

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – SEPTEMBER 4, 2007

CITY SPONSORSHIP OF PROJECT VAUGHAN CONFERENCE

Recommendation

Councillor Alan Shefman recommends that the City of Vaughan sponsor the conference entitled *Project Vaughan: Towards an Understanding of the Italian Canadian Experience Beyond "Little Italy"*, convened by the Mariano A. Elia Chair in Italian Canadian Studies at York University, by waiving any fees relating to the conference's use of meeting spaces at the Vellore Village Community Centre, on September 28 and 29, 2007.

Economic Impact

The estimated fees total approximately \$800.00.

Purpose

To signal the City of Vaughan's support of this unique initiative, which proposes to study the experience of a significant portion of Vaughan's population, namely the Italian Canadian community.

Communication Plan

The sponsorship of the conference will be announced by a media release prepared by the Corporate Communications Department, with the assistance of Councillor Carella, one of the co-chairs of the conference.

Background – Analysis and Options

The Mariano A. Elia Chair in Italian Canadian Studies at York University is one of the leading centres for the study of Italian Canadiana, with a special interest in the development of the Italian Canadian community in Vaughan, the home of a significant percentage of York University students. In furtherance of its mission of understanding all facets of the Italian Canadian experience, the Chair is convening a conference entitled *Project Vaughan: Towards an Understanding of the Italian Canadian Experience Beyond "Little Italy"*, which will take place at the Vellore Village Community Centre on Friday evening, September 28, and Saturday, September 29, 2007. Auditorium space and meeting rooms have been reserved for this purpose. To permit the maximum possible public participation in this event, no registration or admission fee will be charged. To offset other expenses relating to the conference, the Chair will be greatly assisted if the City of Vaughan is prepared to act as a sponsor of the conference by the waiving of any fees. Such sponsorship will be publicized in the conference program.

Regional Implications

Nil

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.

Attachments

None

Conclusion

The sponsorship of this conference on the City of Vaughan's largest ethnic community constitutes appropriate support by the city of this community and the institution attended by so many of its university-aged residents.

Report prepared by:

Councillor Alan Shefman

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Shefman
Councillor – Ward 5