

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 11, 2020

Item 6, Report No. 11, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on March 11, 2020.

6. 2019 ISRAEL POST-MISSION REPORT

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendations contained in the following report of the Acting City Manager and Deputy City Manager, Community Services, dated March 9, 2020:

Recommendations

1. That the staff report titled: "2019 Israel Post-Mission Report" be received for information; and
2. That Committee of the Whole support staff in their continued follow-up activities and initiatives generated by the 2019 Israel Business Mission.

Committee of the Whole (2) Report

DATE: Monday, March 09, 2020

WARD(S): ALL

TITLE: 2019 ISRAEL POST-MISSION REPORT

FROM:

Mary Reali, Acting City Manager and Deputy City Manager, Community Services

ACTION: FOR INFORMATION

Purpose

The City of Vaughan joined the Vaughan Chamber of Commerce's Business Mission to Israel (November 2019) and supplemented the Mission with a government relations, business development and city promotion itinerary. This Report provides an overview of the key accomplishments of the City's Mission and follow-up activities.

Report Highlights

- The City of Vaughan completed a successful Business Mission to Israel organized by the President and CEO of the Vaughan Chamber of Commerce, in association with the Vaughan Economic and Cultural Development Department.
- The Vaughan delegation included 22 participants representing 15 organizations from relevant sectors of Vaughan's local economy, such as business, academia, health care, government and research-innovation.
- The City accomplished the Mission's key deliverables and is committed to advance its successes by continuing communication and exploratory projects with its stakeholders.

Recommendations

1. That, the staff report, titled: "2019 Israel Post-Mission Report" be received for information; and

2. That, Committee of the Whole supports staff in their continued follow-up activities and initiatives generated by the 2019 Israel Business Mission.

Background

Led by the Vaughan Chamber of Commerce (VCC), the City of Vaughan participated in a successful Business Mission to Israel from November 22 – November 30, 2019. The mandate of the City's trip was to promote job-creating trade, learn best practices from leading Smart City and Healthcare practitioners, support the growth of local companies and globally-recognized institutions who took part in the effort, and strengthen relations with Jewish and Israeli communities.

Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua led the City's delegation, joined by Local and Regional Councillor Linda Jackson, Ward 4 Councillor Sandra Yeung Racco, Ward 5 Councillor Alan Shefman and City staff: Director, Economic and Cultural Development and Director, Corporate and Strategic Communications.

The City undertook a robust itinerary that included meetings with senior government officials and visits to leading healthcare and smart city organizations and corporations.

Over the course of seven days across Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and Haifa, the City had productive meetings with the following officials and leaders:

- Mayor of Ramla
- Mayor of Tel Aviv
- Deputy Mayor of Tel Aviv
- Mayor of Jerusalem
- Deputy Mayor of Jerusalem
- Deputy Mayor of Haifa
- Chairman of Shalva National Center
- VP of the Jerusalem Institute for Strategy and Security and Israel Office Director of Canada's Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA)
- Director of the Americas, Ministry of Economy and Industry
- Director of Innovation Entrepreneurship and Technology, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Director of North American Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Program Director, North America, Israel Innovation Authority
- Head of Local Market Implementation, Fuel Choices & Smart Mobility Initiative
- Counsellor and Senior Trade Commissioner, Embassy of Canada to Israel

- Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of the Kababir neighborhood in Haifa

Site visits included:

- Rambam Healthcare Campus
- Shalva National Center
- Shmeltzer Institute for Smart Mobility, University of Tel Aviv
- Teva Pharmaceuticals, Digital Health Initiatives
- Center for Israeli Innovation
- Yad Vashem Museum
- Jerusalem Old City Holy sites

The City worked closely with the Vaughan Chamber of Commerce to support their delegation of Vaughan-based businesses.

In addition to the City's agenda, which focused on government relations and city promotion of key projects, the Delegation supported the VCC's business-to-business program in conjunction with the Federation of Israeli Chambers of Commerce. The City Delegation participated in the business roundtable comprised of over 40 Israeli businesses and coordinated joint learning and business development opportunities with VCC delegates including York University, Niagara University, Mackenzie Health, and ventureLAB, amongst others.

Previous Reports/Authority

[2019 Vaughan Chamber of Commerce Business Mission to Israel, CW\(2\) Report, September 24, 2019](#)

Analysis and Options

The Vaughan Delegation accomplished its multiple goals of showcasing key City projects on the international stage, highlighting investment opportunities, learning best practices in the areas of healthcare innovation and smart city development and execution, improving international government relations, supporting the international business development of Vaughan-based businesses, and strengthening relations with Jewish and Israeli communities.

