



**CITY OF VAUGHAN  
REPORT NO. 5 OF THE  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
(WORKING SESSION)**

*For consideration by the Council  
of the City of Vaughan  
on February 25, 2025*

---

The Committee of the Whole (Working Session) met at 1:00 p.m., on February 5, 2025, in Committee Rooms 242/243, City Hall and via electronic participation. The following members were present at the meeting:

Regional Councillor Mario G. Racco, Chair  
Mayor Steven Del Duca  
Regional Councillor Linda Jackson, Deputy Mayor  
Regional Councillor Mario Ferri  
Regional Councillor Gino Rosati  
Councillor Marilyn Iafrate  
Councillor Adriano Volpentesta  
Councillor Chris Ainsworth  
Councillor Gila Martow

The following items were dealt with:

**1. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – STRATEGIC INVESTMENT  
CONCIERGE PROGRAM**

**The Committee of the Whole (Working Session) recommends approval of the recommendations contained in the following report of the Deputy City Manager, Strategic Initiatives, dated February 5, 2025:**

**Recommendations**

1. THAT Council endorse the proposed concierge program evaluation criteria and service delivery model as outlined in this report; and
2. THAT Council delegate authority to the City Manager (or designate) to accept applicants in the proposed program based on the Council-endorsed evaluation criteria and in consultation with the Deputy City Managers of Planning, Growth Management and Housing Delivery, Corporate Services, City Treasurer, and Chief Financial Officer, and Strategic Initiatives, and to execute, renew,

**REPORT NO. 5 OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
(WORKING SESSION) FOR CONSIDERATION  
BY COUNCIL, FEBRUARY 25, 2025**

---

amend, or terminate any necessary participant agreements, in a form satisfactory to Legal Services; and

3. THAT Council delegate authority to the City Manager (or designate) to negotiate, execute, amend, renew and terminate Memoranda of Understanding with external agencies to assist with the delivery of the proposed program in consultation with the Deputy City Managers of Planning, Growth Management and Housing Delivery, Corporate Services, City Treasurer, and Chief Financial Officer, and Strategic Initiatives, in a form satisfactory to Legal Services; and
4. THAT staff provide annual reports on the program to future Committees of the Whole.

**2. PROTECT VAUGHAN, ONTARIO AND CANADIAN BUSINESSES**

**The Committee of the Whole (Working Session) recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following resolution of Mayor Del Duca, dated February 5, 2025:**

**Member's Resolution**

Submitted by Mayor Del Duca

***Whereas***, despite the proven promise of a special relationship between Canada and the United States – a relationship that people, communities and nations from around the world depend on for stability, prosperity and opportunity – relations are being undermined and are at risk; and

***Whereas***, the threat facing both nations is a direct result of the unpredictable statements and policy directives by America's 47th president about undermining Canadian sovereignty and levying unprecedented tariff threats amounting to 25 per cent on imports and 10 per cent on energy that will hurt both Canadian and American industries, companies, their employees and consumers; and

***Whereas***, trade and investment between Canada and the U.S. supports millions of jobs in communities throughout Canada and the U.S., and helps ensure the secure flow of goods and people across the border, which is vital to both countries' present and future economic competitiveness and prosperity; and

***Whereas***, Vaughan has a critical role in helping maintain this prosperity with the city's proximity to major transportation assets that support connectivity to key regional supply chains and access to talent; and

***Whereas***, Vaughan is located less than one hour from the Canada-US border. Vaughan's proximity to major transportation networks, including 400-series highways, the Canadian National (CN) MacMillan Yard and the

**REPORT NO. 5 OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
(WORKING SESSION) FOR CONSIDERATION  
BY COUNCIL, FEBRUARY 25, 2025**

---

Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) Railway Vaughan Intermodal Terminal. Vaughan is located within a 15-minute drive to Toronto Pearson Airport, Canada's largest and busiest airport with hundreds of daily flights scheduled to the U.S.; and

**Whereas**, these alarming, unprecedented and unpredictable policy statements by America's president are a call to action for all levels of government – including municipalities – to take urgent action to identify solutions to protect local, Ontario and Canadian businesses to help ensure the business of government continues efficiently, effectively and by minimizing the impact to the public's quality of life should tariffs be levied against Canada and its provinces and communities.

**It is therefore recommended:**

1. THAT City of Vaughan staff report back by no later than March 4, 2025, to the Committee of the Whole (1) meeting with a procurement strategy that would see the City of Vaughan prioritize buying Canadian products, goods and services in response to U.S. tariffs, exploring all available options and tools, including but not limited to the exercise of Strong Mayor Powers under the Municipal Act, that would allow Vaughan to take immediate action, if necessary; and
2. THAT should tariffs be re-introduced by the American government in the interim, that
  - a) Staff amend such documents and procurement practices as necessary to give effect to the above; and
  - b) The Mayor and the City Clerk be authorized to enact such by-laws as may be required to amend the City's Corporate Procurement Policy, if necessary.
3. THAT this Members' Resolution is approved by Council.

---

The meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Regional Councillor Mario G. Racco, Chair