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Keeping our community informed.

vaughan.ca/news



COVID-19 Special Edition 2 | Winter 2021

Message from Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua



Dear Neighbour,

As we look back at the past year, we know the challenges the global community faces will be intensely studied by leaders in industry, government and academia. And when it comes time to write the book on Vaughan, ours will be a case study about a City and a people that were ready, resilient and resourceful in combatting COVID-19.

From the beginning, our priority has been to ensure the health and safety of everyone who lives and works here. We took swift action to protect our community while guaranteeing the continued delivery of programs and essential services.

On March 17, 2020, Vaughan became the first city in Ontario to declare a state of emergency. The following day, City Hall and all other municipal facilities, such as community centres and local library branches, were closed to the public. They will remain closed until June 2021, at the earliest.

The City of Vaughan's 2021 Budget and 2022 Financial Plan includes a zero per cent increase to the property tax rate. Rooted in fiscal sustainability, it serves to secure greater efficiencies and maximize every dollar we are entrusted to invest by the people of our city. Keeping property taxes low and competitive remains a priority for all Members of Council because we are dedicated to supporting residents and businesses during these unprecedented times.

A new digital permitting portal was launched, enabling citizens and building industry professionals to apply, track and pay for permits online. In 2020, the City once again issued more than \$1 billion in building permits. Since 2010, more than \$13 billion in building permits have been issued.

The future is now, and it is mobile. To address this new reality, we ushered in a new era of virtual and digital public services. The public is actively invited and encouraged to participate live in our Council and Committee meetings via teleconference, telephone or written communication. We amended

the Procedure By-law to make electronic meetings a permanent option. In doing so, we are improving access to democracy for all.

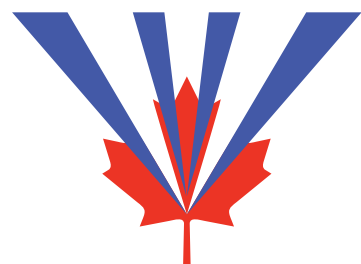
Vaughan is a global destination for growth and investment opportunities. Our economic development professionals' efforts have also taken a laser-like focus on supporting the local business community through initiatives such as the Vaughan Business Action Plan and the Vaughan Business Resilience Plan.

The fight against COVID-19 is a full-time commitment, not a part-time commitment. We must continue doing everything in our power to reduce adverse impacts on our city. Personal responsibility is more important now than ever. Please continue to stay home as much as possible, wear a mask or face covering when making essential trips outside your home, wash your hands frequently and practise physical distancing.

As I said at the onset of this global pandemic – we are in this together, and we will emerge stronger.

Sincerely,

Hon. Maurizio Bevilacqua, P.C.
Mayor



Vaughan NEWS

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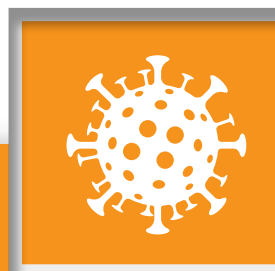
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City of Vaughan's 2021 Budget and 2022 Financial Plan



On Dec. 15, 2020, Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua and Members of Council approved the City of Vaughan's 2021 Budget and 2022 Financial Plan, which includes a zero per cent increase to the property tax rate. Building on the City's principles of integrity, accountability and responsibility, this year's budget once again reflects Vaughan's commitment to respecting taxpayers' hard-earned money while factoring in the unprecedented impacts of COVID-19.

2021 interim property tax bills

Vaughan's 2021 interim residential and non-residential tax bills were mailed out the week of Feb. 15, and there is a new look to the bill. Due dates for interim property tax bill payments are Thursday, March 25, Thursday, April 29 and Thursday, May 27. Residents who have not received their tax bills should contact the City of Vaughan Tax Office immediately at 905-832-2281 or accessvaughan@vaughan.ca. As the City has transitioned to new tax software, there is a change for residents registered in the monthly Pre-authorized Tax Payment Plan (PTP). For 2021, there will be 10 payment instalments instead of the usual 11 and the first automatic payment date will be Monday, March 1. It is expected that the plan will revert back to 11 payments starting Jan. 1, 2022. The tax account must still be at a zero balance in order to qualify for the PTP plans. Visit vaughan.ca/PropertyTax for more information.

Elderly Home-Owners Tax Assistance Program

Annually, the City offers the Elderly Home-Owners Tax Assistance program, a \$387-rebate provided to senior homeowners who meet the criteria. The deadline to apply for this program is Wednesday, March 31. Visit vaughan.ca/PropertyTax for more information about how to apply.

Did you know...