The City showcased priority city-building initiatives such as the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre, the Mackenzie Vaughan Hospital, and Smart City initiatives as foreign direct investment opportunities to key audiences.

Through speaking opportunities and dedicated marketing collateral (see Attachment 1), major City projects were highlighted to municipal counterparts as well as governmental departments and organizations such as the Ministry of Economy and Industry and the Israel Innovation Authority, whose clients include Israeli firms wishing to expand their operations to North America. Investment opportunities were also shared directly with Israeli-based businesses during the VCC's business-to-business agenda. As a result of this exposure, the Tel Aviv-based smart city solutions provider, Colu technologies, is scheduled to Vaughan in January 2020 to discuss their North American expansion plans.

The City and VCC delegates gained exposure to world-leading practices in healthcare innovation.

Together with the City's Healthcare Precinct Partners—York University, Mackenzie Health, and ventureLAB—the Delegation participated in a study tour of Rambam Hospital located in Haifa: one of the largest and most advanced medical centers in Israel. The tour featured Dr. Rafael Bayer, a leader of the world-class center, who addressed the strategic alignment of startups and academic institutions to create medical breakthroughs and enhance front-line health services. The tour was an important opportunity for Precinct Partners to learn of proven best practices in public-private partnerships and healthcare innovation.

Established municipal partnerships were solidified and new intergovernmental relationships were formed.

Mayor Bevilacqua and Mayor Vidal signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to advance shared cultural opportunities and experiences between Vaughan and Ramla and in so doing, reaffirm the existing Vaughan-Ramla Agreement dating back to 1993. The MOU signifies a commitment to continue and modernize the Cultural Partnership under the City of Vaughan's new Cultural and Economic Partnerships Policy.

Strong relations were made between Vaughan and the Cities of Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, and Haifa with commitments to liaise directly with Tel Aviv and Jerusalem staff responsible for their respective smart city initiatives, and with the Economic Development Corporation of Haifa to learn best practices and form partnerships that could contribute to Vaughan's Smart City planning and execution.

The Mission to Israel demonstrated Vaughan's commitment to strengthening relations with Jewish and Israeli communities and celebrating interfaith dialogue.

The City visited Yad Vashem—Israel’s official memorial to the victims of the Holocaust—in addition to the Western Wall, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and the Stations of the Cross. While in Haifa—a City known across Israel for its fusion and intermixing of Jewish and Arab cultures—the delegation met with Emir Muhammad Sharif Odeh, head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim community of the Kababir neighborhood.

Financial Impact

As per *Corporate Policy 02.C.02*, expenses related to all Outbound Delegations, and delegation-related activities, are funded by the 2019 Council-approved Economic and Cultural Development Department budget.

Broader Regional Impacts/Considerations

While the focus of the Business Mission was to elevate the City of Vaughan and its businesses’ profile in the international marketplace, the City also strengthened considerably its profile at the local, regional, and national levels, including its relationships with local partners, in the process.

Corporate and Strategic Communications staff undertook a robust promotional campaign to highlight the City’s Mission. Efforts included six media products published (1 statement, 2 news releases and 2 photo releases), in addition to an editorial by Mayor Bevilacqua in the *Canadian Jewish News*. Extensive social media messaging also took place on the City’s corporate social media channels. Content was provided in Council eNews for further distribution.

Through the course of planning and executing the Mission, the City worked closely with the Consul General of Israel in Toronto, the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs, and the Government of Israel’s Economic and Trade Mission to Canada, and as a result, these relationships have been enhanced. The positive collaboration between the City and these partners has set the stage for productive follow-up meetings and projects.

In addition, staff has formally extended its thanks and gratitude to all organizations that helped make this mission a success.

Conclusion

Economic and Cultural Development staff is currently engaged in follow-up activities from the Mission including: business development meetings related to expansion of Israeli businesses to Canada as well as promotion of investment opportunities to Israeli business delegations organized by the Ministry of Economy; planning for best practice adoption related to the Fuel Choices and Smart Mobility Program, Tel Aviv’s Smart Card

initiative, and Health Israel Innovation; and strengthening municipal relationships with the Cities of Ramla, Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and Haifa.

Economic and Cultural Development will also work directly with VCC Delegation participants to support business development opportunities arising from the Mission, where possible.

For more information, please contact: Dennis Cutajar, Dennis.Cutajar@vaughan.ca.

