

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE –
SEPTEMBER 16, 2024**

COMMUNICATIONS

Distributed September 12, 2024

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C1.

Communication

Intergovernmental Relations

Sub-Committee – September 16, 2024

Item No. 1

IGR Subcommittee's Priorities & Updates on Progress

September 16, 2024

Office of Communications and Economic Development

VAUGHAN CITY HALL

Background

- On April 5, 2024; the members of the Vaughan City Council met with the local Members of Parliament and Members of Provincial Parliament.
- During the meeting members of the Council emphasized the need for provincial and federal partnership to achieve the Council's four priorities:
 - building Highway 7/Concord GO and Kirby GO Stations
 - strengthening community safety measures
 - enhancing intergovernmental coordination to support asylum seekers
 - supporting McMichael Canadian Art Collection's revitalization and capital campaign.

Priority #1: Establishing a Highway 7/Concord GO Station and Kirby GO Station

- Canada Public Transit Fund
 - Announced on July 17, 2024; this federal program will invest \$30 billion over the next ten years to expand the public transit networks and make them more accessible across the country.
- Zero-emission public transit for York Region
 - On July 5, 2024; the federal government announced an investment of \$76 million from its Zero Emission Transit Fund to help York Region procure 180 zero-emission buses, 91 battery electric chargers, and 14 on-route chargers.
- Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF)
 - The federal and provincial governments reached a renewed Canada Community-Building Fund – CCBF (formerly known as the federal gas tax) agreement on June 5, 2024. The deal will result in the federal government investing \$4.7 billion in Ontario over the next five years.

Priority #2: Community Safety

- To confront hate in all its forms including antisemitism and Islamophobia, the federal government has allocated \$273.6 million (to be spent over the next six years) to implement Canada's Action Plan on Combatting Hate.
- The federal government released the National Action Plan on Combatting Auto Theft and announced the deployment of a mobile X-ray scanner.
- The provincial government tabled Bill 197, *Safer Roads and Communities Act, 2024* which entails a 10-year license suspension for individuals convicted of auto theft following their first conviction, 15 years for their second, and a lifetime license suspension for their third conviction.
- The provincial government will invest \$134 million to purchase five new police helicopters for use in Durham, Halton, Ottawa, Peel, and Toronto to combat violent carjackings, auto theft, street racing, and impaired driving.
- There has been a 33% drop in auto theft this year compared to last year in Vaughan.

Priority #3: Support for Asylum Seekers in York Region

- In this year's budget, the federal government has allocated \$1.1 billion over three years to help Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) extend the Interim Housing Assistance Program.
- The federal government will invest \$743.5 million over five years to help IRCC, the Canada Border Services Agency, and the Immigration and Refugee Board strengthen the integrity of Canada's asylum system.
- The federal government will introduce changes to the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* to simplify and streamline the claims process for faster decision-making and quicker removals.

Priority #4: McMichael Canadian Art Collection – Revitalization & Capital Campaign

- The \$150 million capital renewal project addresses McMichael's aged and failing building systems (such as fire suppression system, electrical system, etc.) while also ensuring all spaces are optimally designed and used, enhancing the visitor experience.
- No such capital project of this scale has been undertaken at McMichael since 1983.
- McMichael expects that the required \$150 million of funding will be shared equally between the province, the federal government, and private donors. So far, the federal government has committed to investing \$25 million.
- Since the City of Vaughan MP/MPP Breakfast, staff have continued to work with McMichael to advance Vaughan as a hub for the creative industries. This includes supporting their applications to various funders as well as supporting business development for the gallery through partnership/collaboration on various tourism-related initiatives and with professionals in place-making.

Briefing: 2024 FCM Conference 2024 AMO Conference

September 16, 2024

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VAUGHAN CITY HALL

FCM/AMO and the City of Vaughan

- The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) presented to the IGR Subcommittee on April 8, 2024
- Both presentations provided an overview of the critical role that the associations play in advocating for municipal priorities with the Federal and Provincial governments
- Each organization hosts an annual conference intended for networking, intelligence gathering and wide variety of presentations
- Staff participation at both conferences this year, aligning with the Council-approved Strategic Intergovernmental Relations Framework and the 2022-26 Term of Council Strategic Plan.

2024 FCM Conference

- The FCM 2024 Annual Conference took place from June 6-9, 2024, in Calgary, AB, drawing more than 3,100 municipal delegates – the largest ever FCM Conference.
- Participants of the conference networked with local leaders who range from rural, northern and remote regions to Canada's biggest cities.
- This year's conference allowed delegates to learn best practices and gain new insights into municipal challenges, connect with key municipal partners, and influence the national agenda by shaping FCM's priorities.

