

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – APRIL 24, 2012

PROCLAMATION AND FLAG RAISING REQUEST ITALIAN HERITAGE MONTH

Recommendation

The City Clerk recommends:

- 1) That June 2012 be proclaimed as "Italian Heritage Month" in the City of Vaughan;
- 2) That the Italian flag be raised at Vaughan City Hall on June 2, 2012 for a period no longer than one week in accordance with the Flag Raising/Half Masting Policy; and
- 3) 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 Director of the National Congress of Italian-Canadians–Toronto District (NCIC-TD) and Chair of Italian Heritage Month ("IHM") Vaughan events.

Background - Analysis and Options

The correspondence received in the City Clerk's Office on April 16, 2012 from the Chair of the Italian Heritage Month, Vaughan Events on behalf of herself and the President of the National Congress of Italian Canadians-Toronto District is attached (Attachment 1). The request was received too late to be placed on the main Committee of the Whole Agenda. Due to time sensitivity the request is being brought forward as an addendum item.

The flag raising request meets the City's Flag Raising/Half Masting Policy (Policy No.: 03.25) as follows:

"In recognition of the ethnic diversity of the residents of a municipality the City of Vaughan will fly at the Vaughan City Hall the flag of any nation, country or ethnic group on the national day or on the anniversary of a special occasion, upon written request to the City Clerk submitted one month in advance by that nation, or ethnic group or its representatives".

The Province of Ontario passed Bill 103 on October 25th, 2010 declaring June as Italian Heritage Month. In recognition of the passage of this Bill, the National Congress of Italian-Canadians-Toronto District are seeking Council's support to proclaim Italian Heritage Month, and hold a flag raising ceremony on June 2, 2012 at Vaughan City Hall.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan

This report supports the strategic priorities established by Vaughan Vision 2020, in particular "Preserve Our Heritage & Support Diversity, Arts & Culture".

Regional Implications

N/C

Conclusion

Staff is recommending that June 2012 be proclaimed as "Italian Heritage Month" in the City of Vaughan, that the Italian flag be raised at Vaughan City Hall on June 2, 2012 for a period no longer than one week in accordance with the Flag Raising/Half Masting Policy; and that the proclamation be posted on the City's website and published on the City Page Online.

Attachments

Attachment 1 Correspondence from the Chair of Italian Heritage Month, Vaughan Events.

Report prepared by

Connie Bonsignore, Administrative Assistant to the City Clerk

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey A. Abrams
City Clerk

TORONTO DISTRICT

Attachment 1

SENT VIA EMAIL

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Sybil.fernandes@vaughan.ca

Angela.palermo@vaughan.ca

Friday April 13, 2012

City of Vaughan
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Vaughan, Ontario L6A 1T1

Attention: Jeffrey Abrams, City Clerk – City of Vaughan

Re: Italian Heritage Month (“IHM”) Event Planning in partnership with the City of Vaughan (June, 2012)

Further to our preliminary meeting with Angela Palermo, Cultural Services and our recent conversation with Sybil Fernandes from your office, please accept this letter on behalf of Michael Tibollo, President of the National Congress of Italian Canadians-Toronto District [NCIC-TD] and myself as a Director of the NCIC-TD and Chair of Italian Heritage Month [“IHM”] Vaughan events, as our formal request to add, for consideration and approval, 2 proposals to the agenda of the upcoming Committee of the Whole scheduled for April 24th, 2012.

In recognition of the passage of Bill 103 by the Legislature of the Province of Ontario on October 25th, 2010 declaring the month of June as Italian Heritage Month, we seek the opportunity to review the following items with the Committee:

1. an official flag raising ceremony on June 2nd, 2012 and
2. proposed exhibits June 1st- June 30th inclusive. [outlines provided as attachments]

Subsequent to Committee approval, both resources and support needs from the City of Vaughan for each event will be discussed in detail.

All activities are to be presented as a partnership with the City of Vaughan and we are most confident that a significant percentage of our community will participate.

Should you require further information and/or clarification please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned directly by telephone at 647-400-0851 or via email at melina.zeppleri@gmail.com or you may contact Michael Tibollo by telephone at 905 850-4500 or via email at michael@tibollo.net.

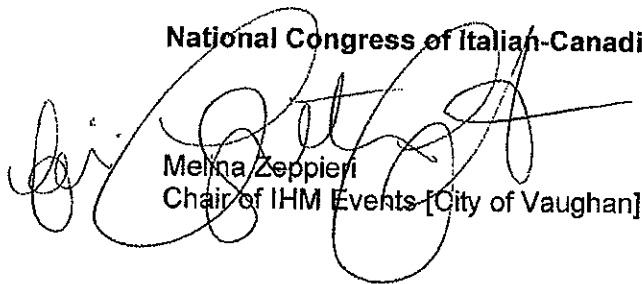
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Trusting in a favourable response, we thank you in advance for your continued cooperation.

Respectfully,

National Congress of Italian-Canadians-Toronto District

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melina Zeppieri', is written over the typed name and title.

Melina Zeppieri
Chair of IHM Events [City of Vaughan]