Attachments

1. Israel Trade Mission 2019, Economic and Cultural Development, November 2019

Prepared by

Nisha Manocha, Economic Development Officer, 8937

Dennis Cutajar, Director, Economic and Cultural Development, 8274

Israel Trade Mission 2019

Strengthening Partnerships,
Creating Opportunities



City of Vaughan
Ontario, Canada



A Message from Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua

I am proud to lead Vaughan's delegation to Israel in partnership with the Vaughan Chamber of Commerce. The mandate of the 2019 business mission is to encourage job-creating trade, build alliances, pursue investments, support the growth of local companies and globally-recognized institutions taking part in this mission, and strengthen relations with Jewish and Israeli communities.

Vaughan is the place to be for opportunity. Today, Vaughan is home to over 12,000 businesses that employ more than 223,000 people.

Since 2010, this city has led with an economic growth rate of four per cent – far outpacing Ontario and Canada – and has seen the creation of more than 60,000 new jobs.

Throughout this mission, our efforts will focus on promoting transformational city-building initiatives that benefit both Israel and Vaughan. This includes the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre – our emerging downtown core and the largest and most ambitious project in the City's history; Smart City technologies to deliver quality public services that safeguard and elevate the quality of life for citizens; and the Vaughan Healthcare Centre Precinct – a future hub of cutting-edge research, innovation and commerce in the life sciences sector – which is anchored by the city's first hospital.



Vaughan continues to be enriched by its active, engaged and thriving Jewish and Israeli communities. This population represents more than a quarter of the entire Jewish and Israeli population – and the highest percentage of Hebrew speakers – in the Toronto Census Metropolitan Area.

Each day, these individuals contribute to Vaughan as successful entrepreneurs, dedicated public servants and compassionate citizens, committed to making a difference. I had the distinct pleasure of presenting Holocaust survivor, humanitarian and author Max Eisen with the Key to the City. Mr. Eisen is also a recipient of the Order of Vaughan – the highest honour awarded by the City.

Vaughan maintains a formal international partnership with the City of Ramla. Our community comes together to mark Jewish Heritage Month. We proudly fly the flag of Israel at City Hall during a special flag-raising ceremony to recognize Yom Ha'atzmaut, Israel Independence Day. Celebrations like our annual

menorah lighting ceremonies to mark Chanukah have become much-anticipated traditions enjoyed by all people.

I offer my sincerest appreciation to our partners for ensuring this mission is a complete success. This includes the Vaughan Chamber of Commerce, the Canadian Embassy in Israel, the Consul General of Israel in Toronto, the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs, The Government of Israel's Economic and Trade Mission to Canada and other leaders in Vaughan's Israeli diaspora.

We look forward to building on the success of our trade mission to Israel.

Sincerely,

Hon. Maurizio Bevilacqua, P.C.

Mayor of Vaughan



Mayor Bevilacqua meets with Consul General Baram at Vaughan City Hall April 2019

"Israel and Canada share a strong relationship based on shared values, growing economic ties at the federal, provincial and municipal levels. Our friendship with the City of Vaughan can be credited to a growing Israeli and Jewish community that maintains strong business and cultural ties to the State of Israel, while contributing to the city's growth and success.

We are pleased to participate in this trade mission to Israel, a global leader in smart city management, medical technology and innovation, led by His Worship Mayor Bevilacqua, with the goal of identifying significant areas for cooperation, concrete opportunities for new markets, as well as the chance to expand Israel's partnership with the City of Vaughan through scientific and cultural exchange."

- **Galit Baram**, Consul General of Israel in Toronto

Delivering Real Results for Vaughan



900 acre
**North Maple
Regional Park**
will be larger than
New York's Central Park

60,000

new jobs have
been created
since 2010

\$160 million raised for the
Mackenzie Vaughan Hospital -
Exceptional Care Belongs Here Campaign



Vaughan is one of the
SAFEST
COMMUNITIES
IN CANADA



Since 2010
Vaughan's average
annual economic
growth is
MORE THAN 4%



The Mackenzie Vaughan Hospital will
be Canada's first smart technology
hospital with a capacity of

550 beds

\$11 Billion
in building
permits
since 2010

MORE THAN
\$30 million
in **BUDGET
SAVINGS**
since 2015



Home to the
first university
in York Region
**NIAGARA
UNIVERSITY**

Welcoming city
105 languages spoken

VMC SUBWAY

More than **14,000**
daily commuters

7 minutes to
York University

42 minutes
to Union Station



12,000 businesses
that employ
more than
223,000

Vaughan is the
first municipality
in Canada to sign

**LEADERSHIP ACCORD
ON GENDER DIVERSITY**



New policy allowing
secondary suites
was APPROVED

97%

of citizens feel
quality of life to be either **good**
or **very good** in Vaughan



Nearly
200 km
of **NEW** roads

One of the
**lowest
tax rates**
in the GTA



More than
22,000
trees have been planted
as part of the City's
tree replacement plan

