

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 10, 2013

Item 33, Report No. 52, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted, as amended, by the Council of the City of Vaughan on December 10, 2013, as follows:

By approving the following:

That recommendation 1 from the Committee of the Whole meeting dated November 26, 2013, be amended to read as follows:

- 1) That staff engage an expert in the field of arts, culture and tourism to make a presentation at the Committee of the Whole (Working Session) meeting of February 11, 2014, including case studies, best practices, trends and best fit for the City of Vaughan, which will provide the foundation for discussion in arriving at a shared vision for the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre as it relates to the approved 10-year Economic Development Strategy.

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CITY OF VAUGHAN ARTS, DESIGN AND CULTURAL CAMPUS

The Committee of the Whole recommends:

- 1) That staff provide a report to the Committee of the Whole (Working Session) meeting of January 21, 2014, on facilitating the arts in general;
- 2) That the resolution submitted by Councillor Racco, dated November 26, 2013, be received;
- 3) That the deputation of Mr. Timothy Ying, Michigan Drive, Toronto, be received; and
- 4) That the following Communications be received:

C10 Dr. Sara Diamond, RCA, Order of Ontario, McCaul Street, Toronto, dated November 25, 2013; and

C12 Mr. Quinto Annibale, Loopstra Nixon, Woodbine Place, Queens Plate Drive, Toronto, dated November 25, 2013.

Member's Resolution

Submitted by Councillor Sandra Yeung Racco

Whereas, the City of Vaughan is in the process of continuing to plan the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre (VMC) as a complete community, including residential, commercial, retail and institutional components, along with recreational and entertainment nodes, and with the Toronto York Spadina Subway Extension on track to open in the VMC by 2016; and

Whereas, the City of Vaughan's Economic Development 10-Year Strategy strategic goal number four is to "Grow Vaughan's dynamic quality of place and creative economy," and Objective 4.2.4 states "Recognize the VMC as the City's cultural and creative hub by undertaking initiatives to plan, market and promote the downtown using specialized marketing and promotion approaches that reflect the "cool factor" of target audience:

- a) Direct new arts facilities, including a larger performing arts theatre, visual arts centre, and convention and conference centre infrastructure to locate in the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre
- b) Showcase work of local cultural and creative industries and artists in public spaces within the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre"; and

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EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 10, 2013

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Whereas, locations such as The Banff Centre provide staff with a best in class example of what is possible with regards to inspiring creativity across multiple disciplines (i.e., arts, business, and academic) and acting as a successful arts and cultural incubator, as “over 8,000 artists, leaders, and researchers from across Canada and around the world participate in programs at The Banff Centre every year, through its multidisciplinary programming solutions, and to make the impossible possible”; and

Whereas, industry leading and world-class academic institutions such as OCAD (Ontario College of Arts and Design) and the Royal Conservatory have already expressed a strong desire and willingness to be a part of the creation of a Arts, Design and Cultural Campus in Vaughan within the VMC, along with a number of private investors; and

Whereas, early preliminary discussions have taken place with the Province of Ontario with regards to holding lands within the VMC for future significant cultural development; and

Whereas, the existence of a strong cultural centre within a urban centre and community correlates directly with the creation of a complete community, the attraction of new investment and a vibrancy that appeals to people and creates a natural environment that supports the development of creative thought leaders across sectors; and

Whereas, the Art, Design and Cultural Campus could include, but would not be limited to the inclusion of a performing arts theatre, educational facilities, creative economy focused incubator, among other components serving all facets of the creative economy (performing arts, theater, music, film & television, visual arts and business & leadership development campus); and

Whereas, on October 29, 2013, Council approved “That the City of Vaughan welcomes and supports a world class Cultural and Entertainment District, which will include an Integrated Convention, Trade Centre, Five Star Hotel, and Entertainment Arts Centre, and other infrastructure and services consistent with the City's plan to improve the citizens' standard of living and quality of life, provided that such does NOT include a casino”;

Be it therefore resolved that staff be directed to investigate existing business models, evaluate options for the City of Vaughan and work with a third party consultant that specializes in the creative economy to establish a feasibility study focused on creating a framework and optimal approach to establishing a competitively positioned and economically sustainable Art, Design and Cultural Hub/Campus within the VMC contributing towards making Vaughan a complete community and acting as a catalyst to future economic growth; and

That staff identify the full cost implications required to undertake the work identified with this resolution and provide correspondence to the January 15, 2014 Finance and Administration Committee for inclusion in the Draft 2014 Budget and 2015-2017 Plan process; and

That staff work in partnership with the existing Vaughan Arts Centre of Excellence (VACE) organization to create a working committee in order to manage this project effectively and garner significant feedback from a wide range of community stakeholders including not-for-profit organizations, academia, business and government; and

That the staff report include the identification of public and private sector partnerships necessary to participate in the initial research stage in order to gauge the level of interest and commitment to being a part of the creation of an Art, Design and Cultural Campus; and

That staff present the findings from the feasibility study to a future Committee of the Whole Working Session for consideration.

