



# REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: **Mayor and Councillors**

Subject: Proclamations Policy CO-73

File #: 3900.00

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From: Kelly Kenney  
Corporate Officer

Date: September 29, 2020

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## RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council Policy CO-73 – Proclamations be approved.

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## PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to bring forward for Council's consideration of approval Council Policy CO-73 – Proclamations.

## POLICY:

Excerpt from *Community Charter*:

### **“Municipal days of recognition**

157 A council may declare, or the mayor may proclaim, a day of recognition that is to be observed in the municipality.”

Excerpt from Council Orientation Manual:

“The City does not make any proclamations. Any request for a proclamation is included under the “correspondence” section of the agenda for information.”

**COMMENTS/ANALYSIS:**

Although local governments have the authority to issue proclamations under the *Community Charter*, many local governments have chosen not to issue proclamations given legal challenges that have arisen on the basis of discrimination from municipalities' decision not to issue a proclamation.

Further, the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms* limits a local government's ability to refuse requests and because of this, some local governments have found themselves in a position where they are unable to refuse to issue a proclamation for an initiative that is seen as discriminatory or controversial.

It has long been the practice of the City not to issue proclamations; rather, requests for proclamations are included for information in the Correspondence section of Regular Council agendas and at the Regular Council meeting the Mayor notes that the proclamation request is included in the agenda package.

This Policy seeks to formalize the City's practice with respect to proclamations.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:**

N/A

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. To consider issuing proclamations.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Kelly Kenney  
Corporate Officer

Attachment:

1. Council Policy CO-73 - Proclamations

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S COMMENTS:**

I support the recommendation.



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Francis Cheung, P. Eng.  
Chief Administrative Officer