

C1.

Communication

Intergovernmental Relations

Sub-Committee – May 14, 2025

Item No. 1

2025 Political Scan

May 14, 2025

Maria Papadopoulos

Program Manager, Intergovernmental Relations

Strategic Initiatives Portfolio

VAUGHAN CITY HALL

Provincial Landscape

- On Thursday, February 27, Premier Ford secured a third majority mandate.
- The campaign focus was the tariff and sovereignty threat from US President Donald Trump
- Returning MPP's include Michael Tibollo, MPP for Vaughan-Woodbridge, Steven Lecce, MPP for King-Vaughan and Laura Smith, MPP for Thornhill
- A new Cabinet was sworn in on Wednesday, March 19. York Region Ministers include Paul Calandra, Minister of Education, Michael Tibollo, Associate Attorney General and Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Mines, MPP for King-Vaughan (addition of Mines)
- Of note, Rob Flack becomes Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Zee Hamid becomes Associate Minister of Auto Theft and Bail Reform, and Laura Smith becomes Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Congratulatory letters were sent to the Premier, MPP's and relevant Ministers from the Mayor on behalf of the City of Vaughan
- The Budget will be tabled on Thursday, **May 15, 2025**

Provincial Landscape

- The Legislative Assembly returned on Monday, April 14, with the election of a new Speaker and the Speech from the Throne. Throne Speech highlights include:
 - Ontario's approach to combat the effects of US Tariffs on Canadian Goods
 - A commitment to reducing trade barriers between the provinces and territories and a commitment to reducing red tape
 - A pledge to build large mining and energy projects quicker and create "priority economic zones" to fast-track projects vital to Ontario's economy, energy independence, and national security.
 - A commitment to provincial investments supporting municipalities, including building new homes, investing in local transit infrastructure and protecting local community safety.
 - A commitment to investing in local infrastructure to build new homes. This includes standardizing and transparency in the cost of building new homes, including building permits and local development charges.
 - A commitment to spend \$200 billion to build new and upgraded roads and highways in every part of the province to tackle gridlock.
 - Legislation to provide municipalities with the tools to end encampments and clean up parks and public spaces.
 - Legislation to crack down on crime in communities, calling on the federal government to fix the bail system, ending the catch-and-release policies that let violent, repeat offenders loose and make communities less safe.

Provincial Landscape

Provincial/Municipal Policy Intersection:

- Building Housing
- Vaughan Strong Members' Resolution
- Mayor's letter to the Premier regarding the Tourism Tax Credit
- Tackling Crime
- Investing in municipal infrastructure, including the Gridlock Action Plan

Federal Landscape

- On Monday, April 28, Liberal Leader Mark Carney won the federal election, securing a minority Parliament.
- Like the provincial election, the campaign focus was the tariff and sovereignty threat from US President Donald Trump
- Returning MP's include Anna Roberts, MP for King-Vaughan and Melissa Lantsman, MP for Thornhill. The newly elected MP for Vaughan-Woodbridge is Michael Guglielmin.
- The Prime Minister stated that a new Cabinet will be sworn in the week of May 12
- Parliament will be recalled on May 26, with King Charles delivering the Speech from the Throne on Tuesday, May 27.
- ***A date for the budget has not been announced***
- Congratulatory letters were sent to the Prime Minister and local MP's. Congratulatory letters will be sent to the relevant Ministers from the Mayor on behalf of the City of Vaughan

Federal Landscape

- Prime Minister Carney outlined his priorities for implementing his mandate in the weeks and months ahead.
- The Prime Minister stressed his commitment to working in partnership with the Premiers, Indigenous Leaders, and communities across Canada to implement his platform commitments.
- The Prime Minister stated that he is focused on rebuilding the economy by removing federal interprovincial trade barriers by July 1, 2025, expanding trade relationships internationally and building housing.
- The Prime Minister also stressed that he is focused on increasing community safety through bail reform for car and home theft, toughening sentencing for repeat offenders and increasing border security.

Federal Landscape

Federal/Municipal Policy Intersection:

- Building Housing
- Vaughan Strong Members' Resolution
- Tackling Crime, including federal bubble legislation
- Investing in municipal infrastructure, like the Gridlock Action Plan

Looking Ahead

- Intergovernmental Relations will update the Mayor and Members of Council on the contents of the 2025 federal and provincial budgets, post-budget funding for announcements for both levels of government, and any funding opportunities for municipalities.
- Building on the success of the 2024 IGR MP/MPP Breakfast, staff will work towards planning a similar breakfast in the fall of 2025.