



MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

Date:	SEPTEMBER 13, 2011 – COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Title:	HURON-WENDAT NATION AND CITY OF VAUGHAN PARTNERSHIP
Submitted by:	REGIONAL COUNCILLOR MICHAEL DI BIASE

Whereas, there is a significant historical presence of the Huron-Wendat Nation in the City of Vaughan;

Whereas, the City of Vaughan Vision 2020 is to preserve our heritage and support diversity, arts and culture; and

Whereas, significant archeological findings, including an ossuary, have been discovered at the Kortright Centre which have been associated to the Huron-Wendat Nation.

It therefore be resolved

- (1) Staff be directed to prepare a report to the October 25, 2011 Committee of the Whole meeting with respect to possible options on how the City of Vaughan may participate in the creation of a Huron-Wendat Nation Cultural Heritage Centre; and that
- (2) Staff advise and prepare a report to the October 25, 2011 Committee of the Whole meeting with respect to a "Sister City Relationship" between the Huron-Wendat Nation in Wendake, Quebec and the City of Vaughan as it relates to the present City policy on this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

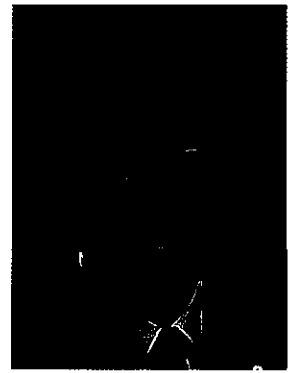
Michael Di Biase
Regional Councillor

Attachments

1. Letter from Regional Councillor Di Biase, dated July 29, 2011.
2. Letter from David R. Donnelly, dated July 21, 2011.
3. Letter from Brian Denney, dated August 15, 2011.



Attachment # 1



Michael Di Biase, B.A., B.Ed.
Regional Councillor

July 29, 2011

Mr. David R. Donnelly
Donnelly Law, Barrister and Solicitor
276 Carlaw Avenue, Suite 203
Toronto, ON M4M 3L1

Dear David,

**Re: Huron-Wendat Nation and City of Vaughan Partnership
Vision for Huron-Wendat Nation Cultural Heritage Centre**

I acknowledge receipt and thank you for your letter dated July 21, 2011. I am writing to advise you that I will be bringing forward a resolution to the Committee of the Whole Council meeting on September 13, 2011 with respect to exploring our potential role in establishing a Huron-Wendat Nation Cultural Heritage Centre in the City of Vaughan, along with the opportunity to create a sister-city relationship between the Huron-Wendat Nation in Wendake, Quebec and the City of Vaughan. Please refer to the enclosed.

I look forward to working with you on this important cultural heritage initiative.

Sincerely,

Michael Di Biase
Regional Councillor

MD/acp

c.c. Mr. Luc Lainé, Representative, Huron-Wendat Nation
Mayor and Members of Council
B. Denney, Chief Administrator, TRCA
Clayton Harris, City Manager, City of Vaughan



BARRISTER & SOLICITOR
David R. Donnelly, MES LLB
david@donnellylaw.ca

July 21, 2011

Attachment # 2

Mayor and Members of Council
Vaughan City Hall
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Vaughan, ON L6A 1T1

Attention: Councillors Michael DiBiase and Deb Schulte

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

**Re: Huron-Wendat Nation and City of Vaughan Partnership
Vision for Huron-Wendat Nation Cultural Heritage Centre**

Further to our meeting on June 22, 2011 between the Huron-Wendat Nation ("HWN") representatives, HWN counsel and Councillors Michael DiBiase and Deb Schulte, I am writing to initiate a dialogue on a cultural heritage vision for the City of Vaughan.

A vision for creating a rich cultural heritage centre, trail, or national museum that would focus on the culture of the Huron-Wendat Nation in the Vaughan area was the focus of the discussion on June 22, 2011.

The possibility of creating a national museum at the Kortright Centre was explored, and the mutual interest in seeing the three main Huron-Wendat sites: Boyd Park, Seed Barker and Skandatut, all interconnected and able to be experienced by the public.

