



## **Councillor Chin Lee**

### **Scarborough Rouge River – Ward 41**



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#### **Request for further divisional participation in developing Canada Day festivities to become a more Scarborough-centric event.**

#### **Motion:**

Scarborough Community Council requests the Chair to report on the feasibility of coordinating and promoting the Canada Day festivities in Scarborough as a Scarborough-centric event involving the city departments of Economic Development and Culture, Parks Forestry & Recreation, Toronto Office of Partnerships, Transportation Services, Facilities Management, and Social Development, Finance & Administration as well as other divisions as needed.

#### **Background:**

The Scarborough Canada Day festivities have been an honoured tradition for many residents and visitors for almost 50 years. For some it is considered as a highlight of their summer vacation. Parks Forestry and Recreation have been very successful in providing a family-centered day including all-day park activities with a parade that is a crowning achievement. We appreciate the importance of this celebration and wish to grow on its theme to include an additional campus at Scarborough Civic Centre that will house the multicultural arm of the festivities. This location (Civic Centre, Albert Campbell Square and surrounding lands) will provide the perfect venues for an International Marketplace, Caravan of Pavilions, Multicultural Dance and Music showcase, Local artist gallery and an information fair of locally accessible agencies and community services.

Furthermore, this success can only be solidified with a collaborated approach in promoting, financing and operating such an initiative to encompass the following events:

1. Thompson Memorial Park events to include:
  - Pancake breakfast, live entertainment, food trucks petting zoo and child/family friendly activities.

2. Scarborough Civic Centre events to include:
  - International Marketplace, Caravan of cultural pavilions and entertainment, cultural food truck emporium, local artist gallery, display of local agencies and services booths providing information to the public and City staff promoting local attractions.
3. The Canada Day Parade from Thompson Park to Scarborough Civic Centre:
  - Showcasing the cultural diversity of Scarborough – Parade of Nations (to expand on this past year's successes).
4. Milliken Park Fireworks presented by Parks Department, and
  - Scarborough Rotary Rib Fest (proposal) to be held at Milliken Park.

We foresee the Parade route as being the conduit between the two sites (Thompson Park and SCC) and provide the necessary transition for those who wish to take in all the festivities beginning with Breakfast in Thompson Park, followed by a day of music, food and family fun; a parade flipping its route heading northward to the SCC campus where a culturally rich celebration awaits.

The beauty of this concept, which we wish to rebrand as "Canada Day Scarborough" is that one can take in the event of their choice or a combination thereof, capping off the celebrations with an invitation to partake in the Fireworks extravaganza at Milliken Park beginning at dusk.

By considering this model, we are promoting that there is much to do, experience and visit on Canada Day. More importantly we are duly showcasing the rich diversity that sets us apart, and how we, from unique backgrounds and immigrant stories, come together as one to celebrate Canada Day - be it a native or adoptive land, it is home.

We look forward to partnering with you in what we believe will be a turning point for our community, an awakening of pride in heritage, a realization of potential, and engagement in the future.



**Councillor Chin Lee**  
**Ward 41, Scarborough-Rouge River**

CC: Scarborough Council  
Economic Development and Culture Committee  
Parks Forestry & Recreation  
Toronto Office of Partnerships  
Transportation Services  
Facilities Management  
Social Development, Finance & Administration