

From: van Holst, Michael
Sent: Wednesday, January 08, 2020 9:50 AM
To: Westlake-Power, Barb <bwestlake@london.ca>
Subject: Proclamations Policy Amendment

Dear Colleagues,

In anticipation of the proclamations policy passing at Council, I would like to propose the following amendment:

That for the second half of 2020 and onward, staff prepare a quarterly or semi-annual calendar of proclamations that can be considered on mass for the sake of efficiency, with an appropriate deadline being provided to the community for application submission.

However, I will be voting against the main motion for the following six reasons:

1) It violates the 80:20 rule

The policy will require approximately \$50,000 worth of staff resources to implement, while alternatively, we could achieve the majority of the desired outcome at almost no cost by simply suspending the existing policy and making the presently requested proclamations.

2) It is nice-to-have but not a must-have or should-have.

This policy is a priority for some community groups and some councillors but I do not see it being so for the business of the corporation.

3) It may be a distraction at a time when we face multiple crises.

There are many urgent and important challenges on our plate that I would prefer to give attention to first.

4) It may not be an effective decision

The book, *Seven Habits of Highly Effective People* by Stephen Covey, describes a system of decision making used by Dwight D. Eisenhower that separates challenges into the following categories:

Urgent and Important - which require action

Non-urgent and Important - which require planning

Urgent and unimportant - which require delegation

Non-urgent and unimportant - which require elimination

5) It involves duplication of error in some cases:

I see no reason for multiple levels of government to be making the same proclamation.

6) I don't consider this popular initiative as constituting a plan strong enough to warrant a unanimous decision.

Sincerely,

Michael van Holst