The property tax bill may come in a City of Vaughan envelope, but only \$0.27 of every dollar stays with the City to provide all programs and services.

Here is a breakdown of how residential property taxes are allocated:

\$0.49 to York Region

\$0.27 to City of Vaughan

\$0.23 to Local School Boards
(Province of Ontario for education purposes)

\$0.01 to the Hospital Precinct Levy

Municipal services in Vaughan are provided by two tiers of government. The City of Vaughan is the "lower tier" level of government and York Region is the "upper tier."

The City retains approximately \$1,600 of an average \$6,000 annual property tax bill.

COVID-19 IMPACTS EVERYTHING.

EVEN THE OPENING OF CORTELLUCCI VAUGHAN HOSPITAL.

HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

On February 7, Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital opened with only ICU and medicine beds to bring relief to our community and the health care system due to a surge in COVID-19.

This means **the Emergency Department at Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital is closed** until the surge has been adequately addressed. Programs scheduled to move to Cortellucci Vaughan Hospital will also remain at Mackenzie Richmond Hill Hospital for now.

We're proud to step up for the province in this way and grateful to our Vaughan community for your support during these unprecedented times.

For more information, visit www.mackenziehealth.ca



ELECTRONIC-PARTICIPATION Committee and Council meetings

Written communications can be emailed to the Office of the City Clerk at clerks@vaughan.ca.

WATCH LIVE:
vaughan.ca/LiveCouncil



Electronic-participation Committee of the Whole and Council Meetings Keep City Business Moving Forward

The City of Vaughan continues to manage the evolving global COVID-19 pandemic and introduce precautionary measures to further encourage physical distancing practices and keep citizens and staff safe. In support of this direction, Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua and Members of Council will continue to hold electronic-participation Committee of the Whole and Council meetings to move important City business forward.

The City held the first electronic-participation Committee of the Whole and Council meetings on March 30, 2020.

While Vaughan City Hall remains closed to the public, citizens are still encouraged to participate - virtually. In addition to being able to tune in to the electronic-participation meeting at vaughan.ca/LiveCouncil, individuals can submit a written communication for review by Members of Council as part of an agenda item, or request to speak via teleconference (through a computer, app or by phone). Requests for written or verbal communications can be made by calling Access Vaughan at 905-832-2281 or by emailing the Office of the City Clerk at clerks@vaughan.ca.

The communication must:

- relate to a matter on the agenda.
- clearly state the request or message you wish to convey.
- include your name and contact information.

Please be advised, the name and address of any citizen submitting a communication will appear in the public record and will be posted online following the meeting. For more information about submitting a communication, visit vaughan.ca/HaveYourSay.

Questions regarding this process can be directed to Access Vaughan at 905-832-2281 or accessvaughan@vaughan.ca.



Visit vaughan.ca/CouncilMeetings for more information about these upcoming meetings, including agendas.



**Honourable
Jean Augustine
presented with
Key to the City**

On Oct. 25, 2020, Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua celebrated the legacy and life's work of the Honourable Jean Augustine and presented her with the Key to the City, and named the Jean Augustine Complex and Jean Augustine District Park in her honour during a virtual event.

Vaughan: A Vibrant and Diverse City

Vaughan is a vibrant and diverse city with an appreciation for the many cultures, creeds and faiths that thrive here. The City continues to foster a community that is inclusive and respectful where all citizens, businesses, employees and visitors are valued.

On Nov. 25, 2020, a Special electronic-participation Committee of the Whole meeting was held to address issues of racism and raise awareness about the City's diversity, inclusion and anti-racism efforts. The ideas exchanged during that meeting are helping to inform the work of Council's Diversity and Inclusion Task Force, which provides guidance to the

City in the development of policies that promote fairness, mutual respect and inclusion.

January 2021 marked the one-year anniversary of when Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua signed the Vaughan Inclusion Charter on behalf of the City of Vaughan in support of the Inclusion Charter for York Region. The Charter reaffirms Council's goal to create and sustain Active, Safe and Diverse Communities as outlined in the 2018-2022 Term of Council Service Excellence Strategic Plan.

Learn more about Vaughan's diversity and inclusion efforts at vaughan.ca/news.



**Watch Vaughan's
Black History
Month Celebration**



#ShopVaughanLocal

**Support local businesses as
additional measures are put in
place to curb COVID-19**



Support for Citizens



Reinvigorating 'traditional' services

Although the City of Vaughan's physical doors remain closed in response to COVID-19, city-building has not slowed down. Essential services continue uninterrupted and departments across the organization have introduced or enhanced virtual service offerings to provide new, efficient and streamlined experiences for residents and businesses. By reinvigorating traditional services, enhancing digital platforms and modifying in-person programs, the City is delivering Service Excellence – virtually – throughout the global pandemic. Below is an update on some municipal programs and services that have been adapted or introduced.

