

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE – MARCH 8, 2010

2010 COUNCIL/SMT SYMPOSIUM/WORKSHOP PROPOSED AGENDA

Recommendation

The City Manager and the Senior Manager of Strategic Planning in consultation with the Commissioner of Legal and Administrative Services and the City Clerk recommends:

1) That Council resolve to meet in closed session at 9:00 am on April 15, 2010 at the Thornhill Country Club for the purpose of education and training on the topic of Effective Governance, pursuant to section 239(3.1) of the Municipal Act, 2001.

Contribution to Sustainability

The Vaughan Vision 2020 strategic plan contains a number of strategic goals, objectives and initiatives which contribute to sustainability. The information to be shared with Members of Council at the 2010 Council/SMT Workshop will support future recommendations and decisions on matters relating to effective governance.

Economic Impact

Funds are already included in the 2010 operating budget.

Communications Plan

A news release will be issued by the Corporate Communications department a week before the April 15, 2010 symposium/workshop.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to inform Members of Council on the topic being considered for the 2010 symposium/workshop, and to facilitate the resolution to permit the meeting to be conducted in closed session for the purpose of education and training.

Background - Analysis and Options

The 2010 Council/SMT symposium/workshop is scheduled for April 15, 2010 at the Thornhill Country Club. The symposium/workshop is an education and training session for members of council and senior management and as such is authorized under s 239(3.1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended.

The structures and processes of the City are evolving to meet the service demands of its rapidly growing population. It is of critical importance that the City's governance model, which includes the roles and responsibilities of Members of Council, senior staff, and the Council / Committee structure itself, are appropriate to meet these demands. In order to become better informed on the issue of governance a facilitator with experience in municipal governance will lead the workshop and help Members explore the complexities and issues surrounding municipal governance.

This will include a number of activities including a guest speaker on governance, and roundtable discussions focusing on guiding principles, roles and responsibilities and methods for building a foundation to work towards the goal of a governance structure that meets the strategic objective of 'Demonstrating Leadership & Promoting Effective Governance'.

The agenda for the Council-SMT Symposium/Workshop will be structured as follows:

Objectives

The objectives of the symposium/workshop include the following:

- a) Becoming informed on municipal governance and benchmarking;
- b) Achieving an understanding of the issues that can impact options for the City's governance and committee structure; and
- c) Sharing information on potential governance models.

Workshop Speakers

There will be a speaker who will lead the symposium/workshop on the topic of governance. In particular the following:

Municipal Governance: Raising the Bar

This presentation will inform workshop participants on some contemporary issues facing public institutions and will explore techniques for evaluating the quality of governance, and benchmarking from corporate, government and non-profit sectors

Workshop Round Table Discussions

There will be a number of roundtable discussions to gain a better understanding of governance concepts and their application in the municipal government environment. They include:

- *Understanding the Difference Between Governance and Management in a Large Municipality*
- *Governance Roles and Models*

As directed at the Committee of the Whole (Working Session) on December 7, 2009 following this workshop a report will be provided by the Commissioner of Legal and Administrative Services to a future Audit and Operational Review Committee meeting providing analysis and alternatives on governance models.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan

The annual Council/SMT symposium/workshop is an educational opportunity to receive and consider information supporting the strategic objective "Demonstrating Leadership & Promoting Effective Governance".

Regional Implications

N/A

Conclusion

The 2009 Council/SMT Workshop will provide an educational and training opportunity for Members of Council and senior staff on the topic of governance. This common understanding will serve as a basis for a report that will be provided on this issue by the Commissioner of Legal and Administrative Services to a future Audit and Operational Review Committee meeting.

Attachments

N/A

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Respectfully submitted,

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