

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – APRIL 8, 2002**

### **FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS – APPOINTMENT OF A FESTIVAL AD HOC COMMITTEE**

#### **Recommendation**

The Commissioner of Community Services, in consultation with the Director of Recreation and Culture recommends:

That Council approve a Festival of the Arts to be held on October 27, 2002 at the City Playhouse Theatre,

That staff proceed with the recruitment of 10 to 12 community members for appointment to the Festival of the Arts ad hoc committee and

That Councillor Susan Kadis be appointed to the Festival of the Arts ad hoc committee as Council's representative.

#### **Purpose**

To seek Council endorsement of the Festival of the Arts and approval to establish the Festival of the Arts ad hoc committee.

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

During the last appointment of statutory and advisory committees, few applications were received for appointment to the Arts and Culture Advisory Committee, a committee first established in 1993 to support and promote the City's arts and culture community. Throughout the years, the committee achieved a number of goals including the production and distribution of a York Region arts directory, an arts and Culture newsletter and an enhanced relationship with the McMichael Canadian Art Collection. In addition, for two consecutive years, the Arts and Culture Committee organized the Festival of the Arts, an event held at the City Playhouse Theatre, that showcased the City's visual and performing artists.

The last Festival of the Arts, in 2000, was a successful event with over 50 Vaughan artists participating in the Festival and receiving hundreds of visitors to the event. Local artists received great visibility in the community and had an opportunity to network with other artists. Additionally, artists and performers had a chance to sell their art work or recording C.D.s. Overall, the event received positive feedback from both artists and visitors alike.

Recognizing the Festival's significance and its support in the community, Council resolved the following at its April 17, 2001 meeting: "That the standing Arts and Culture Committee be replaced with an ad hoc committee dedicated to the production of one annual event such as the Festival of the Arts and that Councillor Kadis be appointed to this committee."

A budget of \$7,000 has been assigned to the 2002 Operating Budget for the Festival's production. The appointed Festival of the Arts ad hoc committee may also fundraise for any additional monies required for the Festival.

#### **Conclusion**

It is, therefore, recommended that an ad hoc committee be established that will be dedicated to the production of the 2002 Festival of the Arts. Staff will advertise for appointees to sit on the Festival of the Arts ad hoc committee in local newspapers and contact former Arts and Culture Committee members and other community members to seek out interested individuals for

appointment to the Festival of the Arts ad hoc committee. Furthermore, it is recommended that Councillor Susan Kadis be appointed to the Festival of the Arts ad hoc committee as Council's representative as directed by Council's April 17, 2001 resolution.

**Attachments**

None

**Report prepared by**

Joyce Epstein, Director of Recreation and Culture.

Respectfully submitted

G. Doris Haas,  
Commissioner of Community Services.