

February 5, 2013

Proclamation:

Declare the month of April: Keep Markham Beautiful month

Dear Mayor and Council,

Since 2005, Waste & Environmental Management and Operations Dept have initiated several annual spring cleanup programs, such as 20 Minute Makeover, Adopt-a- Park and Pitch-in Canada.

The 20 Minute Makeover began as an invitation from the Mayor of Toronto to all GTA municipalities to participate in a scheduled cleanup on a designated day at a specific time. This event also had sponsors who contributed supplies as well as distribution locations. Residents were asked to register their cleanup with the city via the Contact Centre and pickup their supplies prior to the cleanup day. Although very successful, this program limited residents, schools and community groups to the scheduled time and in some cases discouraged participation.

Also participating in community spring cleanup events, the Operations Dept organizes Adopt-a- Park programs involving many community groups. These events take place throughout the warmer weather months across the city.

Waste & Environmental Management and Parks Dept propose that April 2013, be proclaimed as "Keep Markham Beautiful" month. Working together, the City departments . will organize procurement, distribution of supplies and the collection of waste and recycling. In this way, allowing residents, schools, community groups to participate in beautifying Markham at a time convenient for the individual group.

Sincerely,

Claudia Marsales,
Senior Manager, Waste & Environmental Management

Cc Bob Nicholson,
Manger, Business & Technical Services
Nory Takata,
Parks Planner

NEWS RELEASE

1179A King Street West, Ste. 004
Toronto, ON M6K 3C5
416-246-9592

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ontario Marks World Autism

Awareness Day by Raising the Flag in 444 Communities Across the Province

February 15, 2013 (Toronto, ON) - April 2nd, 2013 will mark an historical day in Canada for the Autism community. For the first time, Canadians will recognize World Autism Awareness Day.

All Ontario municipalities are being asked to Raise the Flag in honour of this historic day. Autism Ontario will send all 444 municipalities the World Autism Awareness Day flag thanks to the generous support of BMO. Communities are being asked to raise the flags at noon on April 2nd, 2013 at all City and Town Halls across the province to raise awareness of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and encourage support and inclusiveness for individuals with ASD.

"This is a monumental day for the Autism community," said Margaret Spoelstra, Executive Director of Autism Ontario. "Autism Spectrum Disorder is something for which many Ontarians require support. Together, with BMO and the Province of Ontario, we look forward to all communities in Ontario showing their support for individuals with ASD."

ASD, which affects an estimated 100,000 Ontarians, is a complex developmental disability that typically appears during the first three years of life and is the result of a neurological disorder that affects the functioning of the brain. ASD impacts the typical development of the brain in the areas of social interaction and communication skills. Children and adults with ASD typically have difficulties in verbal and non-verbal communication, social interactions, and leisure or play activities.

"BMO's commitment to improving the communities in which we live and work includes fostering an inclusive, supportive and accessible workplace that focuses on promoting diversity and accommodating people with disabilities," said James Kelsey, Senior Vice President, BMO Financial Group. "As someone with a family member affected by Autism, I know first hand the challenges it brings. For that reason, I am delighted BMO is part of this historic occasion to raise awareness of Autism and support Autism Ontario in its Raise the Flag campaign."

Event Details:

When: April 2nd, 2013 @ Noon ET

Where: City or Town Hall in your municipality

Why: To raise awareness of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

About Autism Ontario

Autism Ontario is the leading source of information and referral on Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and one of the largest collective voices representing the Autism community. Members are connected through a volunteer network of chapters across the Province of Ontario. The mission of

PROCLAMATION

I, Mayor Scarpitti of the City of Markham do hereby proclaim

April 2 as World Autism Awareness Day

WHERE AS:	World Autism Awareness Day will be recognized for the first time on April 2 nd , 2013, in Canada thanks to Liberal Senator Jim Munson's Bill S-206, <i>An Act Respecting World Autism Awareness Day</i> ; and
WHERE AS:	Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) affects more than 100,000 Ontarians. Autism Spectrum Disorder is now recognized as the most common neurological disorder affecting 1 in every 94 children, as well as their friends, family and community; and
WHERE AS:	ASD is a spectrum disorder, which means it not only manifests itself differently in every individual in whom it appears, but its characteristics will change over the life of each individual as well. A child with ASD will become an adult with ASD; and
WHERE AS:	Autism Ontario (formerly Autism Society Ontario) is the leading source of information and referral on autism and one of the largest collective voices representing the autism community. Since 1973, Autism Ontario has been providing support, information and opportunities for thousands of families across the province; and
WHERE AS:	Autism Ontario is dedicated to increasing public awareness about autism and the day-to-day issues faced by individuals with autism, their families, and the professionals with whom they interact. The association and its chapters share common goals of providing information and education, supporting research, and advocating for programs and services for the autism community; and
THEREFORE:	I Mayor Scarpitti, do hereby declare April 2 nd as World Autism Awareness Day.