\$12 million for Hospice
Vaughan Capital
Campaign **ACHIEVED**

CITY OF VAUGHAN GREATER TORONTO

Population: 330,855⁵

Population growth rate (2011-2016): 6.2 per cent⁶

Surpassing national and provincial employment growth rates: 1.8 per cent year over year⁷

Real GDP (2019): \$22.2 billion⁸

3.9-million labour force within one-hour drive⁹

⁵York Region Corporate Services, Long Range Planning Branch, June 2019

⁶Statistics Canada, 2016 Census Data

⁷York Region Employment Survey, 2018 for 2017-18

⁸Conference Board of Canada, 2019 estimate

⁹Environics Analytics, Demostats 2018

GHAN RONTO AREA





400 km
Population
30,000,000

800 km
Population
135,000,000

1,200 km
Population
180,000,000

Vaughan is
located 10
minutes from
Pearson
International
Airport -
Canada's
largest airport.

14 direct flights
from Pearson
Airport to Tel
Aviv each week.

**TORONTO
REGION**

Vaughan

Calgary

Winnipeg

Seattle

Montreal

Boston

New York

Chicago

Denver

Las Vegas

Atlanta

Houston



Economic and Political Stability

- Awarded a **perfect score** by World Economic Forum for economic stability (Global Competitiveness Report, 2018)
- **#1 in the G7** for the fewest days to establish a new business (World Bank Group, 2017)

Highly-skilled Workforce

#1 most highly educated workforce in the OECD (OECD, 2017)

Unparalleled Market Access

Free Trade deals with 48 countries, including the Canada-EU Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) and the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA); access to 1.6 billion consumers (Ontario Ministry of Economic Development, JobCreation and Trade)

CANADA

GREATER TORONTO AREA





Combined income tax rate of 26.5%

is lower than the G7 average (Ernst and Young, 2018 MEDJCT Commissioned Study, OECD, 2018)

Universal healthcare: Employer health costs per year for a typical firm in Ontario are one-third the cost of the U.S. average

Generous R&D incentives: Combined with various provincial R&D programs, signature SR&ED program reduces after-tax cost of every \$100 in R&D spending to between \$37 and \$61

Region's universities produce approximately
42,300 STEM graduates per year,
top 5 in North America

(Statistics Canada, Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities)

**GLOBALLY
COMPETITIVE**

VAUGHAN



SNAPSHOT

VAUGHAN BY THE NUMBERS

- Population: **330,563**
(York Region estimate as of Dec. 31, 2018)
- Population growth rate (2011-2016): **6.2%**
(Statistics Canada)
- Average annual business growth since 2010: **3.5%**
- Value of building permits issued since 2010: **\$10.8 billion**
- 2018 GDP: **\$20.6 billion** (Conference Board of Canada)
- Average annual employment growth rate since 2010: **4%**
- Top industries by employment: Manufacturing (**22%**);
Construction (**13%**); Retail Trade (**11%**)
- Median household income (2016): **\$105,351**
(Statistics Canada)
- Adults aged 25-64 with post-secondary certificate,
diploma or degree: **70%** (Statistics Canada)
- Foreign born population: **46.3%** (Statistics Canada)
- Languages spoken: **105** (Statistics Canada)
- Citizen satisfaction with quality of life: **97%**
(City of Vaughan)

VAUGHAN

Shared Cultural & Community Connections



I & ISRAEL

Connections



The city of Vaughan is home to active, engaged and thriving Jewish and Israeli communities. This population represents more than a quarter of the entire Jewish and Israeli population – and the highest percentage of Hebrew speakers – in the Toronto Census Metropolitan Area.

- In June 2019, Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua presented Holocaust survivor, humanitarian and author Max Eisen with the Key to the City. Mr. Eisen is also a recipient of the Order of Vaughan – the highest honour awarded by the City.
- The City of Vaughan formally celebrates Jewish Heritage Month. Vaughan also maintains a formal international partnership with the City of Ramla.
- The City holds special flag-raising ceremonies to recognize Yom Ha'atzmaut and Israel Independence Day at Vaughan City Hall.
- The entire Vaughan community is invited to take part in annual menorah lighting ceremonies to mark Chanukah. This has become a popular tradition enjoyed by all people.
- Multiple direct flights from Toronto Pearson International Airport to Tel Aviv occur daily connecting the people, cultures and talent of both cities.

