

PROCLAMATION REQUEST
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WEEK MAY 2 TO 8, 2004

Recommendation

The Fire Chief recommends:

- 1) That May 2 to 8, 2004 be proclaimed as "Emergency Preparedness Week," and
- 2) That the proclamation be posted on the City's website, published on the City Page, space permitting, and that staff issue a news release.

Purpose

To raise awareness of the importance of Emergency Management in Ontario and the need for citizens to prepare for the possibility of an emergency.

Background – Analysis and Options

Canada's emergency management system defines the roles and responsibilities in relation to emergency preparedness for individuals, families, municipalities, provincial and territorial governments, Government of Canada departments and agencies as well as private and volunteer organizations.

Although it would be preferable to reduce the frequency and severity of emergencies and disasters through preventative measures, emergency situations still happen. Helping Canadians better prepare is one way that we help reduce the effects of emergencies.

The Office of Critical Infrastructure Protection and Emergency Preparedness in Ottawa administers a number of financial assistance programs that help enhance the response and recovery capacity of Canadian communities thereby reducing the potential impact of emergencies.

Public awareness campaigns provide individuals with the information they need to become better prepared for almost any emergency situation.

Emergency Preparedness Week is an annual, national event that takes place during the first full week of May. The main objective is to increase awareness about individual preparedness. All the Emergency Preparedness Week activities reinforce the idea that we can reduce the risks and lessen the consequences of a disaster by being better prepared.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

This report is consistent with the priorities set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

Conclusion

Staff is recommending the week of May 2 to 8, 2004 be proclaimed as "Emergency Preparedness Week" and that the proclamation be posted on the City's website and published in City Page, space permitting and a news release be issued.

Attachments

Proclamation

Report prepared by:

Jacqueline Cosgrove, Communications Specialist

Respectfully Submitted,

John Sutton, Fire Chief

PROCLAMATION

Emergency Preparedness Week

WHEREAS: Vaughan does recognize the importance of Emergency Management in Ontario; and

WHEREAS: The goal of Emergency Preparedness Week is to raise community awareness and the need to prepare for the possibility of an emergency; and

WHEREAS: The safety of our community is the responsibility of each and every one of us we must prepare now and learn how to secure a strong and healthy tomorrow.

THEREFORE: I, Mayor Michael Di Biase, do hereby proclaim the week of May 2 to 8, 2004, to be EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WEEK in Vaughan, and encourage all citizens to participate in educational activities on emergency preparedness.