Dated at Newmarket, Ontario this 2nd day of April, 2013

Ontario Mayors: "RAISE THE FLAG" IN YOUR MUNICIPALITY APRIL 2

I need your help, your participation and your leadership to make a very worthwhile event a success:

The raising of the Autism Ontario Flag in every municipality in Ontario on April 2, 2013;

World Autism Awareness Day.

Here is how we need your help, participation and leadership:

1. **Mayors, please reserve your flagpole for the raising of the Autism Ontario flag on Tuesday, April 2.** The plan is to have every municipality in ON raise the flag at noon that day. Your municipality may require an application...given that there are 444 municipalities in ON please be good enough to look after this on behalf of Autism Ontario.
2. **Mayors will be contacted in mid February directly by a representative from Autism Ontario.** There are 22 Coordinators in ON who will be contacting municipalities. Please work with these people and Autism Ontario volunteers in order to make the event a big success in your community... (there is no need to respond to this email at this time).
3. **Your leadership, as elected representatives will make a difference.** 20% of all students in ON have a learning disability. Many of them have Autism, ADHD, FASD, etc. Ultimately you want them to develop into TAXPAYERS, not dependants on society. How they and their families are supported in the community makes a world of difference. You will make a difference.

We have met at FCM and AMO conferences over the past 16 years, first through my role as Director Business Development with the FCM and for the past 10 years through my involvement with Municipal World. During this time I have engaged many of you in discussions about Autism.

Among you there are parents, grandparents, etc. with individuals in your families who have Autism. For those of you who have this connection, you know that the support of the community is so very important. "It takes a village to raise a child." My son, who has Asperger's Syndrome, is in his third year of university. My brother had Autism and lived nearly all his life institutionalized at great expense to government.

At the **AMO Annual Conference** in August, the Autism Ontario flag raising effort was brought forward at the time **Kathleen Wynne**, as Minister of Municipalities, addressed all of you. I have worked with people like Kathleen and John Tory for years to help increase awareness and services for people with ASD. John is Hon. Chair for Unity for Autism.

The flags have been generously paid for by the Bank of Montreal. My friend Jim Kelsey is a senior executive with the Bank and he is on the Board of the Geneva Centre for Autism, an Ontario Government funded support agency. Jim has an adult son and grandson with Asperger's. BMO's involvement in the "**Raise the Flag**" initiative is a

continuation of their years of generosity and support to make life better for ASD individuals and their families in Ontario.

WAAD is now recognized by the Government of Canada through the efforts of **Mike Lake MP (Edmonton)** whose teenage son has Autism. All elected officials will want to see the following video...an MP making a real difference.

<http://www.cbc.ca/player/News/TV+Shows/The+National/ID/2285658037/?page=2> (Mike and his son in NYC - International news story.)

Thank you for your support in this effort and I look forward to seeing you at the AMO conference in August.

For information about Autism Ontario please visit: <http://www.autismontario.com/>

PLEASE RESERVE YOUR TOWN HALL FLAGPOLE FOR "RAISE THE FLAG" ON APRIL 2, 2013. THANK YOU!! Autism Ontario will contact everyone in mid February will full details for this event.

(there is no need to follow up with me or to respond to this email at this time).

Cheers

Kevin Conway

KJ Conway Communications Inc.

This message, including any attachments, is privileged and intended only for the addressee(s) named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you must not read, use or disseminate the information contained in this email/fax. If you have received this email/fax transmission in error, please notify the sender immediately by telephone, fax or email and permanently delete this email from your computer/shred this fax, including any attachments, without making a copy. Access to this email/fax by anyone else is unauthorized. Thank you.

