

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (2) – NOVEMBER 12, 2024**

**STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

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**Distributed November 8, 2024**

SC1. Memorandum from the City Manager, dated  
November 12, 2024

**Subject**

Re: Indo-Pacific International Economic  
Development Mission – Q1 2025

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**STAFF COMMUNICATION  
FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

**SC1.  
Staff Communication  
CW(2) - November 12, 2024**

**DATE:** November 12, 2024

**TO:** Mayor and Members of Council

**FROM:** Zoran Postic, City Manager  
cc. Raphael Costa, Director, Economic Development  
cc. Michael Genova, Chief, Communications and Economic Development

**RE:** **STAFF COMMUNICATION – CW(2) November 12, 2024**  
**Indo-Pacific International Economic Development Mission – Q1 2025**

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## 1. Purpose

This Staff Communication provides the Mayor and Members of Council with an update on the approved economic mission to South Asia in response to ongoing diplomatic challenges between Canada and India's governments.

The mission has been put on hold in consultation with the delegation until bilateral relations between Canada and India are favourable. In the interim, trade and investment development work continues with economic development partners.

## 2. Analysis

Council approved a Q1 2025 Indo-Pacific Mission in June 2024. This mission was to focus on India and Pakistan with financial support from the federal government's CanExport fund. Staff had been planning to execute the mission in January 2025.

In October 2024, the Canadian and Indian governments expelled respective diplomats over allegations of the assassination of a Sikh nationalist in Canada. Ongoing diplomatic issues present challenges for City staff to engage, with certainty and clarity, other government levels and public and private-sector stakeholders to undertake the proposed 2025 Indo-Pacific Mission.

### Next Steps:

- Staff will continue to advance trade and investment activities.
- Staff will monitor diplomatic relations and execute the mission when appropriate.
- Economic Development will reallocate CanExport funds to previously executed missions and submit a year-end budget reserve request through Finance to maintain the allocated resources.

For more information, contact Raphael Costa, Director, Economic Development, ext. 8891 | [raphael.costa@vaughan.ca](mailto:raphael.costa@vaughan.ca)

**Approved by**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several loops and a long vertical stroke, positioned below the 'Approved by' heading.

Zoran Postic, City Manager