Waste collection

- Garbage tags: Residents can purchase garbage tags and exchange a broken City bin through Service Vaughan at vaughan.ca/ServiceVaughan.
- Recycle Coach app: Download the free app for complete waste and recycling information and customized notifications.
- Waste-less Virtual Visit: For one-on-one video coaching on how to divert more materials into blue boxes and green bins, book a 20-minute virtual session by calling Access Vaughan at 905-832-2281.
- Quick Response (QR) Codes: Residents can alert staff about full garbage cans in some City parks by scanning a QR code.
- What Goes Where?: The City's online sorting tool to help determine how to dispose of an item is available at vaughan.ca/waste.

Digital permits

- Building permits: Citizens and building industry professionals can apply, track and pay for permits online at vaughan.ca/PermitPortal.
- Engineering permits: Permits for pools, grading for sheds, home additions and more can now be submitted and approved through vaughan.ca/DEPermits.
- Planning applications: The City has developed a process to arrange Pre-Application Consultation meetings and to receive planning applications digitally. Visit vaughan.ca to view the application process.



Recreation Services

- vaughan.ca/recreation: Virtual recreation resources for all ages, abilities and areas of interest continue to be enhanced. These include arts and crafts, Vaughan Playschool educational worksheets, Vaughan Playhouse Academy drama activities and more.
- Virtual fitness classes: Fitness classes are available via Zoom, free to Vaughan Fitness Members. Classes include yoga, total body conditioning, barre, HIIT circuit training, and Zumba. Pre-registration is required at vaughan.perfectmind.com. Free, full-length fitness classes (40 to 60 minutes long) are also streamed on the [recrevaughan](https://recrevaughan.com) YouTube channel.
- Fitness loan packages: Free fitness equipment packages are available for loan to current Vaughan Fitness members over the age of 18. Register at vaughan.ca/recreation.
- Virtual programs: As an alternative to in-person programs, City instructors are livestreaming popular recreational programs remotely via Zoom, including STEM, French, chess, dance, sports and leadership/volunteerism.

Vaughan Public Libraries (VPL)

- vaughanpl.info/vpl_at_home: VPL's fully digital library service features a variety of free online resources, including eBooks and audiobooks, films and television programs, music streaming services, e-learning courses, bilingual materials and more.
- Virtual programs: Storytime live-streams, STEAM-activity videos, scavenger hunts, science experiments and more are available daily on VPL's Instagram.
- Extended Wi-Fi: Public Wi-Fi has been extended to reach the parking lot of Bathurst Clark Resource Library, Civic Centre Resource Library and Pierre Berton Resource Library.
- Curbside Pickup: The program has been extended to every library in Vaughan to provide customers with quick and convenient access. Reserve books and arrange a pickup date at vaughanpl.info/curbside.

Virtual events

- City-led events resuming virtually this year include Black History Month commemorations, Lunar New Year celebration, the Vaughan Business Expo, the annual Vaughan Celebrates Winterfest celebration, the International Women's Day ceremony, Earth Hour and more. Visit vaughan.ca/EventCalendar to view upcoming community and City-led events to take place in 2021.

Business supports

- vaughanbusiness.ca: The dedicated COVID-19 information webpage includes information on resources available from all levels of government.
- Virtual business advisory services: Staff are available to support with registering a business, business planning, accessing government assistance programs and more.
- Sector-specific eNewsletters: Sign up to receive updates that keep businesses up to date on government announcements, funding and relevant programming.
- Online resources: In addition to the #ShopVaughanLocal campaign and the Open For Business webpage, access virtual business-events and webinars hosted across York Region via vaughanbusiness.ca/events.
- Vaughan Rising Podcast: Season Two of the podcast examines the resilience of Vaughan's business community and talks to leaders who are pivoting, innovating and doing what it takes to make it through to the other side of the pandemic.

Other services and programs for citizens:

- Pollinator activities: Kid-friendly activities are available online and include a butterfly origami, crossword puzzle and a Whose Home? interactive game available at vaughan.ca/environment.
- Art Integration Collection: The City's digital art gallery is available on Flickr, which features the 77 art acquisitions by local and GTA-based artists housed permanently in the collection.
- Service Vaughan reporting tool: Available at vaughan.ca/ServiceVaughan, submit requests for non-emergency service matters, including garbage, roads and traffic lights.
- visitvaughan.ca: The "explore online now, visit later" website, developed in partnership with the Tourism Vaughan Corporation and Central Counties Tourism, features museum tours, cooking lessons, educational webinars, roller-coaster rides and more about all there is to do and see in Vaughan.



