

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING – MAY 11, 2010**

### **PROCLAMATION REQUEST PRIDE WEEK**

#### **Recommendation**

The City Clerk recommends:

- 1) That June 6<sup>th</sup> through June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010 be proclaimed as “Pride Week”; and
- 2) That the proclamation be posted on the City’s website and published on the City Page Online.

#### **Contribution to Sustainability**

N/A

#### **Economic Impact**

N/A

#### **Communications Plan**

The Corporate Communications Department posts proclamations issued by the City on the City’s website under “Events – Proclamations” and on the City Page Online.

#### **Purpose**

To respond to the request received from the Executive Director, Family Services York Region and the Coordinator, York Region LGBT Community Project on behalf of the York PRIDEFEST Committee.

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

The correspondence received from the Executive Director, Family Services York Region and the Coordinator, York Region LGBT Community Project, dated April 15, 2010 is attached. (Attachment)

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:

- (i) Which are promoted by any organization that is a registered charity pursuant to Section 248 of the Income Tax Act”

York PRIDEFEST was founded in 2007 as part of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Outreach Project, a co-partnership between Addiction Services York Region and Family Services York Region, which is a registered charity. City Council has granted this request in the past.

### **Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan**

This report supports the strategic priorities established by Vaughan Vision 2020, in particular "Enhance and Ensure Community Safety, Health and Wellness".

### **Regional Implications**

This proclamation will bring awareness of differences and protection of equality within the Region.

### **Conclusion**

Staff is recommending that June 6<sup>th</sup> through 13<sup>h</sup>, 2010 be proclaimed as "Pride Week" and that the proclamation be posted on the City's website and published on the City Page Online.

### **Attachments**

Attachment 1 – Correspondence from the Executive Director, Family Services York Region and the Coordinator, York Region LGBT Community Project, dated April 15, 2010

### **Report prepared by:**

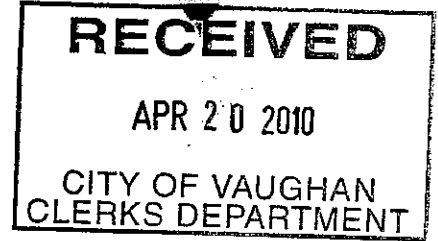
Connie Bonsignore, Administrative Assistant

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey A. Abrams  
City Clerk



LGBT COMMUNITY PROJECT



April 15th, 2010

Mr. Jeffrey A. Abrams, City Clerk,  
City Of Vaughan,  
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive,  
Vaughan, Ontario L6A 1T1

RE: PROCLAMATION OF YORK REGION PRIDE WEEK, JUNE 6th THROUGH 13th, 2010

Dear Mr. Abrams,

York Region is one of the fastest growing regions in Canada, providing wonderful opportunities for community leaders to participate in the celebration of diversity and protection of equality within their constituencies.

The York PRIDEFEST Committee is a group of volunteer leaders who have assembled to organize York Region's Pride Week celebration for 2010. The members represent a strong LGBT-Straight alliance of York Region service providers and community members dedicated to the creation and growth of **YORK PRIDEFEST** as one of the largest cultural events in York Region.

York PRIDEFEST was founded in 2007, as part of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Outreach Project, a co-partnership between Addiction Services York Region and Family Services York Region. York PRIDEFEST now resides under the more recent Trillium LGBT Project, funded by FSyr. Details of this important initiative are appended to this letter.

2010 is a milestone for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender population in York region. It marks the tenth anniversary that Pride Week has been celebrated in the region. On behalf of the York PRIDEFEST Committee, we are writing to request participation and leadership from the City Of Vaughan through the Proclamation of Pride Week in Vaughan, June 6th though June 13th, 2010. Your proclamation would be a valued acknowledgement of this milestone as well as the lives and contributions of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities living in York Region.

We look forward to your positive response regarding the continuation of this important tradition in Vaughan. We thank you for your consideration of our request and look forward to welcoming you to some of the exciting activities happening throughout York Region during Pride Week.

Sincerely,

Elisha Laker, MSW,RSW  
Executive Director

Barbara Urman, MSW,RSW  
Coordinator, York Region LGBT Community Project

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