

Attachment 1

VAUGHAN BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP CENTRE – 2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

Item 13

**Committee of the Whole (2),
November 12, 2024**

Vaughan Business and Entrepreneurship Centre 2023 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



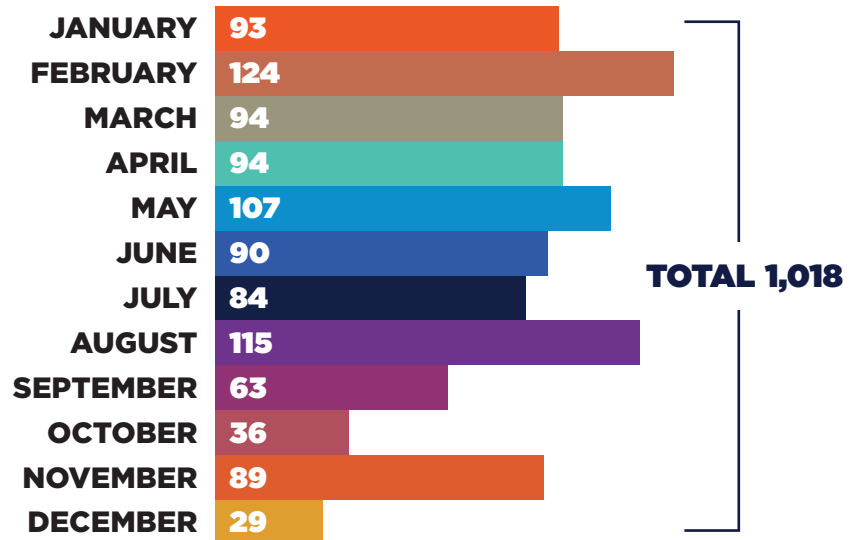
Seminars and workshops
Exploring best practices across industries



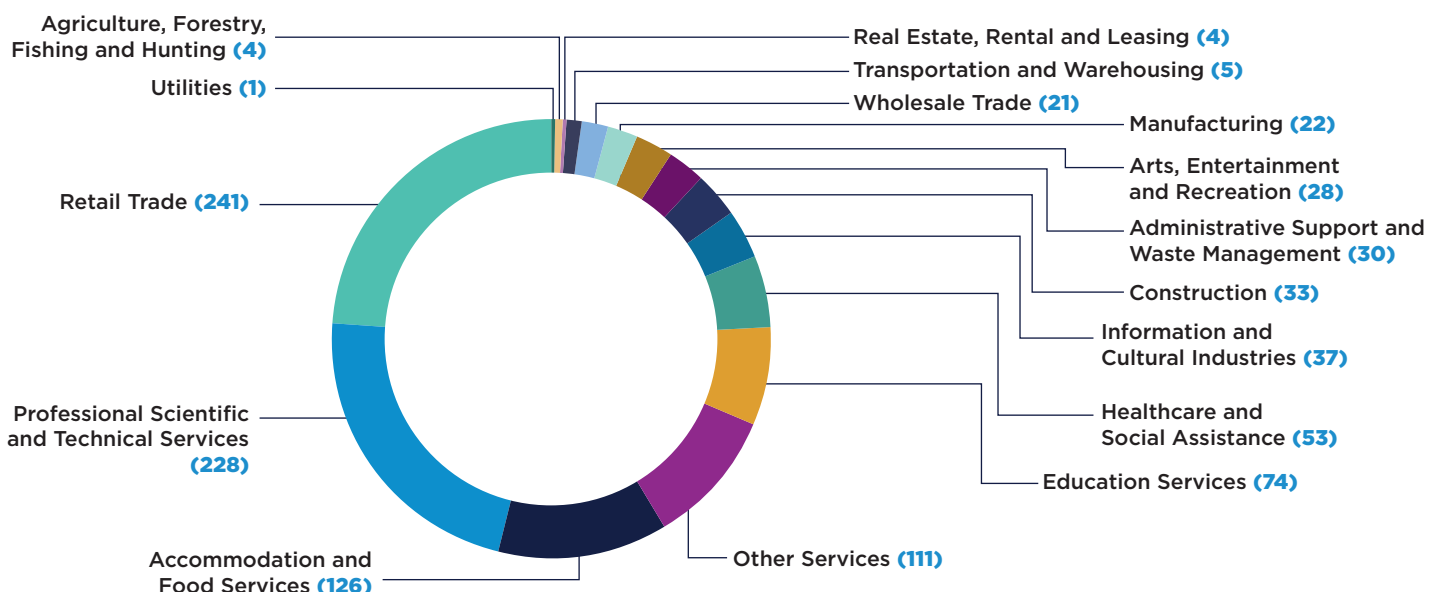
Strategic partnerships and collaborations
Leveraging expertise and networks from educational institutions, business accelerator and incubator programs

In 2023, VBEC conducted
1,018 BUSINESS CONSULTATIONS
and addressed
8,066 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 administered by the Economic Development department.

STARTER COMPANY PLUS PROGRAM

\$165,000 in grants directly invested into local businesses

\$3.6 million+ in direct economic spending generated as a result of investment

SUMMER COMPANY

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

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOP SERIES

VBEC provided **84 seminars** to **1,608 participants** through collaborative partnerships with:



Small Business Week 2023

302 participants attended **11 seminars, workshops and networking events** delivered in partnership with:



PROGRAMMING

BUSINESS PLANNING LAUNCHPAD SERIES



921
RESIDENTS

received business planning support

BETTER YOUR BUSINESS



5 STRATEGIC SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL
sustainability plans completed

SUCCESS STORY PROFILES

Manuella Rosatelli, Mobile Radiance Dental Hygiene Services

Participant of Starter Company Plus

Mobile Radiance Dental Hygiene Services provides people with access to quality and barrier-free dental hygiene care in their homes or at work. The owner, Manuela Rosatelli, services many aging patients and/or their caregivers in the comfort of their homes, long-term care facilities, hospitals and rehabilitation centres. For her efforts to create a barrier-free community, she was recognized as one of five recipients of the City of Vaughan's Accessibility Champion Awards this past year.

Luis Lozano, LA Painting Co

Participant of Summer Company

The Summer Company program equipped Luis with the knowledge and mentorship needed to successfully launch his business and grow to two job crews, creating more than five jobs. When asked what advice he would give to students contemplating starting their own business, Luis answered, *"Don't get complacent and keep working even on the days you don't want to. The time is going to pass anyway, might as well make the most of it."*

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 **28 Black Artrepreneur program participants**.

York Entrepreneurship Development Institute (YEDI)

VBEC delivered seminar content and showcased services to **44 international YEDI program participants**.