

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - SEPTEMBER 2, 2008

YOUTH REFERRAL PROGRAM

Recommendation

The City Clerk recommends:

- 1) That this report be received for information.

Economic Impact

There is negligible economic impact associated with this report.

Communications Plan

Disclosure of the identity of young persons involved in the Youth Referral Program is strictly confidential pursuant to the provisions of the Youth Criminal Justice Act.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to advise Members of Council of the receipt of four \$25.00 donations from youth involved in the Youth Referral Program administered by Community Counselling of York Region.

Background - Analysis and Options

The Youth Referral Program is a program of Community Counselling Services of York Region, a not-for-profit entity whose territory includes the City of Vaughan.

The Youth Referral Program, funded by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services, is run in partnership with York Regional Police. It is a pre-charge diversion program for youth between the ages of 12 and 18 who are found to be involved in minor first time offences. Community Counselling of York Region oversees the punitive component of the program and administers ongoing therapy and treatment as necessary.

The City Clerks Department has received four written apologies and accompanying cheques, each in the amount of \$25.00. The donations are in respect of damage caused to City property, such as graffiti or minor vandalism. Participation in the program is strictly confidential and so the details of the damage done is withheld in order to avoid identification of the persons involved.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020

N/A

Regional Implications

N/A

Conclusion

The City of Vaughan has received four \$25.00 donations from youth who through their involvement in a pre-charge diversion program have been assigned alternative forms of punishment and ongoing counselling in the hope of avoiding future conflict with the law.

Attachments

N/A

Report prepared by:

Jeffrey A. Abrams, City Clerk

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey A. Abrams
City Clerk