“From the onset of the global COVID-19 pandemic, our priority has been to ensure the health and safety of everyone who lives and works in Vaughan. We continue to work around the clock to protect our community while ensuring the continued delivery of programs and essential services. The fight against COVID-19 is a full-time commitment, not a part-time commitment. We must continue doing everything in our power to reduce adverse impacts on our city. Personal responsibility is more important now than ever. Remember – we are all in this together, and we will emerge stronger.”

Hon. Maurizio Bevilacqua, P.C.
Mayor



Hon. **Maurizio Bevilacqua, P.C.**
Mayor of Vaughan

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Fitness centres and pools to reopen on March 8



Fitness Centre and pool registrations:
vaughan.perfectmind.com



Safety measures will be in place to protect users and staff from COVID-19

As part of the City of Vaughan's disciplined, measured and responsible approach to COVID-19, Vaughan Fitness and pool plan members will be welcomed back starting Monday, March 8 on a limited basis. Strict measures will be in place to protect all users and staff from the virus.

This news comes following the Province of Ontario's recent announcement that York Region – including Vaughan – would be placed in the Red-Control zone effective Feb. 22. Other amenities in community centres will remain closed to the public until further notice.

Fitness centres

Select fitness centres will open and have controlled access, limited capacity of 10 members and scheduled time blocks for patrons to sign up for in advance. Workout blocks will be 75-minutes each, with a 30-minute shutdown in between appointments for cleaning and sanitization. Times and fitness centre locations will be made available for registration on Friday, March 5 for time blocks starting the week of March 8. Members can register online at vaughan.perfectmind.com. For more information on how to register, visit vaughan.ca/recreation or contact Access Vaughan at 905-832-2281 or accessvaughan@vaughan.ca.

A mask must be worn when entering, exiting and travelling through the facility. Prior to arriving, all members will be asked to complete a provincial public health self-assessment. Upon arrival, members will present their fitness membership card, sanitize their

hands, undergo a temperature check and complete the Daily Declaration of Health Screening before entering the facility.

Fitness amenities that will remain closed include changerooms, saunas, lockers, showers, lost and found and the fitness track. Some equipment has been removed, including yoga gear, ab mats and neck pads.

Fitness classes will continue to run virtually. A new set of virtual fitness classes will be available via Zoom and are free for Vaughan Fitness members. Free full-length fitness classes (40- to 60-minutes long) are also streamed Monday through Saturday at 10 a.m. on the Recvaughan YouTube channel.

Given the limited capacity available at select fitness centres, the City will continue the fitness equipment loaner program to allow members to work out at home.

For more information, visit vaughan.ca/fitness.



Pools

Starting Monday, March 8, select community centre pools will reopen to the public for recreational and length swimming, as well as aquafitness. Availability will be limited and reassessed in the coming weeks. There will be a capacity of 10 swimmers in the pool at a time. Recreational and length swimming will be available to pool plan holders and Vaughan Fitness members. Pre-paid single visits by the public will be available at a special promotional rate of \$3.25 (plus HST) for a limited time. Aquafitness classes are available to plan holders and fitness members only until further notice. These facilities and activities will be available on a limited basis and at a reduced capacity. Times and pool locations will be made available for registration on Friday, March 5 for time blocks starting the week of March 8. Pre-registration is required to use the pool and can be done at vaughan.perfectmind.com. For assistance, call Access Vaughan at 905-832-2281 or email accessvaughan@vaughan.ca.

Prior to arriving at the community centre pool, a provincial public health self-assessment is required. Masks must be worn upon entry, exit, while travelling through the facility, on the pool deck and in the changeroom. A mask or face covering is not required in the pool. There will be enhanced daily cleaning and disinfection of high traffic surfaces and areas, including in changerooms. Access to changerooms will be limited and users are encouraged to come as prepared as possible to swim. Lockers and showers will not be available until further notice.

To view pool guidelines, the check-in procedure and schedules, visit vaughan.ca/swim.

Those who feel unwell, and believe they have symptoms related to COVID-19, should contact York Region Public Health at 1-800-361-5653 or Telehealth Ontario at 1-866-797-0000. For additional information and resources on the virus, visit York Region's website at york.ca/COVID19.



To receive Vaughan's latest updates as they happen, sign up for the City Update eNewsletter at vaughan.ca/CityUpdate.



#ShopVaughanLocal

Support local businesses as additional measures are put in place to curb COVID-19



MAKE SAFETY THE PRIORITY IN SCHOOL ZONES

Follow the rules of the road, be alert and keep your distance from others!

