

MEMBERS' RESOLUTION

Committee of the Whole Report (2)

DATE: Tuesday, March 18, 2025

**TITLE: VAUGHAN RESTAURANT FESTIVAL – SUMMER 2025 /
WINTER 2026**

FROM:

Mayor Steven Del Duca
Councillor Adriano Volpentesta

Whereas, the City of Vaughan is committed to supporting local with U.S. tariffs in effect; and

Whereas, on March 4, 2025, Vaughan became the first municipality in Ontario to ban U.S. suppliers. Mayor Steven Del Duca and Members of Council took decisive action to protect the local, provincial and national economy by approving a new procurement strategy that prioritizes Canadian products, goods and services, and bans U.S. suppliers from competing on or being awarded municipal contracts; and

Whereas, since January, the Economic Development team has been actively engaging with local businesses, stakeholders and other economic development organizations to address the challenges and concerns related to the new tariffs as well as discuss best practices to support the local business community; and

Whereas, the City of Vaughan's Agri-Food and Food Processing cluster ruins farm-to-fork including more than 800 restaurants; and

Whereas, Tourism Vaughan encourages visitors from around the Greater Toronto Area and Ontario to enjoy family-friendly activities and experiences in the city of Vaughan; and

Whereas, the Vaughan Destination Master Plan directs Tourism Vaughan to market Vaughan as a destination and develop visitor experiences; and

Whereas, visitvaughan.ca/dine and visitvaughan.ca/blog feature local restaurants through an online directory and itineraries; and

Whereas, neighbouring municipalities, including the City of Toronto and King Township deliver dine-in restaurant support programs like the *Taste of King* and *Winterlicious* during slow times for the culinary industry.

It is therefore recommended:

1. THAT City staff report back to Committee of the Whole (2) on April 8, 2025, with a pilot program proposal for a Vaughan restaurant program that:
 - a. Encourages residents and visitors to dine in Vaughan's participating restaurants;
 - b. Is offered in Summer 2025 and Winter 2026; and
 - c. Delivers a three-course prix fixe menu to diners at a competitive price point.
2. THAT City staff report back to a future Committee of the Whole meeting to report on the conclusion of the pilot project.

Financial and Staff Resource Impact:

This members' resolution does not generate new budget and staffing requests.

Attachments:

1. September 2021 [Vaughan Destination Master Plan](#)