

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MAY 20, 2003

FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS- APPOINTMENT OF A FESTIVAL AD HOC COMMITTEE

Recommendation

The Director of Recreation and Culture, in consultation with the Heritage Coordinator, recommend that:

Council appoints one or more of its members to sit on the Festival of the Arts ad hoc committee; and,

Staff solicits former Arts and Culture Committee members and other community members for appointment to the Festival of the Arts ad hoc committee; and,

Staff advertise in local newspapers to seek out interested individuals to sit on the Festival of the Arts ad hoc committee.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval for the establishment of the Festival of the Arts ad hoc Committee and solicit interested individuals to sit on the Festival 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 & culture newsletter and an enhanced relationship with the McMichael Canadian Art Collection. In addition, for two years running, the Arts and Culture Committee organized the Festival of the Arts, an event that showcased the City's visual and performing artists.

Recognizing the Festival's significance and its support in the community, Council resolved at its 17 April, 2001 meeting the following:

1. 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.

The last Festival of the Arts in October 2002, was a successful event with over 45 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 artwork or recording C.D.s. Overall, the event received positive feedback from both artists and visitors alike.

Conclusion

It is recommended that an ad hoc committee be established that will be dedicated to the production of the 2003 Festival of the Arts, tentatively scheduled for October 26, 2003. Staff will advertise for appointees to sit on the Festival of the Arts 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 ad hoc committee. Furthermore, it is recommended that a member of Council sit on the Festival committee as Council's representative.

A budget of \$7000 has been assigned in the 2003 Operating Budget for the Festival's production. The newly appointed Festival of Arts Committee may also fundraise for any additional monies required for the Festival.

Attachments

None

Report prepared by:

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Respectfully submitted,

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