With some students back to in-class learning, there are more pedestrians on sidewalks throughout the city. To help stop the spread of COVID-19, the City of Vaughan is reminding everyone to stay vigilant, practise physical distancing from others, avoid gathering in groups and wear a mask when physical distancing is not possible.

In response to the pandemic, the City continues to implement measures to ensure the health and safety of all staff and citizens, including school crossing guards and children travelling to and from school.

With the safety of crossing guards and school children top-of-mind, the City has taken the following precautions:

- Training crossing guards on COVID-19-related procedures and safety measures.
- Providing crossing guards with masks.
- Requiring crossing guards to complete the Province's COVID-19 self-assessment questionnaire before reporting to work to ensure they are symptom-free.
- Installing signage at all school crossing guard locations to reinforce physical distancing.



Visit vaughan.ca/SchoolZoneSafety for more information.

While students head back to school, there will also be more pedestrian and vehicular traffic on the roads before and after classes. It's important for children, parents and drivers to be alert, follow the rules of the road and walk safely – especially in school zones. Take extra precautions around crosswalks, pedestrian crossovers, stopped school buses, schools and intersections.



Tips for pedestrians of all ages:

- Be mindful of slippery conditions on both the sidewalk and roadway.
- Walk young children to school.
- Encourage children to always obey crossing guards.
- Walk, don't run, when crossing the street.
- Pay attention to vehicular traffic while walking along or crossing roads.
- Always obey all traffic rules and signals.
- Ensure you are visible to drivers and cyclists before crossing and make eye contact once they have stopped.
- Cross at designated crosswalks, crossovers or controlled intersections.

Tips for drivers and cyclists:

- Reduce speed in school zones, especially when winter conditions are present, and be ready to stop at all times.
- Be mindful of large snowbanks that can create sightline issues.
- Expect the unexpected. Children may cross the street at the wrong place, run into traffic or ride a bike in front of a vehicle without warning.
- Stop for school buses and be aware of children running in front of or behind buses.
- Avoid U-turns in school zones.
- Do not pass other vehicles in a school zone.
- Obey all laws, including posted speed limits.
- Abide by all parking and traffic regulations in school zones.
- Obey crossing guard signals and yield to pedestrians.
- Pay attention to surroundings and watch for, and yield to, pedestrians when approaching a pedestrian crossover. (Failing to do so may result in fines from York Regional Police of up to \$1,000 and four demerit points.)
- Avoid distractions within the vehicle and ensure children are secured in a correctly-installed child restraint seat, if required.
- Ensure children exit by the passenger side of the vehicle.
- Keep fire routes and bus zones clear.
- Leave nine metres (or 29 feet) between the car and the crosswalks and/or stop signs when parking. Parking too close to these locations makes it difficult to see children when crossing the road.
- Avoid double parking in school zones.
- Watch for signs indicating "No Stopping" and "No Parking."
- Stay back 0.6 metres (or two feet) from private driveways to avoid upsetting residents.



School zone safety is a joint priority for the City of Vaughan's Transportation and Fleet Management Services and By-law and Compliance, Licensing and Permit Services departments as well as Vaughan Fire and Rescue Service. Together, with York Regional Police, York Region, York Region District School Board and York Catholic District School Board, the City is working to ensure the safety of all members of the community.

As part of this approach, the City has launched its 2020/21 Speed Compliance Program for school zones. Speed signs have been installed in locations at elementary schools throughout the city for two-week periods to help raise awareness of motorist travel speed and safety.

As well, schools throughout York Region are encouraging students and their families to use active means of travel to school such as walking or biking instead of driving. Active School Travel programs promote increased physical activity, manage traffic congestion and improve air quality. Parents can learn more through their child's school.

Those who feel unwell, and believe they have symptoms related to COVID-19, should contact York Region Public Health at 1-800-361-5653 or Telehealth Ontario at 1-866-797-0000. For additional information and resources on the virus, visit York Region's website at york.ca/COVID19.

To receive Vaughan's latest updates as they happen, sign up for the City Update eNewsletter at vaughan.ca/CityUpdate and follow the City's Twitter, Facebook and Instagram channels.



