

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE APRIL 3, 2006

PEACE TREE DAY

Councillor Sandra Yeung Racco recommends:

1. THAT the City of Vaughan endorse June 1st as Peace Tree Day and;
2. THAT the City of Vaughan collaborate with York Regional Police to set up a screening of the movie "The Peace Tree" on June 1st at the Civic Centre and;
3. THAT the City of Vaughan erect a Peace Tree in the Civic Centre lobby;
4. THAT this endorsement be sent to the Office of the Premier asking the Province to endorse June 1st as Peace Tree Day and;
5. THAT this endorsement be sent to the City of Vaughan's Community Relations Committee and all educational institutions throughout the City of Vaughan.

Economic Impact

N/A

Purpose

To acknowledge June 1st as Peace Tree Day and to celebrate the values and principals associated therewith.

Background - Analysis and Options

The Peace Tree is based upon a movie of the same title wherein three little girls of different religious backgrounds seek to enjoy the festive celebrations of the others. Upon facing resistance from their parents, the girls go about convincing their parents that it is all about peace and thus the Peace Tree is born.

The Peace Tree is a symbolic representation of the importance of embracing and celebrating diversity. As the City of Vaughan continues to grow and expand, our community has witnessed increasing diversity and this is a tremendous asset to the City; one that should be celebrated and acknowledged at every opportunity.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

A-2: Serving our citizens through the promotion of community, safety, health and wellness

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

Conclusion

In light of the City of Vaughan's efforts to recognize and promote diversity and to work in partnership with groups to that effect, Councillor Sandra Yeung Racco recommends that the City of Vaughan endorse June 1st as Peace Tree Day and that the City of Vaughan erect a Peace Tree during the festive season. As well, that a screening of the movie "The Peace Tree" be organized at the City of Vaughan.

Attachments

n/a

Report prepared by:

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Yeung Racco
Councillor, Ward 4