

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE SEPTEMBER 13, 2011**

### **PROCLAMATION REQUEST SPIRITUAL AND RELIGIOUS CARE AWARENESS WEEK**

#### **Recommendation**

The City Clerk recommends:

- 1) That October 16, 2011 to October 22, 2011 be proclaimed as "Spiritual and Religious Care Awareness Week" in the City of Vaughan; and
- 2) That the proclamation be posted on the City's website and published on the City Page Online.

#### **Contribution to Sustainability**

N/A

#### **Economic Impact**

N/A

#### **Communications Plan**

The Corporate Communications Department posts proclamations issued by the City on the City's website under "Events – Proclamations" and on the City Page Online.

#### **Purpose**

To respond to the request received from the President of The Ontario Multifaith Council on Spiritual and Religious Care (OMC).

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 Pediatric Oncology Group of Ontario is a registered charity.

The Ontario Multifaith Council on Spiritual and Religious Care is a non-profit registered charitable organization which represents a wide-range of faith groups in Ontario. Their mandate is to promote and facilitate equal access to adequate and appropriate spiritual care and religious rights for people in government-operated facilities, including hospitals, long-term care facilities, mental health centres and correctional settings. OMC wishes to recognize the value of the dedicated, qualified spiritual and religious providers throughout Canada.

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

The correspondence received from the President of The Ontario Multifaith Council on Spiritual and Religious Care, dated July 25, 2011, is attached. (Attachment 1)

**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**

N/A

**Conclusion**

Staff is recommending that October 16, 2011 to October 22, 2011 be proclaimed as "Spiritual and Religious Care Awareness Week" in the City of Vaughan and that the proclamation be posted on the City's website and published on the City Page Online.

**Attachments**

Attachment      Correspondence from the president of The Ontario Multifaith Council, dated July 25, 2011

**Report prepared by**

Connie Bonsignore, Administrative Assistant to the City Clerk

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey A. Abrams  
City Clerk



**Ontario Multifaith Council**

July 25, 2011

Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua  
City of Vaughan  
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive  
Vaughan, ON L6A 1T1

Dear Mayor Bevilacqua:

The Ontario Multifaith Council on Spiritual and Religious Care (OMC) is a registered non-profit charitable organization representing a wide-range of Faith groups in the province of Ontario. The structure of our organization is comprised of 30 Faith groups on our governing board and 185 Regional Multifaith Committee members throughout Ontario.

OMC is mandated by the Ontario Government to promote and facilitate equal access to adequate and appropriate Spiritual Care and Religious rights for persons in government operated/funded institutions and organizations, in context with the Ontario Human Rights Code.

OMC initiates and organizes an annual celebration of Spiritual and Religious Care Awareness Week (SRCAW) which provides an opportunity to recognize the value of Spiritual and Religious Care providers of all Faiths who work in specialized settings such as, hospitals, long-term care facilities, mental health centre and correctional facilities.

We are asking that consideration be given for SRCAW to be proclaimed throughout the mosaic of Canada during the week of October 16-22 this year. In previous years, the City of Toronto, along with other cities in Ontario and other Provinces, has declared the week in support of this event. Spiritual and Religious care is observed throughout Canada regardless of age, social standing or political affiliation. We humbly request your office to proclaim the week of October 16-22, as Religious Care Awareness Week (SRCAW).

It is our hope that your response to our request will be positive. If further information is required, we will be most pleased to respond.

Sincerely,

Imam Abdul Hai Patel,  
President

Ontario Multifaith Council On Spiritual & Religious Care

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**RECEIVED**

AUG 3 - 2011

CLERK'S DEPT.

**RECEIVED**

AUG 03 2011

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF VAUGHAN