.

#### **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.

#### **Purpose**

To respond to the request received from Correctional Service Canada.

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

The correspondence received from Correctional Service Canada on September 9, 2008 is attached (Attachment #1).

The proclamation request meets the City’s Proclamation Policy, as follows:

“That upon request, the City of Vaughan issue Proclamations for events, campaigns or other similar matters:

- (ii) If the event, campaign or declaration is directly related to matters over which the City has jurisdiction or the City directly sponsors the event, campaign or other matter”.

Correctional Service Canada has requested the City publicize this proclamation to provide an opportunity to learn, educate and celebrate along with other communities across the country about restorative justice during this week. Council has approved this proclamation in the past.

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

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

#### **Regional Implications**

N/A

**Conclusion**

Staff is recommending that November 16 to November 23, 2008 be proclaimed as "Restorative Justice Week" and that the proclamation be posted on the City's website and published on the City Page, space permitting.

**Attachments**

Attachment #1 - Correspondence from Correctional Service Canada, received September 9, 2008

Report prepared by:

Connie Bonsignore, Admin Assistant to City Clerk

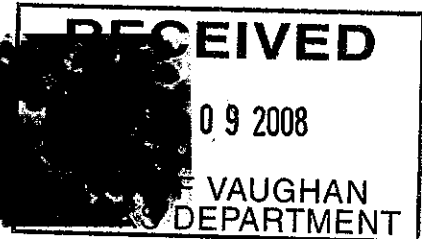
Respectfully submitted,

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Jeffrey A. Abrams,  
City Clerk



Ottawa, Canada  
K1A 0P9

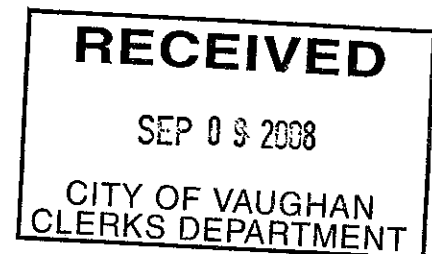


It gives me great pleasure to call upon all mayors, reeves, councillors and community Leaders from across Canada to proclaim Restorative Justice Week 2008. The Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) has been an active partner in the restorative justice community for more than a decade and has been proud to provide leadership to the annual celebration since 1996.

Restorative Justice Week 2008 will be held within Canada, and throughout the world, from November 16<sup>th</sup> to November 23<sup>rd</sup>. The theme is “**Fostering a Restorative Worldview**”, which focuses on sharing the concrete learning and results that have come from the growing experience of practitioners and stakeholders in the application of restorative justice concepts and techniques. In 2007, there were 167 towns and cities across Canada, representing almost 40% of the Canadian population, who proclaimed Restorative Justice Week.

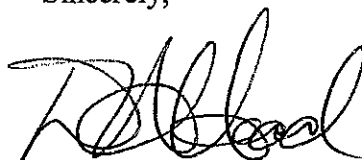
Things you could do as leaders in your community include the following:

- Declare / proclaim Restorative Justice Week 2008. **Please visit <http://www.csc-scc.gc.ca/text/rj/rj2008/proc-eng.shtml> for a printable proclamation form;**
- Host a town hall meeting to promote an awareness of how restorative justice is expressed in your communities;
- Promote an open, respectful dialogue in an effort to help members of your community deal with issues such as community safety and relationship deterioration caused by conflict, in order to nurture the healing process;
- Invite a guest speaker(s) from your community involved in restorative justice to share their perspectives or feel free to contact CSC’s Chaplaincy, Restorative Justice, and Victim Services Branch for speakers to come to your event at: **[RestorativeJustice@csc-scc.gc.ca](mailto:RestorativeJustice@csc-scc.gc.ca)**



Municipal participation in previous year's efforts has been a great success and we are hoping to build on that this year with your support. Please let us know if your city, town or village is planning an event or proclaiming Restorative Justice Week 2008 as we would like to recognise your participation in our national report. It would be appreciated if you could fax a copy of the proclamation or minutes of meeting with contact information to the attention of Carol-Anne Grenier at (613) 943-2171.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Don Head', with a stylized, cursive script.

Don Head