
DATE: March 21, 2011

REPORT TITLE: **PROCLAMATION OF EVENT WEEKS**

FROM: Norma Trim, Chief Financial Officer and Commissioner of Corporate Services

RECOMMENDATION

That May 1 to 7, 2011 be proclaimed "Emergency Preparedness Week" in the Regional Municipality of Peel;

And further, that May 1 to 7, 2011 be proclaimed "Privacy Awareness Week" in the Regional Municipality of Peel;

And further, that May 29 to June 4, 2011 be proclaimed "National Access Awareness Week" in the Regional Municipality of Peel;

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- Participation in event weeks provides an opportunity to educate staff and the public in order to raise awareness of the programs and services provided to the residents and employees of the Region of Peel.
- During event weeks various learning opportunities are offered to residents and employees through informational displays, learning events, distribution of promotional material and posting information on the Region of Peel's external and internal web sites.

DISCUSSION

1. Background

The month of May will see three event weeks taking place in the Emergency Management, Freedom of Information and Accessibility Planning programs. Event weeks provide an opportunity for the Region of Peel to raise awareness of the programs and services provided to our residents and employees.

A variety of educational and awareness campaigns will be conducted during each event week. The Region of Peel takes a lead role in celebrating and proclaiming these event weeks because it provides an excellent opportunity to educate residents and employees on important matters in our community.

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2. Event Weeks

During event week's informational displays, learning events, distribution of promotional material and the posting information on the Region of Peel's external and internal web sites are some of the methods staff will use to promote the week.

Emergency Preparedness Week: May 1 to 7, 2011, was introduced in 1995 by Public Safety Canada to build public awareness of emergency preparedness principles and systems. This objective is achieved through the common and collaborative efforts of all levels of government and other organizations in the broader emergency management community.

Since 1995 Emergency Preparedness Week has garnered widespread support as the premier event related to individual, community, provincial, and national preparedness for emergencies and disasters. The Region has participated in Emergency Preparedness Week displays and activities for several years along with Emergency Management Ontario, area municipalities, first responders and community stakeholders. The Region's Emergency Preparedness Week activities further promote the Region as a Disaster Resilient Municipality.

Privacy Awareness Week: May 1 to 7, 2011, is an annual promotion by the Asia Pacific Privacy Authorities (APPA) forum that commenced in 2007. The week is an opportunity for organizations and agencies covered by privacy legislation to promote privacy awareness to their staff, customers, and to the wider community.

The Freedom of Information program will use this event week to educate staff about the importance of protecting the personal information of our clients as well as making public information easily accessible to our residents.

National Access Awareness Week (NAAW): May 29 to June 4, 2011, NAAW celebrates achievements made by and for people with disabilities. It promotes access for people with any disability who encounter barriers that prevent full participation in daily activities.

The week will be commemorated by the Region of Peel Accessibility Advisory Committee and the Accessibility Planning Program to raise staff's awareness of legal duties and responsibilities under international law (the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities), and national and provincial accessibility legislation (*Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Canadian Human Rights Act; Ontarians with Disabilities Act and Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act*).

CONCLUSION

In support of these events, Regional Council is requested to proclaim the following events in the Region of Peel: Emergency Preparedness Week (May 1 to 7, 2011); Privacy Awareness Week (May 1 to 7, 2011) and National Access Awareness Week (May 29 to June 4, 2011). Please see proclamation details in Appendices I-III.

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Norma Trim
Chief Financial Officer
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Approved for Submission:



D. Szwarc, Chief Administrative Officer

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c. Legislative Services

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PROCLAMATION OF EVENT WEEKS

APPENDIX I

Proclamation

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WEEK

May 1 to May 7, 2011

WHEREAS, each year thousands of Canadians are affected by emergencies;

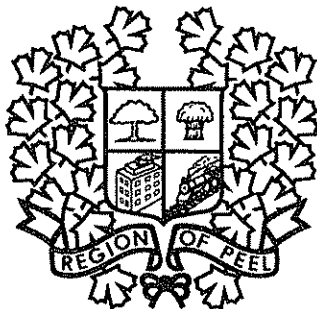
AND WHEREAS, these situations have abnormal impact on life, health and property;

AND WHEREAS, people are often not adequately prepared for such events;

AND WHEREAS, the Region of Peel and its area municipalities have established emergency management programs in accordance with the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* to plan for, mitigate, respond to and recover from emergencies or disasters that may affect the safety and well-being of the residents of the Region of Peel;

AND WHEREAS, a vital part of our emergency management program is to inform and educate the public about emergencies and how to prepare for them;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the week of May 1 to 7, 2011, be proclaimed "EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WEEK" in the Regional Municipality of Peel.



Emil Kolb
Regional Chair

March 21, 2011

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APPENDIX II

Proclamation

PRIVACY AWARENESS WEEK

May 1 to May 7, 2011

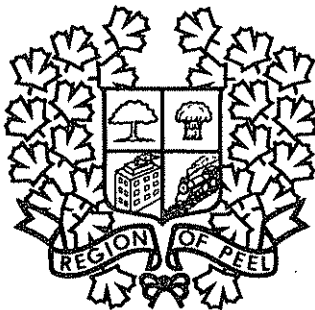
WHEREAS, the Region of Peel is dedicated to the principle of open and transparent government and is accountable to the citizens it serves;

AND WHEREAS, the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* grants citizens the right of access to information in the custody or control of the Region of Peel;

AND WHEREAS, information must not only be accessible to individuals but must also be broadly disseminated in easily usable formats to locations convenient for individual use;

AND WHEREAS, access to information promotes open and transparent government and ensures that citizens have an opportunity to participate in a meaningful way in the democratic process;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the week of May 1 to 7, 2011, be proclaimed "PRIVACY AWARENESS WEEK" in the Regional Municipality of Peel.



Emil Kolb
Regional Chair

March 21, 2011

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APPENDIX III

Proclamation

NATIONAL ACCESS AWARENESS WEEK

May 29 to June 4, 2011

WHEREAS, the Region of Peel and other organizations representing persons with disabilities and various levels of government recognize the week of May 29 to June 4, 2011 as National Access Awareness Week;

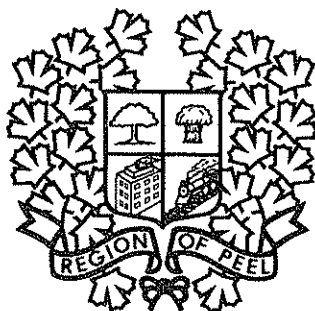
AND WHEREAS, the disabled community in Canada exceeds 14 per cent of the population;

AND WHEREAS, persons with disabilities contribute to our community, as entrepreneurs, decision-makers, employees, musicians, artists, volunteers, parents and grandparents;

AND WHEREAS, recognition of this week calls attention to the achievements made by and for people with disabilities, including the important work of the members of the Region of Peel Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC)

AND WHEREAS, for many among us, our future depends on the success of creating barrier free and inclusive communities through accessibility planning and raising awareness of best practices in the area of accessibility;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the week of May 29 to June 4, 2011, be proclaimed "NATIONAL ACCESS AWARENESS WEEK" in the Regional Municipality of Peel.



Emil Kolb
Regional Chair