



Staff Report for Committee of the Whole Meeting

Date of Meeting: April 23, 2018

Report Number: SRCS.18.07

Department: Community Services

Division: Recreation and Culture Services

Subject: Youth Week Activities

Purpose:

To have Council proclaim May 1 to May 7, 2018 as Youth Week in Richmond Hill and to provide Council information on all the Youth Week activities organized for teens in the community.

Recommendation(s):

That Council proclaim May 1 to May 7, 2018 as Youth Week in Richmond Hill.

Contact Person:

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Darlene Joslin, Director of Recreation and Culture, extension 2423

Report Approval:

Submitted by: Shane Baker, Commissioner of Community Services

Approved by: Neil Garbe, Chief Administrative Officer

All reports are electronically reviewed and/or approved by the Division Director, Treasurer (as required), Town Solicitor (as required), Commissioner, and Chief Administrative Officer. Details of the reports approval are attached.

Background:

What Is National Youth Week?

National Youth Week is May 1 – 7 every year, and is a week 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!

Through activities, such as recreation and art, youth learn five basic life skills, which include social, moral, ethical, physical and cognition competence. Additionally, through their involvement, young people are meeting the seven developmental needs which they need in order to feel fully engaged in the world around them. These needs are: self-definition, physical activity, meaningful participation, mastery and achievement, positive interaction with adults and peers, structure and clear limits, and creative expression. Programs and services that are designed to meet the needs of youth and help them develop their basic skills are called Intentional Youth Development programs.

In making a stand to reinforce the importance of play in the lives of Canada's next generation, a resolution was created by a network of Intentional Youth Development Workers from across the country. The resolution resolved that May 1 – 7 be designated as National Youth Week. The resolution was presented to the membership of the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association at its Annual General Meeting in 2006 and passed unanimously.

What Can National Youth Week Mean to the Town Of Richmond Hill?

National Youth Week is an opportunity for Richmond Hill to celebrate youth. It's a chance for the Town to host events and support the principles of intentional youth development that National Youth Week stands for. It is a chance to do something in our community specifically for our youth, knowing that hundreds of other communities across the country are dedicating their efforts to celebrate youth at the same time!

What the Community Services Department has Planned to Celebrate National Youth Week 2018

In partnership with the Town's Youth Action Committee, a number of fun and engaging activities have been planned from May 1st to May 7th to meet the varied interests of youth. Activities include a DJ workshop, baking activities, badminton and hoops, park clean up at the Eyer Wideman house, a computer workshop, and the annual Race Around the Hill event. A pamphlet containing details of all of the planned activities will be circulated to Council.

Financial/Staffing/Other Implications:

All activities planned for youth week are approved as part of the 2018 youth operating budget in account series 865-10 and 865-70.

Relationship to the Strategic Plan:

Celebrating National Youth Week in Richmond Hill aligns with Goal One of the Strategic Plan, “Stronger Connections in Richmond Hill” and with Goal Two, “Better Choice in Richmond Hill”, specifically by exploring strategies to increase the number of children and youth that are active, involved and connected; and by developing and promoting a range of organized and informal sports, recreation and cultural programs with an emphasis on alternatives that people will use throughout their lives.

Conclusion:

The Youth Action Committee is comprised of 45 individuals representing 12 schools within Richmond Hill. The activities planned for the 2018 Youth Week are a result of their efforts and supported by staff within the general program section of the Recreation & Culture Division.

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	2018 Youth Week .docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Apr 6, 2018

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Darlene Joslin - Apr 5, 2018 - 11:39 AM

Shane Baker - Apr 6, 2018 - 2:15 PM

Neil Garbe - Apr 6, 2018 - 3:23 PM