

# **Director's Update**

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February 8, 2022 – CW (2)

- Vaughan Healthcare Centre Precinct – Enabling Next Steps
- Supporting Vaughan's Innovators – Update

February 9, 2022 – CW (WS)

- Advantage Vaughan – Phase 3 of Vaughan's Economic Development Response to COVID-19

# **Vaughan Healthcare Centre Precinct – Enabling Next Steps, CW (2)**

NB: Presentations from Mackenzie Health, York University, ventureLAB

## **Purpose**

To receive Council direction for staff to take next steps in the establishment of a world-class health and healthcare innovation, research, education, and service district at the Vaughan Healthcare Centre Precinct (VHCP) by entering into negotiations for City-owned land adjacent to the Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital with longstanding VHCP partners. This report will also make clear the City of Vaughan's intent to provide partners with support as they advance proposals with other levels of government.

## **Report Highlights**

- The VHCP is a long-standing social and economic priority for the City, started in 2019 with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with York University, Mackenzie Health and ventureLAB to undertake a feasibility study to identify the best use of lands surrounding the site of the Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital
- The VHCP is a transformative city-building project that will generate significant economic and employment impact, including one-time impacts of more than \$755 million in value added to the Canadian economy, opportunities for some 6,300 full-time equivalent employment positions
- The VHCP Advisory Task Force is recommending that the City advance the VHCP by entering into negotiations with Mackenzie Health, York University and ventureLAB for City-owned land at the VHCP

## **Recommendations**

1. That staff be directed to enter negotiations for City-owned land at the Vaughan Health Centre Precinct (VHCP) for:
  - a. York University to maintain “a dedicated facility to provide research, teaching, innovation, community engagement and administrative space at the VHCP. This facility in phase 1 would likely be in the range of 150,000-200,000 square feet in size, to accommodate faculty, students and staff and all related programming.”
  - b. Mackenzie Health to “continue to expand access to services to enable our residents of Vaughan to receive high quality care close to home. Ability to expand outside of current hospital allocated blocks would provide additional capacity for health and regional services.”
  - c. ventureLAB initiatives that can be housed at the future VHCP to “explore the establishment of an innovation centre with VHCP partners to broaden and strengthen Vaughan's entrepreneurial community while driving commercialization at scale.”
2. THAT the recommendations contained in the confidential communication from the City Manager, dated February 3, 2022, be approved; and
3. THAT staff return to a future Committee of the Whole meeting to present the results of negotiation and seek approval for final agreements.

## **Supporting Vaughan's Innovators – Update and Next Steps, CW (2)**

NB: Presentation from ventureLAB

### **Purpose**

This report seeks Council approval to undertake next generation innovation support programming emerging from the lessons of the Vaughan International Commercialization Centre Pilot Project, including enhanced partnerships with ventureLAB and Innovation York.

### **Report Highlights**

- Innovation is a key emerging opportunity in Vaughan's economy as growth in the technology sector has a significant multiplier effect on the broader economy
- Innovation support organizations with a physical presence in Vaughan are critical for catalyzing and retaining economic growth
- In 2015 Council endorsed a pilot of the Vaughan International Commercialization Centre (VICC) to grow innovation support services for businesses in Vaughan
- Building on the decentralized model explored by the VICC, Economic Development should advance the next generation of support for the innovation sector by expanding partnerships with partners such as ventureLAB and Innovation York
- Enhanced partnerships with existing innovation partners should focus on anchoring these organizations in Vaughan and positioning Vaughan's innovation economy for success by strengthening its position within the region as a hub for entrepreneurship and innovation
- ventureLAB is the provincially-designated Regional Innovation Centre (RIC) for Vaughan and York Region, supported by the Regional Municipality of York and Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade (MEDJCT) to enable Vaughan's innovators

### **Recommendations**

1. THAT Council receive this report and end the Vaughan International Commercialization Centre (VICC) pilot programs;
2. THAT Council endorse a renewed ventureLAB partnership including a future (2024-26) operating budget request;
3. THAT Council direct staff to work with York University (Innovation York) to explore a YSpace facility in Vaughan; and
4. THAT this report be forwarded to the Economic Prosperity Task Force.

# **2021 VAUGHAN-RAMLA SUMMIT: DEVELOPING A CULTURAL PARTNERSHIP ACTION PLAN, CW (2)**

## **Purpose**

This report aims to advance the development of a Cultural Partnership Action Plan between Vaughan and Ramla, Israel.

