

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE APRIL 12, 2011**

### **PROCLAMATION REQUEST CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK**

#### **Recommendation**

The City Clerk recommends:

- 1) That May 1 – 8, 2011 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 Online.

#### **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 5, 2011.

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

The correspondence received from The York Centre for Children, Youth & Families, dated April 5, 2011, 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. One in 5 children experiences mental health problems and frequently these problems are not diagnosed or treated and may become more serious. 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 supports the strategic priorities established by Vaughan Vision 2020, in particular "Enhance and Ensure Community Safety, Health and Wellness".

**Regional Implications**

This proclamation will raise awareness of children's mental health issues within the region.

**Conclusion**

Staff is recommending that May 1 – 8, 2011 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 Online.

**Attachments**

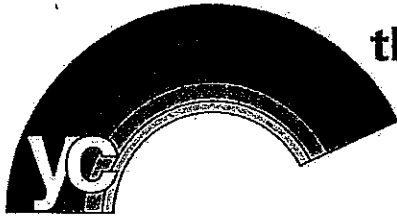
Attachment 1 Correspondence from The York Centre for Children, Youth & Families, dated April 5, 2011

**Report prepared by:**

Connie Bonsignore, Administrative Assistant to the City Clerk

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey A. Abrams  
City Clerk



# the york centre for children, youth & families

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April 5, 2011

Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua  
City of Vaughan  
2141 Major MacKenzie Dr.,  
Vaughan, ON L6A 1T1

Dear Mayor Bevilacqua,

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 1-8, 2011 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 four 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:

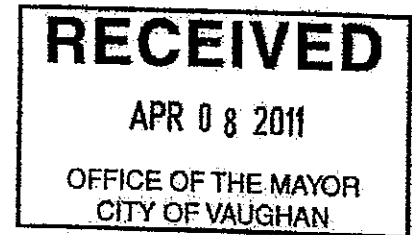
- Blue Hills Child & Family Centre: 905-773-4323 or [gendeliv@bluehillschildandfamily.ca](mailto:gendeliv@bluehillschildandfamily.ca)
- Kinark Child & Family Services: [info@kinark.on.ca](mailto:info@kinark.on.ca)
- The York Centre for Children, Youth & Families: 905-887-5896 or [info@theyorkcentre.ca](mailto:info@theyorkcentre.ca)

"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

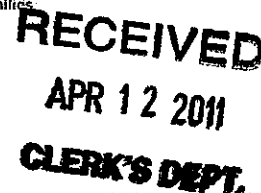


THE ONTARIO TRILLIUM FOUNDATION



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Accredited by Children's Mental Health - Ontario



Charitable No.: 12999 5817 RR0001