2024 FCM Conference Highlights

- The highlight of the conference was a keynote address by the Prime Minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau
- The PM highlighted past investments his government made to municipalities emphasizing the Housing Accelerator Fund, and the Canada Infrastructure Fund, emphasizing the government's commitment to building housing.
- The PM expressed his commitment to a new Municipal Growth Framework and called on the provinces to come to the table with financial resources.
- City of Vaughan Staff are actively monitoring the CCBF funding application process to ensure that we apply on behalf of the City of Vaughan.

2024 AMO Conference

- The Association of Municipalities (AMO) Conference was held in Ottawa Ontario from August 19-21 2024.
- The conference was attended by over 3300 participants which included speeches from Premier Doug Ford, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Paul Calandra, and Minister of Health Sylvia Jones.
- The highlight of AMO was the Ministers' Forum and a direct dialogue with 28 provincial Cabinet Ministers on many of the critical issues municipalities are confronting.

2024 AMO Conference: Key Highlights

- Mayor's and Members of council emphasized the need for a Social and Economic Prosperity Review and a review of the provincial-municipal fiscal framework.
- The need for a provincial-municipal framework review was highlighted in a panel discussion with the President of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce, the CEO of the Ottawa Hospital, and the Peel Region Chief

2024 AMO: Key Announcements

- \$378 million to support 19 treatment and social support hubs for individuals with mental health and substance abuse challenges alongside the closure of nine safe consumption sites and the any new safe consumption sites.
- The launch of the application process for the Housing-Enabling Core Servicing stream of the \$1 billion Municipal Housing Infrastructure Program. As part of this program, municipalities can apply for funding to build, maintain, and repair core assets such as municipal roads, bridges and culverts that will support the construction of new homes.
- The application process was also launched for the \$200 million Community, Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund under the Ministry of Tourism and Sport.
- The Release of the updated Provincial Planning Statement.

Next Steps

- Economic Development will monitor the application process for all the program that were announced
- We will continue to engage with FCM and AMO to attend future IGR Subcommittee to provide briefings on issues of importance to the municipalities

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Mayor's Modular Housing Symposium

September 16, 2024

Office of Communications and Economic Development

VAUGHAN CITY HALL

Background

- On March 28, 2024; the City of Vaughan's Economic Development unit hosted the city's first-ever Mayor's Modular Housing Symposium.
- Over 50 stakeholders were in attendance representing home building companies, financial institutions, modular home manufacturers, labor unions, and regulatory authorities including Vaughan-based modular housing manufacturers such as Panelized Building Solutions Inc. and City Modular Housing Inc.
- The event was also attended by the then Associate Minister of Housing (Attainable Housing and Modular Homes), Rob Flack on behalf of the Government of Ontario, and MP Francesco Sorbara on behalf of the Government of Canada.
- Some of the other stakeholders that attended the symposium include Business Development Canada, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Carpenters' District Council of Ontario, Infrastructure Canada, LiUNA Local 183, Ontario Chamber of Commerce, and Ontario Home Builders' Association.

Lessons on Modular Housing from the Symposium

- Experts and stakeholders at the symposium underscored the need for growing Ontario's and Canada's modular housing industry.
- Since 1945, manufacturing productivity increased by 1,500 percent while productivity in the construction sector dropped by 20 percent. Industrialization of the home construction process can result in more homes being built faster while maintaining a high standard and advancing innovation.
 - Construction of modular homes can be completed as much as 50 percent faster than traditional on-site construction of homes.
 - They can create a 20-30 percent cost savings over traditionally constructed homes.
- Vaughan's Construction industry contributes over \$4 billion annually in real GDP to the city's economy. Vaughan has the potential to be a hub for modular housing construction and adoption.
- Rapid adoption of modular homes gets hampered by several major barriers: restrictive regulatory framework, lack of capital, and low consumer confidence stemming from preconceived notions about the aesthetics, quality, or livability of such homes.

Vaughan's Actions on Modular Housing since the Symposium

- City of Vaughan staff attended the annual Modular Construction and Prefabrication Symposium in March.
 - At that event, industry leaders highlighted that the market size of the modular home manufacturing industry in Canada has grown by 6.7 percent per year on average between 2017 and 2022 and generated \$2.4 billion in total revenue in 2022 alone.
- Staff met in June with the world-leading tech incubator DMZ (administered by the Toronto Metropolitan University) which is partnering with GroundBreak Ventures to support eight innovators to scale their creative housing solutions. GroundBreak Ventures was one of the attendees at the Vaughan Mayor's Modular Housing Symposium.
- Staff also attended the Innovator Mixer (hosted by the University of Toronto's School of Cities) in July. The event featured some of Canada's leading housing solutions innovators who are semi-finalists at the CMHC's Round 5: Level-Up Housing Supply Challenge.
- In July, the provincial government announced that it would invest \$3.46 million in Element5 to help the mass timber manufacturer to triple its production. Element5 was one of the participants in Vaughan Mayor's Modular Housing Symposium.