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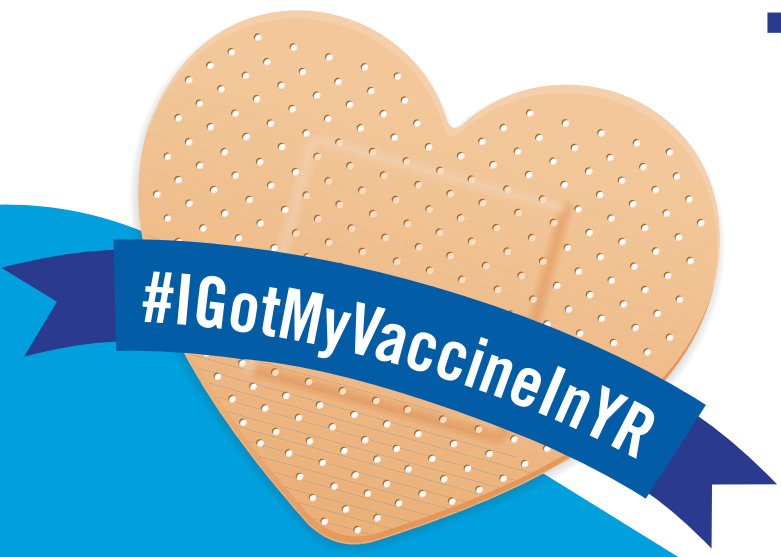
VAUGHAN ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
IS READY TO HELP YOU:

- learn about Vaughan.
- locate or expand your business in Vaughan.
- engage with Vaughan's business community.
- navigate government programs and supports.

For more information, visit vaughanbusiness.ca

COVID-19 VACCINES

NOW AVAILABLE TO THOSE ELIGIBLE



#IGotMyVaccineInYR

Please visit
york.ca/COVID19Vaccine
for more information

Roles and responsibilities in the COVID-19 emergency

The City of Vaughan continues to work closely with all levels of government to monitor and respond to the global COVID-19 pandemic and protect the health and well-being of citizens and staff. Many resources are available for people to stay informed and learn more about the different roles and responsibilities of the municipal, regional, provincial and federal governments in an emergency. The City has created a graphic to help break this information down for citizens who are looking for assistance from the government. Each level of government has different roles and responsibilities in helping to break the chain of transmission of this virus:

			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Animal services• Building permits• Burial permits• Development applications• Fire services• Organic, garbage and recycling collection• Park and amenity closures• Parking enforcement• Property standards enforcement• Property tax• Winter maintenance for local roads <p>Business Information: 905-832-8526 vaughan.ca/business</p> <p>Information: 905-832-2281 vaughan.ca</p> <p></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ambulance• Policing• Public health• Public housing• Winter maintenance for regional roads• Seniors housing• Shelter support• Transit (YRT, VIVAnext) <p>Business Information: york.ca/business</p> <p>York Regional Police: 1-866-876-5423 info@yrp.ca yrp.ca</p> <p>York Region Public Health Health Connection Line: 1-800-361-5653</p> <p>Information: 1-877-464-9675 accessyork@york.ca</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Business support and closures• Colleges and universities• COVID-19 testing• Health care• Hospitals• LCBO• List of non-essential businesses• Schools <p>Telehealth Ontario: 1-866-797-0000</p> <p>Business Information: 1-888-444-3659 ontario.ca/business</p> <p>Local representative: ola.org</p> <p>Medical supply donations: 1-888-777-0554 ontario.ca/OntarioTogether</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Access to credit• Business support• Canada Child Benefit• Canada Student Loans• Employee support• Employment Insurance (EI)• Foreign travel and support for Canadians abroad• Income supports• Income tax <p>Support for individuals: canada.ca/en/departement-finance/economic-response-plan.html</p> <p>Business and employee support: canada.ca/business</p> <p>Support for Canadians abroad: 1-800-387-3124 travel.gc.ca sos@international.gc.ca</p> <p>Local representative: parl.gc.ca</p>
vaughan.ca/COVID19	york.ca/COVID19	ontario.ca/COVID19	canada.ca/COVID19

York Region Isolation Centre

As one of the several actions outlined in the Province's High Priority Communities Strategy, York Region recently received provincial funding to establish a York Region COVID-19 Voluntary Isolation Centre, inside a City of Richmond Hill-based hotel. Established to support members of our community who are facing complex barriers to access services and prevention measures, the Isolation Centre provides a space for eligible York Region residents to safely self-isolate, without

being worried about transmitting the virus to people they share a household with. There are three main groups of people who can access the York Region Isolation Centre to self-isolate for up to 14 days, including those who are waiting for COVID-19 test results, those who have tested positive for COVID-19 and individuals who identified as close contacts of a positive COVID-19 case. All guests will receive free-of-charge onsite supports and services including daily wellness

checks, meals, laundry and Internet; guests will also be connected to community wraparound supports, as needed. York Region's Isolation Centre opened on Monday, Jan. 25 and will continue to operate to March 31, 2021, as needed, with the possibility of extension. For referrals to York Region's Voluntary Isolation Centre, please contact Access York at 1-877-464-9675, ext. 72500 or accessyork@york.ca.



