

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - JUNE 1, 2010

COMMUNITY EQUITY AND DIVERSITY COMMITTEE ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2006 – 2010 TERM

Recommendation

The Community Equity and Diversity Committee recommends:

That the following report be received for information.

Contribution to Sustainability

N/A

Economic Impact

There is no economic impact associated with this report.

Communications Plan

N/A

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the accomplishments of the Community Equity and Diversity Committee for the 2006 – 2010 term.

Background - Analysis and Options

Council approved that all non-statutory committees submit to Committee of the Whole a summary of its accomplishments over the four (4) year term, prior to the expiry of the term.

The mandate of the City of Vaughan's Community Equity & Diversity Committee is:

1. To formulate and recommend to Council appropriate policies and strategies which will help prevent tensions and enhance community relations within the City.
2. To work actively with the York Region District School Board, the York Catholic District School Board, the York Region Police, the City of Vaughan Recreation and Culture Department, the Vaughan Public Library Board and other relevant institutions and voluntary organizations to promote mutual trust and respect among the City of Vaughan's diverse community groups and the institutions and agencies serving them.
3. To encourage local groups, both public and private, to engage in programmes for the improvement of community relations and the fulfilment of human rights.
4. To initiate and co-ordinate discussions between individuals or groups to promote understanding and harmony in the community.
5. To recommend to the municipality, programmes to provide equal employment opportunity, including recruitment, selection, training and promotion for visible and other minorities.

This committee meets monthly.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan

This report is consistent with the goals and initiatives of Vaughan Vision 2020.

Regional Implications

N/A

Conclusion

As directed by Council, the Community Equity and Diversity Committee's accomplishments are attached for Council's information.

Attachments

1. Community Equity and Diversity Committee Accomplishments

Report prepared by:

A. Bellisario
Assistant City Clerk

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Alan Shefman
Chair, Community Equity and Diversity Committee

**Community Equity & Diversity Committee
Accomplishments 2006 – 2010 Term**

Canadian Coalition of Municipalities against Racism and Discrimination.

The Community Equity & Diversity Committee reviewed the mandate of the recently established Canadian Coalition of Municipalities against Racism and Discrimination and recommended to Council that the City join the Coalition. Since that time the Chair of the Committee has attended the founding meeting of the Coalition in Calgary and a workshop in Windsor. In March of 2010 the City of Vaughan hosted a CCMARD Forum entitled "Mobilizing Municipalities to Address Racism and Discrimination".

Vaughan Diversity Workshop

The Community Equity & Diversity Committee has held two Diversity Workshops for the leaders of Vaughan's diverse communities. The forums are utilized to allow these individuals to network while considering issues of significance for the City. The Forum held in late March of 2010 was used to provide input into the development of a diversity strategy for the City.

Diversity Art Competition

In late 2009, a Diversity Art Competition was initiated to encourage local artists to submit a work of art that reflects diversity.

Racist and Anti-Semitic Graffiti Recommendations to Council

The Community Equity & Diversity Committee providing recommendations as a guide for the City of Vaughan to act upon when there is an occurrence of hate graffiti. This guideline complements the work done at the City to address more general issues of graffiti. The Guidelines were submitted to Council and were approved in January 26, 2010.