PROCLAMATION REQUEST – BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Recommendation

The City Clerk recommends:

- 1) That February 2006 be proclaimed as "Black History Month"; and
- 2) That the proclamation be posted on the City's website, published on the City Page, space permitting, and that staff issue a news release.

Purpose

To respond to the request received from the Co-Chairs of the Thornhill African Caribbean Canadian Association.

Background - Analysis and Options

The correspondence received from the Co-Chairs of the Thornhill African Caribbean Canadian Association, dated February 7, 2006, is attached (Attachment #1).

In 2005, the City of Vaughan declared February 2005 as Black History month following requests received from the President of the Vaughan African Canadian Association and the Community Relations Committee.

The proclamation request meets the requirements of the City's Proclamation Policy: "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".

The Thornhill African Caribbean Canadian Association has requested the City publicize this proclamation to offer the community an opportunity to focus on the many achievements and the richly diverse culture of citizens of African and Caribbean descent. 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. Corporate Communications will, given sufficient lead-time, issue news releases in support of the proclamation.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

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

Conclusion

Staff is recommending February 2006 be proclaimed as "Black History Month" and that the proclamation be posted on the City's website and published on the City Page, space permitting.

Attachments

Attachment #1 - Correspondence from the Thornhill African Caribbean Canadian Association, dated February 7, 2006.

Report prepared by:

John D. Leach, City Clerk

Respectfully submitted,

John D. Leach, City Clerk



To: Sybil Fernandes Fax number: 905 832 8535

Date: 2/8/2006

A facsimile from

Thornhill African Caribbean and Canadian Association

c/o 179 Mullen Drive, Thornhill, Ontario. L4J 2V8

Regarding: Declaration of Black History Month

Comments:

Please find attached a letter from the Thornhill African Caribbean and Canadian Association, requesting that February 2006 be declared Black History

Thank you for your interest.

Regards

Gary Thompson



Thornhill African Caribbean Canadian Association 179 Mullen Drive, Thornhill, Ontario, L4J 2V8



February 7, 2006

The City of Vaughan 2141 Major Mackenzie Drive Vaughan, Ontario L6A 1T1

Attention:

Sybil Fernandes, Deputy City Clerk

Re:

Black History Month, February 2006

Ms. Fernandes,

The Thornhill, African, Caribbean and Canadian Association would like to request that the City of Vaughan, declare February 2006, Black History Month.

In November 2005 the residents of Thornhill and Concord in the City of Vaughan, came together to establish a community group. The members of this group comprise individuals who consider themselves aligned with a culture and homeland that depicts the comucopia of African, Caribbean and Canadian Heritage. Although they are centered on the areas of Thornhill and Concord, the group welcomes interested individuals of like mind from other areas who are committed to our goals and ideals.

As citizens of African and Caribbean descent this month offers us and our community an opportunity to focus on the many achievements and the richly diverse culture. Our members invite all Members of Council and Citizens of Vaughan to participate in the many activities planned for this month in the Region of York.

We thank you in advance for your consideration.

Yours Truly

Vernon Hendrickson Co-Chair

Gary Thompson Co-Chair

