MEMBER’S RESOLUTION

Meeting/Date     FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION AND AUDIT COMMITTEE – JUNE 6, 2018
Title:          York University Health Science Centre
Submitted by:   Hon. Maurizio Bevilacqua, P.C., Mayor

Whereas, the Office of the Mayor has been in discussion with the President of York University to identify opportunities for the university to expand its Faculty of Health Services.

Whereas, the Office of the Mayor has received a letter from York University, Ms. Rhonda L. Lenton, PhD, President and Vice-Chancellor dated May 30, 2018. (Attachment)

Whereas, the letter identifies that Health Sciences is one of the University's most rapidly growing fields of study and that the advancement of a Health Sciences Centre in Vaughan will allow York University to offer state-of-the-art training programs from undergraduate to graduate to continuing education.

Whereas, a York University Health Sciences Centre within the Vaughan Healthcare Centre precinct would bring education opportunities directly to the hospital complex and provide an outstanding world class venue for the integrated training of healthcare professionals and for collaborative, timely and impactful world class research, aimed at improving the lives of residents of Vaughan and York Region.

Whereas, post-secondary education is fundamental to safeguarding and elevating the quality of life for residents and people of all ages.

Whereas, Council and administration have dedicated ongoing efforts to attract, secure and bring a university campus to the City of Vaughan, which would be a first for our growing city.

Whereas, investing in education is fundamental to city-building and combating social challenges.

Whereas, access to education is essential to planning a more promising future for the City of Vaughan.

Whereas, a well-educated workforce is necessary to have a strong, dynamic and competitive local economy and essential to attract and retain job-creating investments to our community.

Whereas, The City of Vaughan Official Plan 2010 supports the creation of a significant medical health cluster and the development of a new hospital in the northwest quadrant of Jane Street and Major Mackenzie Drive. (Section 5.2.4).

Whereas, The City of Vaughan acquired an 82-acre parcel located in the northwest quadrant of Major Mackenzie Drive and Jane Street to create an urban healthcare Precinct anchored by a new healthcare hospital, the Mackenzie Vaughan Hospital.

Whereas, in November 2013 City of Vaughan adopted the Vaughan Healthcare Centre Precinct Plan

Whereas, The Precinct Plan intends to accommodate a range of healthcare and related uses in addition to the principle use of the Mackenzie Vaughan Hospital.

Whereas, permitted uses include: Education, training, meeting or conference facilities related to healthcare;
It is therefore recommended:

1. That Council support the formation of a partnership between the City of Vaughan, York University, and Mackenzie Health to advance the opportunity to locate York University’s world-class health science centre at the Vaughan Healthcare Precinct;

2. That Council direct the City Manager to form a Staff team to work with York University and Mackenzie Health to prepare a tri-party Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which outlines the guiding principles that could advance the proposal;

3. That Staff report to Council with next steps and a MOU at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully submitted,

Hon. Maurizio Bevilacqua, P.C.
Mayor

Attachments

Letter dated May 30, 2018 - Rhonda L. Lenton, PhD President and Vice-Chancellor, York University
May 30, 2018

His Worship Maurizio Bevilacqua
Mayor of Vaughan
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Vaughan Ontario L6A 1T1

Dear Mayor Bevilacqua

The development of the Vaughan Health Precinct offers an exceptional opportunity for York University to deliver a Health Sciences Centre that could contribute to enhancing healthcare services and patient care, as well as, research and innovation in partnership with the City of Vaughan and Mackenzie Health.

An integrated healthcare delivery model is an important component to the overall health and wellbeing of communities in which they are located. A York University Health Sciences Centre within the Vaughan Health Precinct would bring education opportunities directly to the hospital complex and would provide an outstanding world class venue for the integrated training of healthcare professionals and for collaborative, timely and impactful world class research, aimed at improving the lives of residents of Vaughan and York Region.

Health sciences is one of York University’s most rapidly growing fields of study. The advancement of a Health Sciences Centre in Vaughan will allow York University to offer state of the art training programs from undergraduate to graduate to continuing education. Having the York University Faculty of Health’s Continuing Education team within the Health Sciences Centre would provide continuing education to an array of health professionals, health organizations and workplaces as well as sponsor public lectures and events to raise the awareness of key issues in health and health care. Programming at all levels of the Post-secondary spectrum will ensure that York students and faculty bring their expertise and access to the latest innovative health research to the Vaughan Health Precinct.

The formation of a partnership between York University and the City of Vaughan will enable York University to integrate within the broader health care community of Vaughan, including but not limited to local community health organizations, the Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) and Mackenzie Health. Patients within integrated healthcare settings receive more attention and support in navigating the healthcare system while healthcare professionals note that students fill useful and practical gaps in service delivery.¹

York University is interested in working with the City of Vaughan and Mackenzie Health to develop a formal and exclusive partnership that would enable the vision of an integrated York Health Sciences presence within the Vaughan Health Precinct. Consequently, York is seeking the support of Vaughan City Council to reserve an option for York University on an appropriate block of land within the Vaughan Health Precinct that is reserved for healthcare uses. The Vaughan Health Precinct offers a unique opportunity for York University to expand our faculty of health programming and integrate our students into the broader Vaughan healthcare system.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Rhonda L. Lenton, PhD
President and Vice-Chancellor