York Region Public Health safety measures

- To continue to keep the community safe and help curb the spread of COVID-19, York Region is asking residents to:
- Stay home as much as possible and limit close contact to those in your immediate household
 - Practise physical distancing with anyone outside of your household by staying two metres away from everyone else
 - Wash your hands thoroughly and often

- Practise respiratory etiquette
 - Avoid touching your face with unwashed hands
 - Wear a face mask or covering when inside public places and outdoors, when physical distancing cannot be maintained
 - Clean high-touch surfaces often
 - Download the COVID-Alert app
- For more information, visit york.ca/COVID19.



Venture into the Great Outdoors

Put on your best walking boots and explore the beautiful nature Vaughan has to offer. Trails include: William Granger Greenway nature walk, Mackenzie Glen neighbourhood walk, Sonoma Heights neighbourhood walk, Peter Rupert neighbourhood walk, Rainbow Creek neighbourhood walk, Marita Payne neighbourhood walk, Riverwalk neighbourhood walk, Maple Nature Reserve nature walk, Jersey Creek neighbourhood walk, Sugarbush nature walk, Vellore neighbourhood walk and North Maple Regional Park nature walk. Enjoy these amenities safely by following all York Region Public Health COVID-19 guidelines.



Get your skate on!

Lace up your skates at one of the City's five outdoor skating rinks, open until March 2021, weather permitting. Open daily from 9:15 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Outdoor rinks are located at the following community centres: Chancellor Community Centre (350 Ansley Grove Rd.), Dufferin Clark Community Centre (1441 Clark Ave. W.), Father E. Bulfon Community Centre (8141 Martin Grove Rd.), Garnet A. Williams Community Centre (501 Clark Ave. W.) and Vellore Village Community Centre (1 Villa Royale Ave.).

By popular demand, the City has also constructed natural ice rinks on the tennis courts at Maple Community Centre and North Thornhill Community Centre. They are open weather permitting

The City urges the public to do their part and follow the recently enhanced measures to ensure the maximum number of individuals can safely enjoy the outdoor amenities and reduce the potential spread of COVID-19.

- All five of the City's outdoor rinks will be open every day from 9:15 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. until March (weather permitting).
- Pre-registration for outdoor recreational skating is required at vaughan.perfectmind.com.
- Skate sessions are 45 minutes in duration with a 30-minute break between sessions.
- The number of skaters on the ice at one time is limited to 25.
- Skate sessions are available for registration one week in advance.
- Waitlists and walk-ons are not permitted.
- All skaters are required to provide proof of registration and arrive no more than 10 minutes before your reserved skate time.
- Skaters are required to complete the Provincial Public Health Self-assessment prior to arriving at an outdoor rink.
- Only registered skaters will be permitted within the skate enclosure.
- Skaters must be residents of Vaughan.
- There will be no make-up times or scheduling adjustments for service disruptions resulting from inclement weather or maintenance delays/closures/cancellations.
- To cancel a skate session, email RecCSD@vaughan.ca.
- A mandatory mask zone is in effect for all participants and observers.
- Additional mats and benches have been spaced to ensure adequate physical distancing for each participant/family to wait and put on skates.
- On-site staff support the check-in, line management and skate patrol functions at each rink.
- Additional on-site security guards provide 24-hour coverage.
- There are increased presence and patrols by enforcement officers.

For more information about the City's outdoor skating rinks, including safety guidelines, visit vaughan.ca/skate.

Snowshoe loaner program

The NEW snowshoe loaner program is free for residents and bookings can be made online. Snowshoes are loaned on a weekly basis for four days from Thursday to Sunday and include one set of snowshoes per person, while quantities last. Following an online booking, you will be contacted by Recreation Services' staff within 24 hours to co-ordinate a curbside pickup time and the completion of a mandatory waiver. A \$50 security deposit is required upon booking, which will be refunded when the snowshoes are returned.

Registration dates for the four-day loan will become available every Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. on a week-to-week basis. If you require assistance registering, call Access Vaughan at 905-832-2281 or email RecCSD@vaughan.ca.

There are five different sizes of snowshoe lengths to choose from:

- 19 inches – holds up to 80 pounds (small)
- 23 inches – holds from 70 pounds to 120 pounds (medium)
- 25 inches – holds up to 200 pounds (large)
- 30 inches – holds up to 250 pounds (extra large)
- 34 inches – holds up to 300 pounds (double extra large)

All equipment comes prepackaged and has been individually inspected, cleaned and disinfected. Snowshoes will be made available through contactless curbside pickup at Al Palladini Community Centre, Garnet A. Williams Community Centre, Maple Community Centre, North Thornhill Community Centre and Vellore Village Community Centre every Thursday from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Snowshoes are to be returned to the same community centre from which they were loaned on the Monday after your rental between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.



