COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING – FEBRUARY 7, 2012

PROCLAMATION REQUEST <u>EPILEPSY AWARENESS MONTH MARCH 2012 AND MARCH 26TH AS "PURPLE DAY"</u>

Recommendation

The City Clerk recommends:

- 1) That March 2012 be proclaimed as "Epilepsy Awareness Month"; and March 26th as "Purple Day", and
- 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, Epilepsy York Region, dated January 19, 2012.

Background - Analysis and Options

The correspondence received from the Executive Director, York Region 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:

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

Epilepsy York Region is a registered charity who is seeking Council's support by proclaiming March are "Epilepsy Awareness Month", and March 26th, 2012 as "Purple Day", in an effort to raise awareness of this disease, increase understanding, reduce the stigma and improve the quality of life for those with epilepsy in Canada and throughout the world. Council has previously granted this proclamation.

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

The proclamation will raise awareness of this neurological condition within the region.

Conclusion

Staff is recommending that March 2012 be proclaimed "Epilepsy Awareness Month" and March 26th as "Purple Day", and that the proclamation be posted on the City's website and published on the City Page Online.

Attachment

Attachment 1 - Correspondence from the Executive Director, Epilepsy York Region, dated January 19, 2012

Report prepared by:

Connie Bonsignore, Administrative Assistant to the City Clerk

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey A. Abrams City Clerk January 19, 2012

Clayton Harris City of Vaughan

Dear Mr. Harris

In York Region there are 10000 people who have Epilepsy and here at Epilepsy York Region our purpose is to help bring awareness, education and support to both the people who have Epilepsy and the citizens of York Region. The month of March has been chosen by Epilepsy to be a time where we can bring awareness and we can show our support to people with Epilepsy.

I am writing to ask you to assist us by proclaiming March as Epilepsy Awareness Month and March 26th as "Purple Day" in support of people with Epilepsy.

We thank you for your support

Paul Reymond cutive Director

Epilepsy York Region



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Proclamation.



Epilepsy awareness month.

Whereas: March 26th is a Purple Day. It is a global effort dedicated to promoting epilepsy awareness in countries around the world, and

Whereas: Epilepsy is one of the most common neurological conditions, estimated to affect over 50 million people worldwide and over 300,000 thousand people in Canada, and

Whereas: One in ten persons will have at least one seizure during his or her lifetime, and

Whereas: March is Epilepsy awareness month, Purple Day will be celebrated on March 26th annually to increase understanding, reduce stigma and improve the quality of life for people with epilepsy throughout the country and globally.

Therefore be it resolved that, on behalf of the Members of Council of the Corporation of the town of Vaughan, I do hereby proclaim March 26th, 2012 "Purple Day", in an effort to raise awareness of epilepsy in Canada.