Vaughan-Israel Mission 2019: At Focus

- Vaughan Metropolitan Centre – the city's emerging downtown
- A Global Smart City Leader
- Vaughan Healthcare Centre Precinct



- Subway station linking to/from downtown Toronto: **OPEN**
- Regional bus rapid transit line: **OPEN**
- KPMG Office Tower: **OCCUPIED**
- EXPO City Condo Towers 1 and 2: **OCCUPIED**
- Niagara University Site: **OPEN**
- SmartCentres Place Bus Terminal: **OPEN**
- The MET Condos: **Under construction, 2020 occupancy**
- EXPO City Condo Towers 3 and 4: **Under construction, 2020 occupancy**
- Mixed-use building with PwC, YMCA and public library: **Under construction, 2020 occupancy**
- Transit City Residences 1, 2 and 3: **Under construction, 2021 occupancy**
- Office space built/under construction: **392,932 ft²**
- Office space approved and proposed: **486,744 ft²**
- Residential units built/under construction: **3,889**
- Residential units approved and proposed: **14,436**



Unprecedented access to talent, office space, multi-modal mobility and urban amenities.

“Located in the heart of the GTA, Vaughan was a clear choice for us to set up a new office,” says Sebastian Distefano, GTA Regional Managing Partner at KPMG. “We are better positioned – literally – to service clients across the GTA and in York Region.”

As one of Canada’s largest master planned communities, the VMC is an emerging downtown poised to be the financial, innovation and cultural centre of the city. It will be a true people-focused downtown that is walkable, social and inclusive. Imagine 50-storey towers and low-rise townhouses, busy public squares with sidewalk patios and a serene wetland park with mature oak trees, big brands next to mom-and-pop shops. This 442-acre site at the intersection of Highways 400, 407 and 7 will include at least 1.5 million square feet of office space, 750,000 square feet of retail space and 12,000 residential units by 2031.

Billions of dollars in infrastructure investments are already driving growth and investment. The subway extension and bus rapidway on Highway 7 are open.

Downtown Toronto is a short 45-minute subway ride away and the subway station is no more than 10 minutes by foot from any point in the VMC.

Top companies are buying into the VMC vision and making it a reality. KPMG, Miller Thomson, GFL Environmental Inc., Harley-Davidson Canada and PwC have invested in the VMC to be near their clients and highly educated professional workforce. They are locating in the heart of one of Greater Toronto’s largest business hubs that includes head offices or major divisional operations of other industry leaders such as Teledyne, Mircom Technologies, Digital Realty, Siemens, Sciex, SmartCentres, Kumon, Recipe Unlimited and Miele. This is a prime opportunity to join them and secure customized Class A office space with room to grow.

Vaughan is a strategic investment for any business. In 2017 alone, the City issued \$1.97 billion in building permits, with industrial, commercial and institutional uses accounting for more than half of that total. Since 2010, the City has issued \$10.8 billion in building permits, concrete proof that Vaughan excels in building for the future.



DO
IN



**DOING BUSINESS
THE VMC**



**EDUCATED AND
DIVERSE TALENT**

Educated and diverse talent

The VMC has easy transit connections for the Greater Toronto Area's unparalleled talent pool.

The Toronto Region labour force of 3.5-million workers is the fifth largest among North American Metro Regions. This world-class pool of local and international talent has been built by Canada's favourable immigration policies, excellent and affordable academic institutions, and internationally renowned industry-academic partnerships. More than 51 per cent of the population is foreign born, speaking more than 180 languages and dialects.

York Region is the fastest growing large municipality in Ontario, attracting around 25,000 new residents yearly, many of whom are highly educated and attracted to urban growth centres like the VMC. In Vaughan and York Region, 70 per cent of the population has a post-secondary certificate, diploma or degree. That's 421,860 highly educated professionals (327,800 holding a university degree) in York Region alone.

Across the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA), there are another 2.2-million post-secondary educated workers, plus a robust talent pipeline. As of 2016-17, there are more than 320,000 students enrolled in GTHA universities and colleges, with 84,000 of those students in STEM programs. The VMC is a 30-minute subway ride from the University of Toronto and a six-minute ride from York University, two of the three largest universities in Canada. Niagara University opened a new Canadian site in the VMC in January 2019. It offers a bachelor of professional studies in education and a master of science in education.

Our talent has attracted investment to Vaughan and York Region. York is now Ontario's second largest financial, insurance and accounting services cluster and Canada's largest enterprise solutions ICT cluster.

Deepak Chopra, co-founder and CEO of custom mobile app developer Clearbridge Mobile, says access to talent topped the list of factors that led the company to Vaughan. Approximately half of the company's 50-odd employees live in the area "because of affordability, friendly neighbourhoods and good work-life balance." Chopra says the arrival of subway service to Vaughan is a "game changer" for employees travelling from Toronto.

