

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE(WORKING SESSION) – MAY 24, 2006**

### **PERMITTING OF CITY FACILITIES BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

#### **Recommendation**

The Commissioner of Legal and Administrative Services and City Solicitor recommends that Council Policy 01.01 CNL: 84.04.09(8) be rescinded (Attachment #1) and that the following policy be adopted:

Commencing on June 30 of a municipal election year, until the date of such election, (referred to as the 'election period') no member of Council shall book, directly or indirectly, any City facility for any purpose that might be perceived as an election campaign purpose, other than for all-candidates meetings. The onus of ensuring compliance with this policy resides with members of Council and any clarification or interpretation, if required may be referred to Council. Outside of the election period, any member of Council may, directly or indirectly, book normally permitted space in a City facility and the full published rate and any other conditions normally imposed under such permit shall apply.

#### **Economic Impact**

Not Applicable

#### **Purpose**

To respond to a Council directive to report on a policy regarding permitting of City facilities by members of Council.

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

Council adopted a policy in 1984 respecting the permitting of corporate owned facilities by Members of Council (Attachment #1). It is believed that this policy was to address at least in part a restriction in the use of corporate resources for election related purposes. The Municipal Elections Act prohibits the use of corporate resources for campaign related purposes. Consequently, there is a need to update and clarify the policy. It is being recommended that the 1984 policy be rescinded and that the following policy be adopted:

Commencing on June 30 of a municipal election year, until the date of such election, (referred to as the 'election period') no Member of Council shall book, directly or indirectly, any City facility for any purpose that might be perceived as an election campaign purpose, other than for all-candidates meetings. The onus of ensuring compliance with this policy resides with Members of Council and any clarification or interpretation, if required may be referred to Council. Outside of the election period, any Member of Council may, directly or indirectly, book normally permitted space in a City facility and the full published rate and any other conditions normally imposed under such permit shall apply.

#### **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**

The Municipal Elections Act prohibits the use of corporate resources for campaigning purposes. There is a need to clarify the existing policy in this regard.

**Attachments**

Attachment #1

**Report prepared by:**

John D. Leach, City Clerk  
and Returning Officer

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Atwood-Petkovski  
Commissioner of legal Administrative Services  
& City Solicitor

/as

**CITY OF VAUGHAN  
POLICY MANUAL**

<b>SECTION: COUNCIL</b>	<b>POLICY NO.: 01.01</b>
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CNL: 84.04.09(8)

<b>DEPARTMENT:</b> MAYOR & MEMBERS OF COUNCIL	<b>SUBJECT:</b> GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR PERMITTING SPACE BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL
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Council resolved:

- (a) That any member of Council wishing to permit space in any Town-owned facility or property or in any other facility, required to be permitted through the Department of Recreation, be required first to obtain the permission of Council, Council/Committee, or the relevant Ward Committee before the said permit is processed by the Department of Recreation.
- (b) That any such authorized permit be for a one-time only public use, and that the members of Council must be in attendance at and must be responsible for the said permitted facility.