

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE JUNE 17, 2002

PART-TIME CULTURAL INTERPRETIVE TECHNICIAN

Recommendation

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

A part-time Cultural Interpretive Technician position be approved, and that position support the City's Cultural Services functions

And that the 2002 salary not exceed \$12,000.00.

Purpose

A part-time technician in the field of Cultural Interpretation is required to support the Council-approved initiatives related to the development of an Italian Interpretive Centre and a Cultural Heritage Centre.

Background - Analysis and Options

At the November 12, 2001 meeting City of Vaughan Council approved the recommendation "That staff work with the A.M.I.C.I steering committee in the design phase of the Italian Interpretive Centre" and "That staff work with the A.M.I.C.I. steering committee to address the remaining recommendations contained in their presentation paper to the Committee of the Whole". The Italian Interpretive Centre would include, among other things, the following components:

1. A data base that would provide information about immigrant families, their origins, ports of departure and landing etc.
2. The collection and conservation of archival materials
3. The conservation of photographic and audiovisual documents
4. A library with publications, books, newspapers, etc
5. A provision of computer connections with Pier 21 in Halifax, Ellis Island in New York and ports of departure in Italy

In addition at the same meeting, Council approved "That the City of Vaughan investigate the possibility of utilizing Vellore Hall and School as a City of Vaughan Heritage Centre: and " That staff bring a report to the Committee of the Whole in January regarding the feasibility and cost implications of developing the Vellore Hall and School as a Heritage Centre.

This part-time position (maximum of 24 hours per week) would support the Cultural Services functions by participating in the planning, development, implementation and staffing of a cultural interpretation program at facilities owned /operated by the City of Vaughan. This position would support collection development, conduct research to obtain information into similar cultural exhibits and assist in the development and implementation of a public education and outreach program and will be funded from the Cultural Services Operating Budget.

Conclusion

In order to provide the staff resources required to support the Council approved initiatives related to cultural heritage, a part-time staff with suitable educational qualifications is required to supplement the existing Cultural Services functions.

Attachments

N/A

Report prepared by:

Joyce Epstein,
Director of Recreation and Culture.

Respectfully submitted,

G. Doris Haas,
Commissioner of Community Services.