

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - MAY 5, 2008

PROCLAMATION REQUEST AHMADIYYA DAY MAY 27, 2008

Recommendation

The Deputy City Clerk in consultation with the Commissioner of Legal and Administrative Services/City Solicitor recommends:

- 1) That May 27, 2008 be proclaimed as "Ahmadiyya Day"; and
- 2) That the proclamation be posted on the City's website and published on the City Page, space permitting.

Economic Impact

N/A

Communications Plan

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 the space availability.

Purpose

To respond to the request from the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Canada. (Attachment #1)

Background - Analysis and Options

The correspondence received from the President, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Canada, dated April 7, 2008, is attached (Attachment #1).

The proclamation request meets the City's Proclamation Policy, as follows:

"That upon request, the City of Vaughan issue Proclamations for events, campaigns or other similar matters:

- (i) which are promoted by any organization that is a registered charity pursuant to Section 248 of the Income Tax Act"

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is commemorating 2008 as the centenary year of the establishment of the successorship (Khilafat) to the Promised Messiah and Imam Mahdi, Hadrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian (peace be upon him) (1835 – 1908). Numerous events throughout the world including Canada will be hosted by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community to commemorate this momentous anniversary.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020

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

Regional Implications

N/A

Conclusion

Staff is recommending that Tuesday, May 27, 2008 be proclaimed as "Ahmadiyya Day" and that the proclamation be posted on the City's website and published on the City Page, space permitting.

Attachments

Attachment #1 - Correspondence received from the President, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Canada, dated April 7, 2008

Report prepared by:

Connie Bonsignore, Admin Assistant to City Clerk

Respectfully submitted,

Sybil Fernandes
Deputy City Clerk

Janice Atwood-Petkovski
Commissioner of Legal and Administrative
Services/City Solicitor

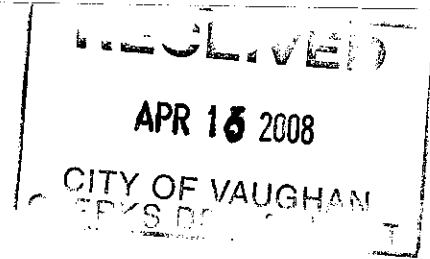


AHMADIYYA
MUSLIM
JAMA'AT

Attachment # 1

April 7, 2008

Her Worship Linda Jackson
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Vaughan, ON L6t 1A1



Dear Your Worship Linda Jackson:

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Canada Celebrates 100 years of the succession of the Promised Messiah

Worldwide, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is commemorating 2008 as the centenary year of the establishment of the successorship (Khilafat) to the Promised Messiah and Imam Mahdi, Hadrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian (peace be upon him) (1835-1908).

Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at is widely honoured as a peaceful and law-abiding community that lives in accordance with its motto, "Love for All, Hatred for None."

May 27, 2008 marks the centenary of the establishment of the Khilafat in the Ahmadiyya Community. To commemorate this momentous anniversary, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is hosting numerous events throughout the world, including Canada.

For this purpose, members of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Canada propose that Tuesday, May 27, 2008 be declared as "Khilafat Day" "or "Ahmadiyya Day" in the City of Vaughan.

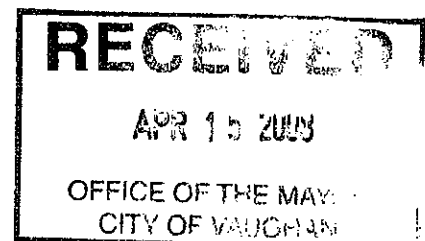
We look forward to this declaration, which is important to Ahmadi Muslims who actively contribute to Canada's rich cultural and religious mosaic by promoting peace and interfaith dialogue.

I also wish to extend an invitation to attend the Centenary Banquet being held on June 25th, 2008. We hope you can join us in our celebration. Invitation details to follow.

If we can be of any assistance, please contact our National Secretary for Community Relations (his information is on the next page). In addition, I have included some additional information on our community.

Yours truly,

Lal Khan Malik
President
Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Canada



*Sent copy to
Clarks.*

Note:

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama`at has established itself all over the corners of the earth, namely in over 180 countries of the world. Wherever established, it strives towards the betterment of society by engaging in and promoting interfaith dialogue, philanthropy, publishing religious literature, constructing mosques and community centers, and providing educational and healthcare facilities. The Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama`at is acclaimed as Islam's most dynamic Muslim community with a membership in the tens of millions.

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama`at was established in 1889 by Hadrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad in Qadian, India. He proclaimed himself to be the awaited Promised Messiah and Mahdi (reformer) of the Latter Days whose advent was foretold by the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), as well as the awaited reformer foretold by all of the other great religions of the world. His stated mission was to convey to the world the message of peace and love as presented in the Holy Qur'an (the Islamic holy scripture) and the Sunnah (practice) of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of God be upon him), as well as to present the teachings of Islam in their uncorrupted and pristinely pure form.

After the passing away of Hadrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad in 1908, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama`at was blessed with the establishment of the institution of the Khilafat. The present Khalifa of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama`at is Hadrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih V.

For more information, you may contact:

Mr. Asif Khan
National Secretary Community Relations
Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Canada
416-725-9133 asif.khan@ahmadiyya.ca