Financial incentives for office development

The City of Vaughan recognizes the importance of attracting and retaining businesses in Vaughan. The City's first-ever Community Improvement Plan (CIP) provides financial incentives and planning tools for office development projects greater than 75,350 square feet.

Vaughan also has one of the GTA's lowest commercial property tax rates at 1.65 per cent.





INTERNATIONAL CORRIDOR

Niagara University expands to Vaughan Metropolitan Centre

Founded in 1856, Niagara University, with its main campus located in Lewiston, N.Y., has relocated its bi-national presence with this new site in Vaughan. Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua helped lead negotiations between the university and community leaders. The site is in the heart of the city's emerging downtown core, located in the Cortel Group's Expo City complex. The addition includes seven classrooms, faculty and administration offices and student lounge areas. Niagara University's Vaughan site is walking distance from the VMC TTC subway station and further connected by vivaNext bus rapid transit service.

Students studying in Vaughan can enrol in either the bachelor of professional studies in education or the master of science in education programs. These programs are fully accredited by the Ontario College of Teachers (OCT) and prepare aspiring professionals for careers in primary-junior and intermediate-senior teacher positions, among other education-related employment opportunities.

The new Vaughan site is home to Niagara University in Ontario, which has been offering outstanding teacher training, education and opportunities to Canadian students since 1984. More than 300 students, in addition to faculty and administrative staff currently in two other locations relocated to Vaughan. Niagara University, Vaughan's first university, has an extensive and proud history in Ontario.



“Niagara University is vested in the creation of the school's new VMC site. The VMC is the largest and most ambitious project in the city's history and its downtown is a natural place for Niagara University to be located. Building a complete city means having a post-secondary institution in an urban setting, walking distance from homes, businesses and amenities and connected by regionally integrated transit.”

- Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua

Face-to-face is easier in Vaughan

At the heart of the VMC is a Mobility Hub linking transit services operated by three public agencies, the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC), York Region Rapid Transit Corporation (YRRTC/ YRT) and Metrolinx. This new mass transit system connecting communities throughout the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area is up and running and the Hub will see more than 20,000 people movements daily by 2019. Vaughan is the only urban growth centre outside of Toronto that has subway access to/from downtown Toronto.

The VMC also has direct access to the main transportation arteries in Ontario: Highway 400, Highway 407 express toll route and Highway 7. These vital routes will ensure residents, visitors, employees and freight, to and from the VMC, will get where they need to go, quickly and efficiently.

Frequent flyer? Pearson International Airport, Canada's busiest and largest airport, is just a 15-minute drive from the VMC. It offers non-stop service via 75 carriers to 180 destinations worldwide.



Work and life in balance

The VMC offers employees work-life balance with a quick commute to work, beautiful new housing options, a fresh take on outdoor greenspace

and a short walk to popular and celebrated urban amenities.

This master-planned, people-oriented, live-work-play urban centre will feature greenspace, office and condo towers, pedestrian links, state-of-the-art transit, retail and entertainment. The new flagship YMCA of Greater Toronto in the VMC will offer invaluable child care and fitness services to the thousands of people who will work nearby. Urban spaces will be hubs of social activity, while natural areas like Edgeley Pond and Park will be a place to get away and recharge.

The TTC Line 1 Extension, now up and running, along with accessibility to Highway 407 and the Viva Bus Rapidway along Highway 7, were big reasons KPMG chose Vaughan, according to Sebastian Distefano, KPMG's Regional Managing Partner for the Greater Toronto Area.

A smooth commute, thanks to great transportation links, is very appealing to him and his staff. "There's nothing better than working a long, full day and then getting home in 10 minutes to take my kids to sports practice."



**EASY ACCESS
FROM EVERY ANGLE**

○ 5 Minute
Walking Radius

○ Major Parks
and Open Spaces



S TTC VMC SUBWAY STATION
OPEN

A vivaNext BUS RAPID TRANSIT STATION
OPEN

B SmartCentres Place BUS TERMINAL
OPEN



VAUGHAN

Brampton

Toronto

Mississauga

New Park Place

3300 Highway 7

Hamilton

GEW

403

400

404

401

Transit City

PwC-YMCA Tower

KPMG Office Tower

Transit City 4 and 5

SmartCentres Place Bus Terminal

VMC Subway Station

7800 Jane St

VMC VivaNext Station

Icona

Block 3

TTC LINE 1

Interchange Way

Portage Pkwy

Edgely Blvd

Appelwood Cres

Jane Street

Military Ave

Emerging downtown, rising skyline

The Vaughan Metropolitan Centre is attracting national and international employers and thousands of new residents.

