

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE DECEMBER 9, 2002

**USE OF SCHOOLS FOR MUNICIPAL VOTING DAY
NOVEMBER 10, 2003**

Recommendation

The City Clerk recommends that the following resolution be endorsed:

THAT the Region of York Separate and Public School Boards be requested to declare Municipal Election Day November 10, 2003 a Professional Development (PA) Day.

THAT the Clerk be directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Separate and Public School Boards in York Region requesting that they declare Municipal Election Day, Monday November 10, 2003 a Professional Development Day.

Purpose

To endorse and respond to a resolution, circulated to all York Region local municipalities, requesting that the municipalities endorse a Town of Georgina Council resolution requesting that the York Region Boards of Education declare municipal election voting day, Monday, November 10, 2003 to be a Professional Development Day.

Background - Analysis and Options

Town of Georgina Council, at its meeting held on October 28, 2002 endorsed a resolution requesting the York Region School Boards to declare Monday, November 10, 2003, this being the next regular municipal election, a Professional Development Day. (Attachment 1) This is an excellent idea that if implemented would greatly facilitate voting. In Vaughan, the vast majority of polling locations are in schools. Access for voting purposes would be enhanced if the students were not in class on voting day. In addition, recently, security concerns have been raised in respect of polling locations in schools. These concerns would be alleviated if the students were absent from the schools on voting day.

Conclusion

It would be appropriate for Council to endorse the above noted resolution.

Attachments

#1 - Town of Georgina Resolution of October 28, 2002

Report prepared by:

John D. Leach, City Clerk

Respectfully submitted,

John D. Leach
City Clerk

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GEORGINA

REPORT NO. DAS-2002-0078

FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF
COUNCIL
OCTOBER 28, 2002

SUBJECT: USE OF SCHOOLS FOR MUNICIPAL VOTING DAY
NOVEMBER 10, 2003

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT THE REGION OF YORK SEPARATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS BE REQUESTED TO DECLARE MUNICIPAL ELECTION DAY NOVEMBER 10, 2003 A PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (PA) DAY.

THAT THE CLERK FORWARD A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION TO ALL MUNICIPALITIES WITHIN YORK REGION REQUESTING ENDORSEMENT BY THEIR COUNCILS AND FURTHER REQUESTING THAT THEY FORWARD NOTICE OF SUCH ENDORSEMENT TO THE YORK SEPARATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS.

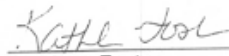
BACKGROUND:

In the past, both public and separate schools within the Town were utilized on Voting Day as polling locations. At a meeting of the Municipal Election Committee held October 21, 2002, the members suggested that we contact the Boards of Education and request that they declare Municipal Voting Day November 10, 2003 a Professional Development (P.A.) Day. This excellent suggestion is fully endorsed by municipal staff as it would result in the children not being in the schools on that day and further would eliminate any inconvenience to the electorate with respect to accessing the facility during the loading and unloading of the school buses. Staff feel that a resolution of Council and endorsement by the other municipalities within York Region would assist in achieving our objective.

Staff have already contacted the other municipal Clerk's in the Region and are receiving favourable responses to this suggestion. It is our intent to forward our request to the two Boards and all municipalities in York Region as soon as practically possible following this meeting.


Prepared by:

Recommended by:


Kathleen Foster
Deputy Clerk


Roland Chenier
Town Clerk

Approved by:


Stan Armstrong, C.A.O.
Director of Administrative Services/Treasurer