For more information, including a trail guide and maps, visit vaughan.ca/GreatWalks.



Have Your Say!



The City of Vaughan values the voice of the public and is dedicated to having constructive dialogue with the community that is open, transparent, accessible and inclusive. The City is committed to involving citizens, businesses and stakeholders in conversations about municipal decisions that interest or impact them. Here is information about some recent engagements.



Teston Road EA

The City has launched a Teston Road Environmental Assessment study for the area of Teston Road from 250 metres west of Pine Valley Drive to Kleinburg Summit Way. Check vaughan.ca/TestonRoad for more information.



Yonge-Steeles Corridor Secondary Plan

On Sept. 7, 2010, Council adopted the Yonge-Steeles Corridor Secondary Plan that proposes land use policies and urban design guidelines for future development in the area along Yonge Street and Steeles Avenue. Visit vaughan.ca/HaveYourSay to learn more.



Ward Boundary Review

As the City continues its review of Vaughan's ward boundaries, residents are encouraged to have their say. The online survey was available at vaughan.ca/WardBoundary until Jan. 22 and a second online survey is planned to go live in March 2021.



Maple Heritage Conversation District Plan Update

To continue protecting the Maple Heritage Conservation District's properties and natural landscapes, the City is reviewing the current plan. Residents helped inform the study through a virtual Public Information Session in January. Visit vaughan.ca/MapleHeritage to learn more.



Bass Pro Mills

The City initiated a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment study to further assess the need to extend Bass Pro Mills Drive from Highway 400 to Weston Road. The survey is now closed but residents can check vaughan.ca/BassProMillsEA for project updates.



VMC Secondary Plan

The City started an update to the existing VMC Secondary Plan. Residents shared thoughts on travel patterns, space usage, growth concepts and more in an online survey. Check the project's webpage at vaughan.ca/VMCPlan for more feedback opportunities.



VMC Transportation Plan Update

The City is updating the existing VMC Transportation Plan which will confirm community transportation needs and support a strategy focusing on street connectivity, accessibility and support for all travelers. Visit vaughan.ca/HaveYourSay.

Co-existing with Wildlife

Vaughan is home to many types of wild animals, such as raccoons, skunks, birds, foxes and coyotes. With understanding and some simple precautions, residents can learn to safely co-exist with the wild animals that share our backyards.

Do not feed wildlife.

Directly or unintentionally feeding a wild animal will increase its tolerance to people and pets. Reconsider bird feeders as they attract small mammals, which encourage larger wild animals to visit your yard.

What to do if a coyote or fox approaches you

- **STOP** Pick up children and small pets, if necessary.
- **STAND STILL** Never run from a coyote, fox or domestic dog.
- **MAKE YOURSELF BIG** Wave your hands above your head.
- **BE LOUD AND ASSERTIVE** Shout, stomp your feet and clap your hands.
- **USE A NOISEMAKER** It could be your voice, a party horn, pots and pans banged together, shaker can (such as a pop can filled with pebbles), a plastic bag (pull it out of your pocket and snap it around) or an umbrella popping open and closed.
- **SLOWLY BACK AWAY** Be assertive as you leave so the animal knows it is not welcome.



For more information, please call Access Vaughan at 905-832-2281, email animal.services@vaughan.ca or go to vaughan.ca/AnimalServices.





Service Vaughan

Complete an online service or report an issue with a City service, 24-hours a day, seven days a week.

- **Animals**
- **Bids and Tenders**
- **Building and Development**
- **By-law**
- **Debris, Vandalism and Graffiti**

- **Employment**
- **Garbage and Recycling**
- **Parks, Trees, Grass**
- **Recreation**
- **Roads and Sidewalks**
- **Signs and Streetlights**
- **Water and Wastewater**



OnlineCity services available at vaughan.ca/ServiceVaughan

Winter in Vaughan

CITY OF VAUGHAN SERVICES



Approximately
80,000
windrows



More than
2,000 km
of roads



More than
1,000 km
of sidewalks



More than
100 crosswalk
locations



Main roads are cleared within **4 hours after** snowfall has ended

Residential roads are cleared within **12 hours after** snowfall has ended

Windrows are cleared within **4 hours after** streets have been plowed



Salting starts when snow or ice starts to accumulate on the roadways and sidewalks

Snow plowing operations begin when **5 cm** of snow accumulates



All public sidewalks are cleared within **48 hours after** snowfall has ended

