



Budget 2015

Respecting taxpayers' hard-earned dollars

After thorough discussion, public input and careful consideration, the City of Vaughan has approved a fiscally responsible budget that is respectful of taxpayers' hard-earned money and is in alignment with our agenda to move this city forward. It was our goal to keep tax increases at or below three per cent and we have succeeded with a 2.7 per cent residential property tax. In fact, in January I tabled a motion which was unanimously supported by council that will ensure property taxes will not exceed three per cent for the next four years.

Vaughan continues to have one of the lowest tax rates in the GTA and this reflects our commitment to fiscal responsibility as one of our top priorities. This budget demonstrates our pledge to deliver high-quality programs and services while meeting the needs of our growing community. Although this budget process required tough choices, we balanced the need to maintain service levels, move forward with city-building initiatives and keep tax rates low.

This approach is part of our agenda for positive change. We will do better, reach higher and go farther to meet the needs of the community while remaining focused, disciplined, co-operative and innovative in our approach to governance.

This includes the establishment of a budget task force to study the options available to achieve efficiencies and savings in order to ensure that the annual tax rate does not increase by more than three per cent.

Vaughan is a rapidly growing city and part of the financial planning process is to develop a multi-year budget that balances the need to continue delivering excellence in service, accommodate growth and take on corporate initiatives while maintaining the City's ability to fund them. Multi-year budgets allow us to proactively prepare for the future and plan where the City's resources should be focused to best support the community.

We are committed to being a key economic development driver in the GTA and Canada by creating jobs, encouraging investment, and pursuing opportunities that will enhance our quality of life and standard of living. This is our time to leverage our advantages, put our skills, talents and resources to work, and continue pursuing the path that will take Vaughan to the next level.

Hon. Maurizio Bevilacqua, P.C.
Mayor