

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MARCH 22, 2004

PROCLAMATION REQUEST – DAY OF MOURNING FOR WORKERS KILLED OR INJURED ON THE JOB

Recommendation

The City Clerk recommends:

- 1) That April 28, 2004 be proclaimed as a “Day of Mourning for Workers Killed or Injured on the Job”;
- 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; and
- 3) That Council provide direction with respect to the request to lower the City’s flags to half-mast.

Purpose

To respond to the request received from the Labour Council, Toronto & York Region.

Background - Analysis and Options

The correspondence received from Mr. John Cartwright, President, Labour Council, Toronto & York Region, dated March 15, 2004, is attached (Attachment 1).

The proclamation request meets the requirements of the City’s Proclamation Policy as the matter relates to municipal business.

The Labour Council has requested the City publicize the proclamation as widely as possible. 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 proclamations.

The City has a Flag Raising Policy (Attachment 2) that does not address lowering the flags to half-mast. The practice has been to lower flags to half-mast to commemorate special days such as Remembrance Day or as a measure of respect and condolence when a high profile official passes away.

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 April 28, 2004 be proclaimed as a “Day of Mourning for Workers Killed or Injured on the Job” and that the proclamation be posted on the City’s website, published on the City Page, space permitting, and that staff issue a news release. Council direction is requested with respect to lowering the City’s flags to half-mast.

Attachments

Attachment 1 - Correspondence from Mr. John Cartwright, President, Labour Council,
Toronto & York Region, dated March 15, 2004

Attachment 2 - Flag Raising Policy

Report prepared by:

Sybil Fernandes, Deputy City Clerk/Manager of Administrative Services, Ext. 8628

Respectfully submitted,

John D. Leach
City Clerk

Attachment 1

March 15, 2004

John Leach



Mayor Michael DiBiase
City of Vaughan
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Maple L6A 1T1

Dear Mayor DiBiase:

Re: National Day of Mourning

Since 1991, April 28th has been recognized nationally as the Day of Mourning.

Last year, Ontario's Workplace Safety and Insurance Board reported that 359,353 workers suffered injuries and occupational diseases and another 552 died - 2/3 of whom suffered a fatal disease.

I am writing to ask that the City of Vaughan commemorate this National Day. The Labour Council is requesting that the City:

1. Officially proclaim Wednesday, April 28th as a "Day of Mourning for workers killed or injured on the job".
2. Publicize the proclamation as widely as possible.
3. Lower the City's flags to half-mast.

Yours truly,

John Cartwright

John Cartwright
President

opeiu 343

15 Gervais Drive, Suite 407
Toronto, ON, M3C 1Y8
416-441-3663 (tel) • 416-445-8405 (fax)
www.labourcouncil.ca



CITY OF VAUGHAN
POLICY MANUAL

Attachment 2

SECTION: ADMINISTRATION	POLICY NO.: 03.09 CNL: 94.06.20(34)
DEPARTMENT: ADMINISTRATIVE	SUBJECT: FLAG RAISING POLICY

Council resolved:

That the policy as contained in the report of the City Clerk dated June 13, 1994, attached as Appendix 2, governing the raising of flags at the City of Vaughan Civic Centre, be adopted as follows:

- a) Flags which are currently flown at the Civic Centre and all of its associated facilities, on a continual basis, namely the Canadian, Provincial and City Flags, continue to be flown;
- b) Raising of flags shall be limited to those flags of civic origin representing formally recognized delegations visiting the City of Vaughan and shall be flown for an allotment of time limited to the duration of the respective visitation;
- c) The raising of a national flag shall occur only in those instances where the appropriate flag of civic origin representing formally recognized delegations visiting the City of Vaughan is not available or where the nature of a formally recognized delegation visiting the City of Vaughan would so warrant;
- d) Raising of the flags indicated heretofore will by no means be deemed an indication nor an expression of political support for a particular nation or ethnic group by the City of Vaughan. Flags will only be flown in recognition of dignitaries visiting the City of Vaughan in an official representative capacity;
- e) Flags of non-profit, non partisan, charitable organizations shall be flown at the Civic Centre upon submission of a written request;
- f) any conflicts between the date requested by non-profit, non-partisan, charitable organizations and official municipal events, will be settled in favour of the group which first made its request; and
- g) The City Clerk be delegated authority to approve and monitor flag raising in future in accordance with Council policy.