Mr. Luc Laine, a representative of the HWN, contributed the idea of having an internationally known research and conference centre established in Vaughan regarding First Nations of southern Ontario.

Mr. Brian Denney, the Chief Administrator for the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority ("TRCA") was also very enthusiastic about working with the City of Vaughan and the HWN to create such a centre on TRCA lands.

The vision expressed in this meeting is a very positive one, and the HWN are excited to showcase their rich cultural heritage in southern Ontario. However, the ideas are large ones and will take time to bring to completion. In order to begin building the kind of relationship required between the HWN, the City of Vaughan and TRCA for making the vision a reality, several ideas on how to build that relationship were put forward at the meeting.

The following are some of the ideas put forward at the meeting to start building a working relationship between the HWN, the TRCA and the City of Vaughan:

- 1) The City of Vaughan already has sister-city relationships with the city of Ramla in Israel, and Lazio in Italy. The HWN believe it would be an important and significant step to create a sister-city relationship between the HWN in Wendake, Quebec and the City of Vaughan. This relationship will signify not only a partnership between the Nation and the City, but a reflection and recognition of their shared past in the Vaughan area.
- 2) The HWN Council has already passed a resolution re-naming several HWN village sites. One of the name changes that has been made recently is the re-naming of the Kleinburg Ossuary site. This site is now named the Paul-Henri Sioui site in honour of a HWN member who was a veteran of the Canadian army. The HWN believe it would be an important gesture to begin putting up signs around the City of Vaughan indicating the traditional names of village sites, rivers etc.
- 3) The HWN believe that it is time for a meeting between the HWN Council and the City of Vaughan Council. Therefore, the HWN want to extend an invitation to the City of Vaughan Council to come to Wendake, Quebec to discuss the ideas outlined in this letter, and to stay at the Hotel Musee Premiers Nations [<http://www.maisondespremieresnations.com/>], the beautiful hotel on the reserve.
- 4) A committee should be formed with representatives from the TRCA, the City of Vaughan and a representative from the HWN that could start implementing the ideas put forward here.

The Huron-Wendat Nation are very excited to start working with the TRCA and the City of Vaughan on building a partnership together and establishing a strong centre of HWN cultural heritage in the City of Vaughan. This kind of project can become one of national and possibly international significance, and will bring a much needed boost of culture to the City of Vaughan landscape.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions regarding the above at david@donnellylaw.ca and 416-722-0220.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Donnelly", with a horizontal line underneath and a flourish extending to the right.

David R. Donnelly

Cc: Grand Chief K. Sioui
Chief G. Sioui
B. Denney
L. Laine
H. Bastien
B. Hanna
S. Moate
R. Khetarpal
B. Rohaly

August 15, 2011

Mr. David R. Donnelly
Barrister and Solicitor
276 Carlaw Avenue
Suite 203
Toronto, ON M4M 3L1

Dear Mr. Donnelly:

Re: Huron-Wendat Nation and City of Vaughan Partnership
Vision for Huron-Wendat Nation Cultural Heritage Centre

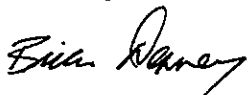
Thank you for sending me a copy of the letter dated July 21, 2011 that summarizes the discussion we had on June 22, 2011 regarding the creation of a Huron-Wendat Cultural Centre in the City of Vaughan.

Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA) staff see a lot of merit in such a centre to help protect, promote and celebrate the rich First Nations heritage of the area. A Huron-Wendat Nation Cultural Heritage Centre near the Humber River in the City of Vaughan is particularly appropriate. It would further complement the national designation of the Humber as a Canadian Heritage River. This heritage river designation was granted in 1999 due in large part to the settlement, transportation and commerce of First Nations over the millennia in the Woodbridge to Kleinburg area.

We look forward to hearing about the outcome of further discussions following Vaughan Council's visit to Huron-Wendat in Wendake, Quebec and the establishment of a committee to further explore this venture.

In the meantime, should you wish to talk to me further about the concept, please don't hesitate to call me.

Yours truly,



Brian Denney, P. Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer

GW:L

cc: Councillor Michael Di Biase, City of Vaughan
Councillor Deb Schulte, City of Vaughan