

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - JUNE 16, 2008**

### **DEPUTATION - MS ISABELLA FERRARA (S.A.V.I.) WITH RESPECT TO SERVICES AND PROGRAMS PROVIDED**

#### **Recommendation**

The Commissioner of Community Services, in consultation with the Director of Parks Operations and Forestry and the Director of Recreation and Culture and the City Clerk, recommends:

1. That staff continue to work with the Seniors Association of Vaughan Initiative (S.A.V.I.) to secure a tent for the 2008 events; and,
2. That staff explore permanent options for providing a tent, and that the associated costs be included in the 2009 budget process; and,
3. That the month of September is proclaimed as "Grandparent's Month" with "Grandparent's Day" being recognized on the second Sunday of September.

#### **Economic Impact**

The 2008 costs associated with the provision of a tent in 2008 will be approximately \$1,000 and can be covered in the 2008 operating budget. The costs associated with the provision of permanent options for the future will be included in the 2009 budget process.

#### **Communications Plan**

Staff have communicated with Ms. Isabella Ferrara, President, S.A.V.I. regarding the details of her request including the level of support for the initiatives outlined and the requirements for the tent. Further, staff have communicated with the City Clerk regarding S.A.V.I.'s request to proclaim the month of September as Grandparent's Month and Grandparent's Day on the second Sunday of September.

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to respond to Council's direction to provide a report on the issues raised in the deputation made to Council's Committee of the Whole on March 31, 2008 by Ms. Isabella Ferrara, President, S.A.V.I.

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

At the March 31, 2008, Committee of the Whole meeting, following the deputation made by Ms. Isabella Ferrara, President, S.A.V.I., staff were asked to provide a report responding to the items presented by Ms. Ferrara.

S.A.V.I. is an umbrella organization representing more than 3,000 senior club members in the City of Vaughan. They recently located their head office to the newly acquired City of Vaughan Bocce and Recreation Centre located at 2501 Rutherford Road, Building B, Unit 15, Vaughan.

S.A.V.I. recognizes and acknowledges the support provided by Members of Council and staff for their events and undertakings, and on a go forward basis are looking for the following:

Item 1: The possibility of providing more senior residences to accommodate the increased demand.

In consultation with the Director of Housing Services for the Region of York, "under the terms of the Social Housing Reform Act, 2000, the Region of York is the Service Manager responsible for Social Housing including the administration of existing social housing, and the

delivery of new affordable housing under agreements with the Provincial and Federal governments. Staff will provide the contact information to Ms. Ferrara.

Item 2: That the City purchase a tent for use by the seniors clubs.

As in past years, staff will continue to work with S.A.V.I. and other seniors clubs to secure a tent for the 2008 events. With respect to 2009 and beyond, staff will explore permanent options for providing a tent and include the necessary funds in the 2009 budget process.

Item 3: That the month of September is proclaimed as "Grandparent's Month" with "Grandparent's Day" being recognized on the second Sunday of September.

The City Clerk advises that paragraph (iii) of Policy No. 03.23 provides that "if the event, campaign or declaration is directly related to matters over which the City has jurisdiction or the City directly sponsors the event, campaign or other matter", the City of Vaughan may issue a proclamation.

S.A.V.I. is interested in developing the leadership potential of the youth of the City of Vaughan and as such, have partnered with the Vaughan Youth Cabinet on initiatives including Grandparents' Day celebrations. Events such as these further strengthen the relationship between the generations and it is therefore a goal of S.A.V.I. to have the month of September proclaimed as Grandparents' Month with the second Sunday of September recognized as Grandparents' Day. Staff advise that there is sufficient connection between S.A.V.I.'s activities and the City's programs dealing with both youth and seniors to recommend Council proclaim September as Grandparent's Month and to recognize the second Sunday in September as Grandparent's Day.

### **Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020**

In consideration of the strategic priorities related to Vaughan Vision 2020, the report will provide,

- STRATEGIC GOAL:  
Service Excellence – Providing service excellence to citizens
  
- STRATEGIC GOAL  
Pursue Excellence in Service Delivery; and Enhance and Ensure Community Safety, Health and Wellness – To deliver high quality services and promote health and wellness through design and program.

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources for 2008 will be within the Operating Budget and for 2009 will be part of the budget process.

### **Regional Implications**

There are no Regional implications.

### **Conclusion**

The City of Vaughan appreciates the work undertaken by S.A.V.I. in that it supports the role of the Recreation and Culture Department in delivering leisure opportunities to the senior residents of the City to lead balanced lives, achieve their full potential, and gain life satisfaction. We look forward to continuing to work with S.A.V.I. on their future endeavours.

### **Attachments**

None

### **Report Prepared By**

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Respectfully submitted,

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Commissioner of Community Services