The VMC's first office building, the 15-storey 360,000-square-foot KPMG Tower at SmartCentres Place, is now occupied with more than 700 KPMG employees. Other tenants include Miller Thomson, GFL Environmental Inc. and Harley-Davidson Canada.

Demand for office space continues to grow. Professional services firm PwC will anchor a new 220,000-square-foot mixed-use building opening in 2020. The building will also be home to a new 77,000-square-foot YMCA with not-for-profit child-care services, fitness and aquatic facilities plus a 32,000-square-foot City of Vaughan public library and recreation space.

The VMC has already exceeded residential targets for 2031 with 18,325 units housing an estimated 36,284 people in the development pipeline. This includes seven residential developments that are built or under construction.

More details on each development can be found at myVMC.ca.



2014

Expo City Tower 1 opens (37 storeys)



2016

Expo City Tower 2 opens (37 storeys)

KPMG Tower opens (300,000 ft² of Class A office, 65,000 ft² of retail and amenity space)



2017

Vaughan Metropolitan Centre subway and rapidway stations open

Transit Square and TTC Plaza opens

“The YMCA helps to give a place a soul, and with the VMC growing to include hundreds of businesses and thousands of residents, it will be essential to have a welcoming and inclusive space that helps to build community. And that’s what the YMCA does, in every neighbourhood, all around the world.”

– Mitch Goldhar, SmartCentres



2018

an
bus
open

VMC Mobility Hub wins
Ontario Traffic Council
Project of the Year



2019

Niagara University
opens

Expo City Towers 3
and 4 to open (2 x 37
storeys)

The MET Condos and
Townhouses
to open (35 storeys)

Edgeley Pond and Park
construction begins

SmartCentres Place Bus
Terminal
to open

In October 2019, the
City constructed and
opened new roads in
the VMC's northwest
area

SmartCentres Place
Bus Terminal opened.
This new terminal is
located at the corner
of Millway Avenue and
Apple Mill Road

2020

SmartCentres mixed-
use building (PwC,
YMCA, library) to
open (220,000 ft²)



2021

Transit City Condos,
Buca and Bar Buca to
open (3 x 55 storeys
and townhomes)



A Global Smart City Leader

In 2018, Mayor Bevilacqua established the Mayor's Smart City Advisory Task Force to advance a culture of knowledge and pursue continuous improvement. The group included accomplished representatives with extensive professional experience in the fields of: arts, culture and media; city infrastructure; construction and development; education; environmental sustainability; financial services; healthcare; information and technology; innovation and research; manufacturing; and social issues. There were also seven citizen representatives on the task force.

The work undertaken by the task force led to a comprehensive submission for the City's participation in the Government of Canada's Smart Cities Challenge. The heart of the submission calls for the use of Smart City technology to create a Digital Garden. The Digital Garden concept is about breaking down barriers, improving social cohesion and enhancing engagement and civic participation through the creation of community kiosks, known as Local Gardens. Kiosks would include Internet of things (IoT) sensors to gather data on traffic,

parking, air quality and attendance at events; provide administrative City procedures, such as online payments and digital deputations; and offer a one-stop shop for government services, including Service Ontario offerings, among other innovative amenities.

The City's 2019 Budget and 2020-2022 Financial Plan approved a new Smart City Program which will lead to the planning of a new Smart City business unit, a Strategic Business Plan and support the City of Vaughan Smart City Task Force.

2019 Smart City Summit and Expo in Taiwan:

Vaughan was invited to take part in the 2019 Smart City Summit and Expo in Taiwan. This international conference brought together thought leaders from local government, along with recognized professionals from public- and private-sector organizations. Representing the City were Ward 4 Councillor Sandra Yeung Racco, vice-chair of the Mayor's Smart City Advisory Task Force; Dennis Cutajar, director, Economic and Cultural Development; and Smart City industry expert Bill Hutchinson, who served as a facilitator and consultant on the Mayor's Smart City Advisory Task Force.



Memorandum of Understanding with US Ignite:

At a meeting of Council in March 2019, Council endorsed Mayor Bevilacqua's Member's Resolution for the City of Vaughan to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with US Ignite and to join the organization's Smart Gigabit Community. Vaughan is the first Canadian municipality to do so.

US Ignite is a non-profit organization that promotes international leadership to develop new applications and to foster an environment for local governments – and technology partners – to work together to improve the lives of citizens through cutting-edge solutions. US Ignite has been awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation, an independent federal agency of the United States Congress, entitled Smart Gigabit Communities. This grant will help create a network of smart gigabit city platforms and applications across more than 25 communities.