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Alternative Revenue Generation

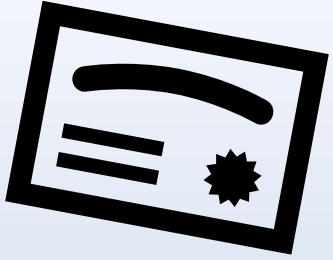
Grant Update

IGR Sub-Committee meeting
September 16, 2024

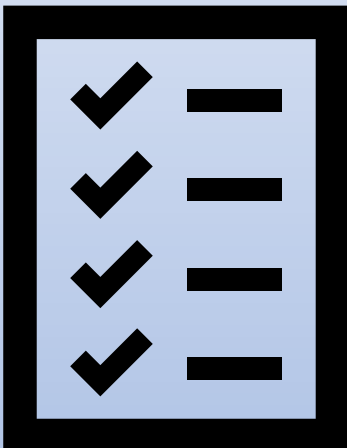
2024 - Grant Activity To Date

27
GRANTS
IDENTIFIED

NUMBER OF
GRANTS
AWARDED **8**



TOTAL AMOUNT
AWARDED THUS FAR
\$36,414,602



TOTAL AMOUNT PENDING
\$2,312,924



18
GRANTS
SUBMITTED

Key Funding Priorities

1. Housing
2. Environment
3. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
4. Community Safety



1. Housing

Federal Funding

Housing Accelerator Fund (2023)

- \$59 Million over three years
- 1700 new housing units
- High density near public transit
- Affordable housing
- Streamlined permitting process
- Zoning amendment

Provincial Funding

Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund

- \$35 Million over three years
- Stormwater and wastewater infrastructure in support of over 20,000 new housing units in the VMC



2. Environment

Tree Canada

North Maple Regional Park

- \$10,000 for tree planting
- Up to 50 volunteers
- Over 200 trees planted

TD Friends of the Environment Foundation

Chancellor District Park

- \$4,968 for tree planting
- Up to 40 volunteers
- 150 trees planted

Invasive Species Centre

Mapping the Wooley Algedid

- \$10,000 in Year One
- \$2,000 in Year Two
- Contract TRCA to help identify and mitigate invasive species



3. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Canada Summer Jobs Employment and Social Development Canada

- \$136,268 for youth employment
- 59 positions awarded wage subsidies

Seniors Community Grant Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility

- \$12,524 for Older Adult Coffee Chats and First Aid Courses through Recreation



4. Community Safety

Next Generation 9-1-1

Vaughan Fire and Rescue Services

- \$1.2 Million over three years
- Supports Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) transition to the new 9-1-1 emergency services communications system
- Includes funding for hardware, licensing, project management, training, consulting and digital infrastructure



Pending Applications

Federal Funding

- 4 pending applications

Provincial Funding

- 5 pending applications

Questions



C5.

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Item No. 5

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS – ITALY 2024 – SUMMARY AND NEXT STEPS

International Economic (and Government) Relations

Corporate Objectives:

- Raise Vaughan's profile among global audiences (businesses, governments, individuals/residents).
- Generate trade opportunities and investment leads across Vaughan's key sectors.
- Develop best practice learnings through engagement with global centres of excellence to advance the City.

International engagement results in:

- Opportunities to attract residents and businesses.
- Locals have new opportunities to pursue international prospects (trade, education, etc.).
- Value-add partnerships with international organizations that can act as champions for Vaughan in other markets.

Why Italy

Italy is a gateway for Vaughan to the European economy with significant trade activity in the agri-food cluster.

- Italy is the world's eighth largest economy, and the third largest European economy.
- Italy remains Canada's third largest merchandise trading partner in the European Union (EU).
- Vaughan has a compelling value proposition for Italian companies.

Vaughan has a longstanding relationship with Sora, Italy focused on social and cultural activities. These activities are evidence of the ongoing importance of Sora as a resident recruitment zone for Vaughan.

Economic Development has an ongoing partnership with the Italian Chamber of Commerce of Ontario (ICCO).

- Pentola D'Oro
- Milan-based investment representation
- 2023 Mission

Italy 2024 Outputs

Business Development

- 30 companies.
- 10 trade and investment agencies.
 - Invest Lombardy
 - Federal Trade Commissioners and Milan Consul General
 - Rome Chamber of Commerce
 - Verona Chamber of Commerce

Intergovernmental Relations

- City of Sora
- Milan Urban Food Policy Pact (MUFPP)
- City of Verona

Italy Next Steps

Business Development

- Federal Trade Commissioners Investment Roadshow.
- Incoming investment visits.

Intergovernmental Relations

- Sora
 - Six-point action plan.
- MUFPP
 - Exploring 2025 membership.
- Verona
 - Preliminary discussions.

Thank you