

Vaughan Business and Entrepreneurship Centre 2022 Year in Review

About us The Vaughan Business and Entrepreneurship Centre (VBEC) offers comprehensive support for aspiring and existing entrepreneurs in Vaughan, including business information, resources, training and hands-on assistance to start or grow businesses.

VBEC SERVICES



Business advisory services – business planning, Resources and opportunities



High-quality entrepreneurship programs – training, mentorship and funding opportunities



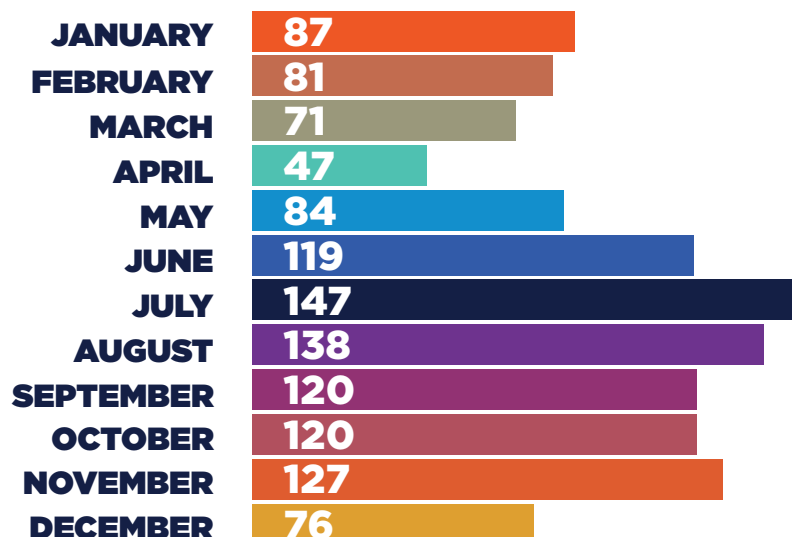
Seminars and workshops – exploring best practices across industries



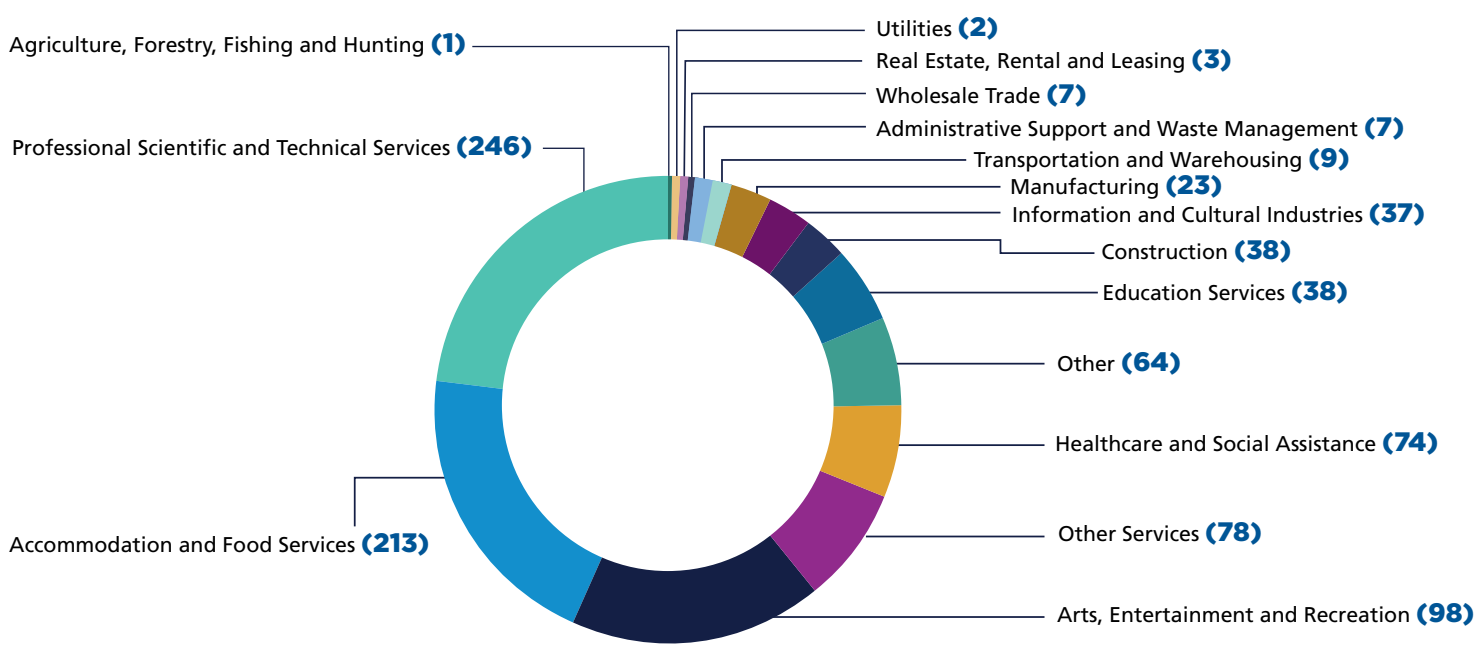
Strategic partnerships and collaborations – leveraging expertise and networks from educational institutions, business accelerator and Incubator programs

In 2022, VBEC conducted **1,217 BUSINESS CONSULTATIONS** and addressed **3,410 INQUIRIES**, making it a leading resource in the province.

CONSULTATIONS BY MONTH



CONSULTATIONS BY SECTOR



FUNDING

Over the past three years, Vaughan's small businesses and entrepreneurial community has received nearly \$1 million in provincial funding from the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, as administered by the Economic Development department.

STARTER COMPANY PLUS

\$260,000
in grants directly invested into local businesses

\$3 million+
in direct economic spending generated as a result of investment

SUMMER COMPANY

\$33,000
in grants directly invested into local student businesses

MY MAIN STREET

\$200,000
in grants directly invested into local businesses

+

\$115,000
in additional federal funding invested for program administration

=

\$315,000
in total non-repayable contributions to help revitalize local main street businesses

PROGRAMMING

Business Planning Launchpad Series



1,375
attendees
received business planning support

Better Your Business



5
strategic social and environmental sustainability plans completed

SUCCESS STORY PROFILES

Madonna Cicconi, Cicco Aroma, participant of Starter Company Plus, My Main Street, Better Your Business

When asked about her time working with the VBEC team, Madonna shared that it gave her a new outlook on her entrepreneurial journey and her participation in various VBEC programs, "provided essential resources, allowing us to invest in equipment, marketing and administrative systems that facilitated our expansion."

Coby Sadeh, Coby's Swim Academy, participant of Summer Company

The Summer Company program equipped Coby with the knowledge and mentorship needed to successfully launch his business. When asked about his learning experience, Coby said he learned "how to market strategically, communicate with clients effectively and build connections with fellow business leaders."

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOP SERIES

VBEC provided **81 seminars** to **2,367 participants** through collaborative partnerships with:



SMALL BUSINESS WEEK 2022

158 Participants attended **10 seminars, workshops and networking events** delivered in partnership with:



STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

Black Artrepreneur Program/Ògo Tàwa

VBEC provided advisory services, introductions to other provincial Small Business Enterprise Centre offices and showcased VBEC services to **25 Black Artrepreneur program participants**.

York Entrepreneurship Development Institute (YEDI)

VBEC delivered seminar content and showcased services to **15 international YEDI program participants**.