Stephen M.A. Huycke
Acting Deputy Clerk
Tel: 905-477-7000, ext. 4290 | Email: shuycke@markham.ca

From: Shaw, Gillian
Sent: Tuesday, March 05, 2013 12:22 PM
To: Huycke, Stephen
Cc: Moretti, Carolina
Subject: National Caregiver Day Proclamation

Good Afternoon Stephen,

On behalf of Councillor Moretti, I am writing you today to request that the City of Markham proclaim April 5th, 2013 as National Caregiver Day.

In Canada, April 5th marks a day of celebration and acknowledgement for caregivers and their important roles in providing ongoing care and assistance for family and friends who are in need of support as a result of cognitive, physical or mental health conditions. These care giving roles are provided without pay, and are often taken on by spouses, partners or children. National Caregiver Day was inceptioned in order to acknowledge such caregivers throughout Canada and raise greater awareness, support and resources for this growing group of informal care providers.

Up until 2011, it appears that National Caregiver Day, formerly Family Caregiver Day, has largely been an informal celebration among caregivers, support groups and several palliative care organizations. As a result of national awareness campaigns by caregiver associations and support groups, the first National Caregiver Day was celebrated in 2012 throughout Canada. For this year's National Caregiver Day, associations such as the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association and the Canada Cares Resource Network, have chosen to focus on and acknowledge the challenges faced by caregivers in caring for people with dementia. On April 5th, various online tools, forums and events will take place geared towards care giving and dementia, as well as celebrate numerous caregivers across Canada for all that they do.

In order to recognize the numerous families throughout Markham impacted by the work of informal caregivers, we are requesting that April 5th, 2013 be proclaimed National Caregiver Day. We hope that by the City of Markham's endorsement of this national campaign, caregivers throughout the City will gain the recognition they deserve, as feel support from the community in which they live.

Resources:

<http://www.canadacares.org/>

<http://www.chpca.net/news-and-events/national-caregiver-day.aspx>

<http://www.healthcharities.ca/news-and-events/april-5-is-family-caregiver-day.aspx>

<http://www.communitycontent.ca/en/2012-04-03/line-how-videos-help-family-caregivers>

Stephen, moving forward, how long will it take for this item to be tabled and to come to Council? I'm just inquiring as Councillor Moretti would like to ensure she is in attendance when this comes forward and that it wouldn't be discussed at tomorrow's Council Meeting.

Thanks,

Jill

Jill Shaw

March 8/13



www.uccchorus.com

March 5, 2013

Mayor Frank Scarpitti,
101 Town Centre Boulevard,
Markham, ON, L7B 1A1

Dear Mayor Scarpitti,

The Upper Canada Chordsmen Chorus has been a proud member of York Region since 1993. During this time we have entertained the people of York Region and our charity work has benefited people across Canada. Our dedication to bringing the joy of music to everyone is strong. We look forward to continuing to sustain and preserve the barbershop 4-part harmony style of singing in our community.

We support Harmonize4Speech with our charity work. The monies raised go to support programs that assist children with speech problems. For more information on this charity go to: www.harmonize4speech.org.

We have members who live throughout the Region. We meet on a weekly basis to rehearse and enjoy the type of camaraderie that only music can bring together. We love sharing our music with others and have done so over the past 20 years.

2013 marks the 75th Anniversary of the Barbershop Harmony Society and on behalf of our Chorus and fans throughout the Region, I would like to request your support through an official proclamation recognizing the week of April 7-13, 2013 as Barbershop Harmony Week. I have enclosed the 2013 template proclamation recognizing Barbershop Harmony Week for your review.

Please contact me if you have questions at president@uccchorus.com or 289-648-6300. You can also visit our web site at www.uccchorus.com

Sincerely,

Al Verwey,
President

Upper Canada Chordsmen Chorus

Experience the Joy!

