

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE APRIL 20, 2009

PROCLAMATION REQUEST CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

Recommendation

The City Clerk recommends:

- 1) That May 2 – 9, 2009 be proclaimed as “Children’s Mental Health Week”; 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 space availability.

Purpose

To respond to the request received from The York Centre for Children, Youth & Families, dated April 8, 2009.

Background - Analysis and Options

The correspondence received from The York Centre for Children, Youth & Families, dated April 8, 2009, 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 York Centre for Children, Youth & Families, comprised of 3 children's mental health agencies in York Region (Blue Hills Child & Family Centre, Kinark Child & Family Services and The York Centre for Children, Youth and Families) has requested that the City publicize this proclamation. The York Centre for Children, Youth & Families have scheduled a variety of activities to increase awareness of children's mental health issues and dispel the associated stigma, encourage parents to seek help, and provide contact information for children's mental health services in York Region. Council has previously granted this proclamation request in previous years.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan

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 May 2 – 9, 2009 be proclaimed as “Children’s Mental Health Week”, and that the proclamation be posted on the City’s website and published on the City Page, space permitting.

Attachments

Attachment #1 Correspondence from The York Centre for Children, Youth & Families, dated April 8, 2009

Report prepared by:

Connie Bonsignore, Admin Assistant

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey A. Abrams
City Clerk



Fwd to Clerk

April 8, 2009

Mayor Linda Jackson
City of Vaughan
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Vaughan, ON L6A 1T1

Dear Mayor Jackson,

On behalf of the 3 children's mental health agencies which provide services in York Region (Blue Hills Child & Family Centre, Kinark Child & Family Services and The York Centre for Children, Youth & Families), I am writing to request that you proclaim May 2-9, 2009 as "Children's Mental Health Week" in the City of Vaughan.

One in 5 children experiences mental health problems. Treatment is effective, however, frequently these problems are not diagnosed or treated and they may become more serious. Through a variety of activities which are scheduled for Children's Mental Health Week, we are striving to achieve the following three goals:

- Promoting/maintaining good mental health.
- Increasing public awareness of children's mental health issues and dispelling the associated stigma.
- Encouraging parents to seek help.
- Providing contact information for children's mental health services in York Region.

We ask that you support us in our quest for optimal mental health for all children by making a proclamation and including the following contact information:

- Blue Hills Child & Family Centre: 1-866-536-7608
- Kinark Child & Family Services: info@kinark.on.ca
- The York Centre for Children, Youth & Families: 905-887-5896

"Healthy Minds, Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities"

If you require additional information, please contact me at 905-851-1672.

Yours truly,

Noreen Lee
Chairperson
The York Centre for Children, Youth & Families

RECEIVED

APR 17 2009

CLERK'S DEPT.

RECEIVED

APR 15 2009

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF VAUGHAN