## **Report Highlights**

- In May 2019, Vaughan Council approved the new Cultural and Economic Partnerships Corporate Policy to advance Vaughan's commitment to international partnerships with global cities and organizations.
- On Nov. 24, 2019, during the Israel Business Mission, Mayor Bevilacqua and Mayor Vidal signed an MOU to advance shared cultural opportunities and experiences between both cities, consistent with the Cultural and Economic Partnerships Corporate Policy.
- On Nov. 23, 2021, Mayor Bevilacqua, in partnership with Mayor Vidal, chaired a virtual summit between Vaughan and Ramla. Summit discussion included developing ideas, objectives and deliverables that will make up the Cultural Partnership Action Plan.
- City staff are working towards a new four-year Vaughan-Ramla Cultural Partnership Action Plan for presentation to Council in 2023 for approval.

## **Recommendations**

1. That this report be forwarded for information to both the Economic Prosperity Task Force and the Tourism Vaughan Board of Directors.
2. That staff work with counterparts in Ramla, Israel, the Israeli Consul General in Toronto, and other relevant stakeholders to develop a Vaughan-Ramla Cultural Partnership Action Plan, provide ongoing updates to Council and present a final version to Council for approval in 2023.
3. That staff provide updates to Council on the development of the Vaughan-Ramla Cultural Partnership Action Plan as requested.

# **Advantage Vaughan: Phase 3 of Vaughan's Economic Development Response to COVID-19, CW (WS)**

## **Purpose**

For Council to endorse the economic development initiatives outlined in the Advantage Vaughan Plan as part of ongoing efforts to support existing businesses, enhance residents' skillsets, and safeguard the local economy in response to COVID-19.

## **Report Highlights**

- Advantage Vaughan is Phase 3 of the City's economic development efforts to respond to COVID-19. It builds off Phase 1: the Vaughan Business Action Plan (March 2020) and Phase 2: the Vaughan Business Resilience Plan (June 2020).
- The plan is funded through the Council-approved 2022 Budget and draws from an up to \$300,000 capital fund, formerly the Economic Prosperity and Social Capital marketing fund, for targeted economic support.
- Advantage Vaughan will:
  - Provide additional funding to programs led by the Vaughan Business and Entrepreneurship Centre (VBEC) to deliver training, mentorship and micro-grants for local entrepreneurs;
  - Create a new Talent City Vaughan program to support organizations providing opportunities for residents, and vulnerable groups, to enhance their skillsets; and
  - Provide additional funding to Recreation Services' Fairs and Festivals Support Program to help strengthen in-person events when it is safe to hold them.
- Leveraging the resources of the new Office of Communications and Economic Development, these programs will further accelerate strategic communications, marketing and promotional efforts to Economic Development department clients about the advantages of doing business in Vaughan.

# **Advantage Vaughan: Phase 3 of Vaughan's Economic Development Response to COVID-19, CW (WS)**

## **Recommendations**

1. THAT Council approve the pilot Advantage Vaughan economic development programs as presented in this report;
2. THAT Council approves the allocation of funds from the Economic and Business Recovery Program approved as part of the 2022 Budget to the programs outlined in this report;
3. THAT the Director, Economic Development, (or designate) be authorized to execute agreements, as required, during the 2022–2023 time frame related to awarding grants and/or sponsorship funding to eligible individuals and organizations through the Talent City Vaughan program outlined in this report;
4. THAT Council directs the Economic Prosperity Task Force to establish a panel of three members from the existing Task Force to adjudicate Talent City Vaughan applications;
5. THAT agreements shall be in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor (or designate), and the content shall be satisfactory to the Chief, Communications and Economic Development (or designate);
6. THAT staff report results of the pilot programs to Council in the first quarter of 2023 with recommendations about potential future programs; and
7. THAT Council instructs the Tourism Vaughan Corporation (TVC) Board of Directors to assign the Tourism Vaughan Advisory Committee the task of developing and reporting ideas, no later than May, 2022, to use TVC business and destination development resources to animate the City in 2022.



### ***Looking Ahead: March***

- Small Business and Entrepreneurship Services Update
- Tourism Vaughan Action Plan 2022
- Canada Community Revitalization Funding
- VMC Assembly Park Container Program Public Art Plan Update

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# Thank You

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Q&A