Proclamation

- Whereas* The Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America, Inc. (SPEBSQSA)—known now as The Barbershop Harmony Society—was officially organized April 11, 1938 in Tulsa, Oklahoma; and
- Whereas* What began as a small group has steadily blossomed into the world's largest all-male singing organization, an international organization of men from all stations of life; and
- Whereas* The Barbershop Harmony Society is dedicated to the spread of harmony for the enjoyment of all people of the world through organizing and encouraging close-harmony singing groups; and
- Whereas* The Barbershop Harmony Society encourages harmony amongst all people of the world through the universal language of music; and
- Whereas* The Barbershop Harmony Society has actively preserved and presented a distinct style of vocal music that originated in North America; and
- Whereas* The Barbershop Harmony Society is dedicated to sustaining and preserving an American tradition, the barbershop quartet; and
- Whereas* The Barbershop Harmony Society promotes musical education through music scholarships and other means, and supports charitable foundations; and
- Whereas* Barbershoppers are engaged in laudable civic service and enrichment of our cultural life through the fostering of traditional values in entertainment and community endeavors;
- Now, therefore,* I, Frank Scarpitti, Mayor of the City of Markham, Ontario do hereby proclaim the week of April 7 – 13, 2013 as

Barbershop Harmony Week

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City to be affixed.

Done this _____ *day of* _____.



Briefing Note

Community & Fire Services Commission

Subject Title:

City of Markham Proclaiming National Youth Week, May 1 – 7th, 2013

Issue/Background

- Mayor's Youth Task Force brought a recommendation forth to proclaim May 1 – 7th, 2013 as National Youth Week in the City of Markham
- National Youth Week is May 1 – 7 every year, that is dedicated to the celebration of youth and their active participation in their community. Whether it is recreation, drama, sport, dance, civic engagement, art, volunteerism or leadership, every day young people are involved in meaningful activities during their discretionary time. National Youth Week is a time to honour their involvement!
- City of Markham Youth Councils, and Youth Committees will be hosting special events for youth in all areas of Markham May 1 – 7th, 2013. (Activities will be confirmed by March 30, 2013)
- Youth are an important asset to Canadian communities. One way in which young people learn to successfully bridge the developmental gap between childhood and adulthood is through the activities in which they participate in their out of school or work time.
- National Youth Week is an opportunity for the City of Markham to celebrate youth.

Next Steps

- Proclaiming May 1 – 7, 2013 as National Youth Week in the City Markham will ensure that our community values youth in all aspects of recreation. The proclamation will identify the City of Markham as supporting youth and its initiatives.

National Youth Week is driven by leading Communities across Canada

Questions & Answers

If required –provide commonly asked/expected questions with answers that are clear and concise for all readers

Circulation:

For Further Information:

Prepared By: Marsha Mariani, Program and Outreach Coordinator

Date Prepared: February 20, 2013

REQUEST FOR PROCLAMATION OF PERSIAN NEW YEAR

WHEREAS Nowruz is a significant celebration which symbolizes the changing of the seasons by marking the first day of spring, the renewal of life, and the beginning of the New Year in the Iranian calendar.

WHEREAS Nowruz originated in Iran 3000 years ago, and is observed by Iranians as well as people from Iraq, Azerbaijan, Kurdistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan and parts of northwest India and China.

While its roots are in the Zoroastrian religion, Nowruz is celebrated by people of many different faiths. Each culture and community has its own traditions, and all gather with family and friends for celebrations, which include an elaborate traditional table setting of seven specific items beginning with the letter 'S', known as Haft Sin, that signify life, health, wealth, abundance, love, patience and purity. Gathered around the Haft Sin table, families count down to the New Year, offer prayers for health, happiness and prosperity and serve the delicacies prepared for the occasion; and,

WHEREAS on April 10, 2008, MPP Reza Moridi introduced a motion in the Legislature at Queen's Park proclaiming the first day of spring as Nowruz Day in Ontario which was passed unanimously by the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, recognizing the first day of Spring as Nowruz.

WHEREAS In 2009, the Canadian parliament by unanimous consent passed a bill to add Nowruz to the national calendar of Canada. The *Inter-governmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Heritage of the United Nations*, officially registered Nowruz on the *UNESCO List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity*. This was followed by the UN's General Assembly in 2010 recognizing the *International Day of Nowruz*; and,

WHEREAS the Persian community continues to contribute significantly to Markham's social, economic, political and cultural life; and,

WHEREAS Markham is Canada's most culturally diverse city taking immense pride in engaging its vibrant communities and promoting intercultural understanding, mutual respect, and universal acceptance; and,

WE HEREBY PROCLAIM the first day of spring as Persian New Year in the City of Markham and extend warm greetings to all those of Persian origin in our City on this important occasion.