Joining the Smart Gigabit Community will allow Vaughan to strengthen professional networks, access innovative best practices and improve organizational and technical capabilities. It marks another important step forward to build on the City's focused efforts to be a Smart City leader.

Smart City Quick Facts:

- Vaughan has begun its digital transformation through the development and implementation of its Digital Strategy.
- Technology has played a vital role in the City's evolution. The City has embraced the World Council on City Data (WCCD), and in January 2016 Vaughan became the second municipality in Canada to be WCCD ISO 37120 Platinum Certified and will be the first city to pilot the new Smart Cities standard ISO 37122.
- Vaughan's first hospital – the new Mackenzie Vaughan Hospital – will be Canada's first smart hospital and feature fully integrated "smart" technology systems and medical devices

VAUGHAN'S HOSPITAL, C FIRST SMAR



Vaughan Healthcare Centre Precinct:

The Mackenzie Vaughan Hospital is a \$1.6-billion initiative and is expected to open in late 2020. It will be the first hospital built in York Region in the last 30 years. Cranes tower over the 1.2-million square foot site, which can house up to 550 hospital beds. It will provide 100 physician specialists to Mackenzie Health and present teaching, learning and research opportunities in the medical field. It will employ over 1,800 full-time hospital staff. This hospital will be the first in Canada to feature fully integrated smart technology systems and medical devices that can speak directly to one another to maximize patient care.

Leading front-line healthcare services to be offered:

- state-of-the-art emergency department
- modern surgical services and operating rooms
- advanced diagnostic imaging
- specialized ambulatory clinics and intensive care beds
- medicine, birthing (obstetrics), pediatrics, mental health and York Region District Stroke Centre



Mayor Bevilacqua serves as chair of the \$250-million Mackenzie Health Foundation's Ultimate Campaign, which has raised \$169 million to build the Mackenzie Vaughan Hospital.

The hospital's innovation agenda includes:

- weHealth, a digital eHealth platform that links patient healthcare happening inside and outside the hospital for a connected, integrated approach to patient care
- the Mackenzie Innovation Institute (Mi2), which works with healthcare equipment providers to facilitate testing of equipment in exchange for deploying it to Mackenzie Health locations first.
- the Innovation Unit, an acute care medical unit with 17 Smart Patient Rooms (34 beds) equipped with smart technology that supports an environment for innovations to be developed, and enables nurses and other team members to spend more time at the bedside providing hands-on care

MOU: HEALTHCARE CENTRE PRECINCT



In a first-of-its-kind initiative in Vaughan, the City is leading a collaboration to transform a 33-hectare (82-acre) parcel of land at Jane Street and Major Mackenzie Drive into the Vaughan Healthcare Centre Precinct. A memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed in October 2019 between the City of Vaughan, York University, Mackenzie Health and ventureLAB to identify transformational opportunities to maximize the best use of lands surrounding the site of the Mackenzie Vaughan Hospital through a feasibility study.

The feasibility study will determine how best to create a world-class health experience and explore various options, including a new space for ventureLAB to expand and create another regional innovation hub in Vaughan and opportunities for Mackenzie Health to collaborate with York University in the area of academic health sciences.

The goal of this unique collaboration is for the Vaughan Healthcare Centre Precinct to leverage resources to bring healthcare, innovation and jobs to this growing community. The site has the potential to be a place that will connect people and spaces – bringing together different sectors to become an epicentre of healthcare excellence in the city.

By fall 2019, a consultant will be retained to undertake the study. The successful consultant will be obtained through an open, competitive and accountable procurement process overseen by the City. The study is anticipated to be complete by the end of 2020.

Following the study, a comprehensive action plan that outlines opportunities, costs and strategies for unleashing the potential of the Vaughan Healthcare Centre Precinct will be presented.

Get Involved

Opportunities exist to:

- Bring your innovative product or service to the Mackenzie Innovation Institute: info@mi2health.com
- Develop at three different available sites in the Precinct totaling approximately 5 hectares (13 acres) – up to 780,000 square feet for healthcare related uses
- Invest in high-profile, shovel-ready sites with full services: water, stormwater, sanitary sewer, power

Contribute to major educational, cultural and government uses such as:

- a hospital with a full range of care
- rehabilitation facilities, long-term care and other forms of residential uses related to healthcare
- research and development facilities
- medical and dental offices
- laboratories
- facilities that construct or repair medical devices
- education, training, meeting or conference facilities related to healthcare
- business or health facilities that promote wellness
- ancillary services including child or adult daycare, retail facilities, a chapel or small place of worship, accommodations facilities, parking areas and structures, utilities and maintenance operations, district energy plans and recreational uses associated with a healthcare use





Stay Connected, Create Success

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