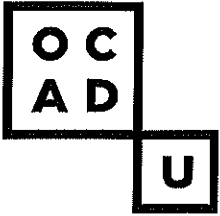
CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 10, 2013

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Attachments

None



c 10
Communication
cw: <u>November 13</u>
Item: <u>33</u>

November 25, 2013

Dr. Sara Diamond
O. of Ont., RCA
PRESIDENT/
VICE-CHANCELLOR

sdiamond@ocadu.ca
T. 416 977 6000 x. 300
M. 416 500 9026

OCAD UNIVERSITY
100 McCAUL STREET
TORONTO, ONTARIO
M5T 1W1

OFFICE
115 McCAUL STREET
3RD FLOOR

Councillor Sandra Yeung Racco
Ward 4, Concord/Thornhill North
905-832-8585 ext. 8198
cindy.furfaro@vaughan.ca

Dear Councillor Sandra Yeung Racco,

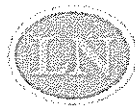
I am delighted to be writing in relation to the concept of a Vaughan Arts, Design and Cultural Campus. Development of arts and creative space is critical to city-building and to advancing the quality of life in our society and communities. The prospective campus, although in an early and conceptual stage, presents an exciting opportunity rooted in this hard fact: the visual and performing arts and design, along with education, provide an enriching community foundation.

OCAD University has an international reputation and is one of the largest art and design post-secondary institutions in North America. We have a long and proud history in educating, training and engaging artists, designers and creative thinkers. We have explored some initial ideas about possible engagement for OCAD University in an Art, Design and Cultural Campus in Vaughan. Our involvement in such a campus could take many forms, from assisting in its formulation and programing through our Strategic Foresight Lab and through various engagements with our talented faculty and students. We could help to explore ways in which the university may have a role in activating space within the centre, through offering Continuing Studies opportunities, exhibitions, thought-provoking lectures or even delivery of credit curriculum. We also see possibilities in extending our Imagination Catalyst start-up incubation activities to your region. We already have a student base, as well as staff and faculty who hail from Vaughan and would like to expand our reach in Vaughan.

OCAD University has been fortunate to have a number of meetings with City of Vaughan officials. We are very impressed by their enthusiasm and vision for such a project and would welcome an opportunity to continue to work with them to assist in the realization of that vision, with or without extensive OCAD University long term presence.

Sincerely Yours,

Dr. Sara Diamond, President and Vice-Chancellor, RCA, Order of Ontario



LOOPSTRA NIXON LLP

BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS

Quinto M. Annibale*

***Quinto Annibale Professional Corporation**

Direct Line: 416-748-4757

E-mail: qannibale@loonix.com

November 25, 2013

By E-Mail

Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua and Members of Council
City of Vaughan
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Vaughan, Ontario
L6A 1T1

c. 12
Communication
CW: <u>Nov 26/13</u>
Item: <u>33</u>

Dear Mayor and Members of Council:

**Re: Item 33, Committee of the Whole November 26, 2013, Report No. 52:
Resolution for the development of a City of Vaughan Arts Design and Cultural
Campus**

I am the Corporate Secretary for the Vaughan Arts Centre of Excellence ("VACE"), a Not-for-Profit organization dedicated to the advancement of the Arts in Vaughan. I write in support of the above-noted resolution, which I understand will be considered by Committee of the Whole tomorrow. Please accept this letter as VACE's support for the resolution which asks Council to investigate the possibility of an Arts, Design and Cultural Campus in Vaughan.

VACE has been working toward bringing such a campus to Vaughan for over 2 years and we are thrilled with the possibility that Vaughan Council may now champion this cause. Vaughan is in desperate need of an arts facility and lags behind other communities of our size and importance in that respect. Given that the VMC is now developing as our primary area of intensification, the timing could not be better for Council to get behind this initiative. This resolution will allow Vaughan to take a giant step forward in its promotion of the arts.

There is no question that there is a demand for such a facility. Our discussions with our future potential partners bears this out. There is great enthusiasm from groups such as OCAD and The Royal Conservatory of Music and others for us to advance this initiative. We



believe we can, together, make Vaughan a northern satellite for many of these groups. We hope Council will agree with this vision.

I urge Council to adopt Councillor Yeung Racco's Resolution.

Should you have any questions with respect to the foregoing, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

LOOPSTRA NIXON LLP

Per: 

Quinto M. Annibale

QMA/rs

cc VACE Chair and Board of Directors

MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

Date:	NOVEMBER 26, 2013 – COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Title:	CITY OF VAUGHAN ARTS, DESIGN AND CULTURAL CAMPUS
Submitted by:	Councillor Sandra Yeung Racco

Whereas, the City of Vaughan is in the process of continuing to plan the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre (VMC) as a complete community, including residential, commercial, retail and institutional components, along with recreational and entertainment nodes, and with the Toronto York Spadina Subway Extension on track to open in the VMC by 2016; and

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That the staff report include the identification of public and private sector partnerships necessary to participate in the initial research stage in order to gauge the level of interest and commitment to being a part of the creation of an Art, Design and Cultural Campus; and

That staff present the findings from the feasibility study to a future Committee of the Whole Working Session for consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Yeung Racco
Councillor, Ward 4

Attachments

None