

## memorandum

**DATE:** October 31, 2022

**TO:** Hon. Mayor and Members of Council  
cc. SLT-E

**FROM:** Raphael Costa, Director, Economic Development  
cc. Nick Spensieri, City Manager  
cc. Michael Genova, Chief, Communications and Economic Development  
cc. Julie Flesch, Senior Advisor, Strategic Economic Initiatives  
cc. Office of Communications and Economic Development

**RE: WebSummit – Day 1**

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The City of Vaughan through Economic Development is taking part in the 2022 WebSummit Conference to help advance an international economic development program for the 2022-2026 Term of Council and elevate the local innovation, health innovation, and creative industries clusters.

Staff are providing daily updates on activities.

**Key Messages**

- Staff from York Region Municipalities met to coordinate opportunities over the coming days, including highlighting Vaughan participation on the YorkLink platform
- Staff will participate in a Canadian Embassy networking event on November 1
- The plan for WebSummit participation was [approved by Council in September 2022](#)

***Staff arrived in Lisbon on October 31, 2022. To coordinate a regional approach, officials from the Cities of Vaughan and Markham, York Region, York University, and ventureLAB met.***

To advance both the health and creative industries, York University and ventureLAB will join Vaughan staff in relevant meetings. In addition, York Region will focus on messaging regional value propositions that support local priorities.

***Look ahead: WebSummit kicks off on November 1 and is followed by a Canadian Delegation networking event hosted by the Canadian Embassy in Lisbon.***

More than 240 Canadian representatives will attend WebSummit in 2022, including officials from the Cities of Toronto, Calgary, and Montreal. The event is meant to provide municipal officials with an opportunity to network with Lisbon-based government economic development agencies.

***Corporate and Strategic Communications will provide social media content as appropriate.***

For more information, please contact Raphael Costa at [Raphael.Costa@vaughan.ca](mailto:Raphael.Costa@vaughan.ca) or Julie Flesch at [Julie.Flesch@vaughan.ca](mailto:Julie.Flesch@vaughan.ca).