# Vaughan International Commercialization Centre Concept

Council Presentation, June 17, 2015

City of Vaughan, Economic Development Department



#### **Presentation Overview**

- 1. Exploring the Opportunity for a New Innovation Facility
- 2. Exploring the Vaughan International Commercialization Centre (VICC) Concept
- 3. Establishing an Operating Structure
- 4. Next Steps



# Exploring the Opportunity for a New Innovation Facility





# Vaughan's Opportunity to Lead

We will begin by explaining how we arrived on the **Vaughan International Commercialization Centre (VICC)** concept by answering six fundamental questions:

- What is the driver?
- 2. What support do businesses need?
- 3. What do innovation facilities do?
- 4. What can we learn from existing models?
- 5. What gaps exist today?
- 6. Why does the VICC make sense for Vaughan?





#### **Drivers**

- Formal request from Council to explore "the concept of Vaughan establishing a business incubation/acceleration facility with a focus on international business development."
- Identified the need for an innovation facility during previous Business
   Development Missions to Israel, Italy and China.
- Business leaders in Vaughan have expressed a desire for an innovation facility focused on commercialization during the corporate site visits conducted by the City's Economic Development Officers.
- Consistently receive investment inquiries from international businesses searching for support to help them localize their technologies and use
   Vaughan as a gateway to the North American market.

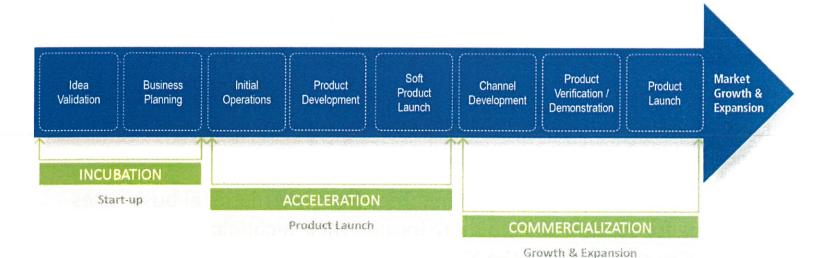




# Innovation Facilities... Start-up to expansion

#### **Market Readiness Continuum**

Def. The process by which businesses bring new products to market.







#### Innovation Facilities...

#### *Understanding the differences*

	Incubators	Accelerators	Commercialization Centres
Stage	Start-up	Product development and soft launch	Product launch and market development
Target Enterprise	Any small and medium enterprise (SME)	Early-stage enterprises with high growth potential	Emerging and established technology businesses
Service Delivery Approach	<ul> <li>✓ Emphasis on cohort-based programming</li> <li>✓ Some individual support</li> <li>✓ Some mentoring</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>✓ Mix of cohort-based programming and individual support</li> <li>✓ Mentoring</li> </ul>	<ul><li>✓ Largely individual programming</li><li>✓ Intensive mentoring</li></ul>
Risk Level	High Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk





Innovation Facilities		Innovation Model		Territorial Focus		Profit Vs. Non- Profit		Industry Sector			Operational Model				
		Acceleration	Commercialization	International	Domestic	Non-profit	Profit	Mobile		Clean Tech	Multiple Tech	General / Other	BIC	<b>∰</b> 5 <b>≥</b>	Year Established
TORONTO		7		7											
MaRs Discovery District		•	•	live town	·	·	-				•	nsat	•		2000
Kinetic Cafe		•	•				•					•		Stewart.	2011
INcubes		•		•	•		•		•						2011
MEIC (Mobile Experience Innovation Centre), Ontario College of Art & Design		•		•	•	•		•						•	2007
OneEleven	•	•	•		•		•		•					•	2013
Digital Media Zone (DMZ), Ryerson U.	•				•	•						7.4		•	2010
The Next 36					•	•						•	•		2010
Centre for Social Innovation					•	•							•		2004
HIGHLINE		•		•	•		•				•			• •	2009
Multiplicity TO		•				•			•					•	2011
Creative Destruction Lab, Rotman, University of Toronto		•			•	•						•		•	2012
Centre for Global Enterprise, York U.														•	2013
Innovation Centre for Urban Energy (i-CUE), Ryerson U.	•				•	•				•		-		•	2012
Digital Media & Gaming Incubator, George Brown College York Entrepreneurship Development Institute (YEDI), York University	•			•					•			•		• •	2011
Brightspark Ventures	1875											36		STATE OF STATE	1999
YORK REGION	2029		2000	<b>BEES</b>			200	ness.		100	1000	100			
ventureLAB		•	Name of Street		•	•			Contract of the Contract of th	MICHE	HEAD		•		2011
creatiT Now, Southlake Regional Health Centre	•			•									•		2012
Centre for Development of Open Technology (CDOT), Seneca College	•		11/2-01		•	•		•							2002
VAUGHAN INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIALIZATION CENTRE (VICC)			•	•		•	1				•		•		2015 (TBC)
OTHER - GTHA			1015												
Spark Centre		•			•	•						•	•		2010
Innovation Factory		•			•	•	-						•		2010
nc Centre (Research, Innovation Commercialization)	•	•	•		•	•						•	•		2008
Communitech	•	•	•		•	•					•	-	•		1997

# Innovation Facility Gap Analysis

Vaughan taking a leadership role

Comparative analysis of innovation facilities reveals a *sizeable market gap*, which Vaughan is strategically positioned to fill.



#### Lessons Learned... Critical success factors

Successful innovation facilities require the following components:

- 1. Public-private partnership structure, with the City acting as a catalyst.
- Platform of collaboration, with a solid network of partners.
- 3. Financing model, with multiple sources of private sector funding.
- 4. Revenue model, with a mix of earned and in-kind support.
- Market driven solutions, with a focus on solving real market problems.
- 6. Leadership, with a diverse range of skills, expertise and knowledge.
- Client selection process, with strict regulations for one-on-one support.





#### VICC's Niche Focus:

#### Commercialization + International

Taking a niche focus makes sense for Vaughan as it leverages the City's strengths by:

- Aligning with the City's Vision and Economic Development Strategy.
- Promoting Vaughan as the "Gateway to North America".
- Focusing on strategic international markets.
- Leveraging the strength of the **Digital Corridor**, with an emphasis on information and communications technology (ICT).



# **Exploring the VICC Concept**





# Creating a Competitive Advantage and Fueling Economic Growth

The next section concentrates on describing the VICC concept by answering the following questions:

- What is the market need?
- 2. What is the solution?
- 3. What is the VICC Concept?
- 4. Who are the partners?



#### The Clients

#### Understanding the Market Needs

	Domestic Clients	International Clients
Needs	<ul> <li>□ Seeking market reach into international markets and/or North America</li> <li>□ Seeking innovative technologies for diversification &amp; localization support</li> <li>□ Seeking funding &amp; investment opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>□ Seeking market reach into North Americal through Vaughan as a gateway</li> <li>□ Seeking technology localization &amp; demonstration verification site support</li> <li>□ Seeking funding &amp; investment opportunit</li> </ul>
Size	<ul> <li>✓ Small and medium enterprise (SME)</li> <li>✓ Size ranging from 1-20 and 21-99 employees</li> <li>✓ Businesses are already well established and i</li> </ul>	n expansion mode
Sectors	Innovative research development & design conv Emphasis on technology, building products, adv	[14] [15]
Market Di	rivers Market Reach	nnovation Funding





## What is the Market Need...







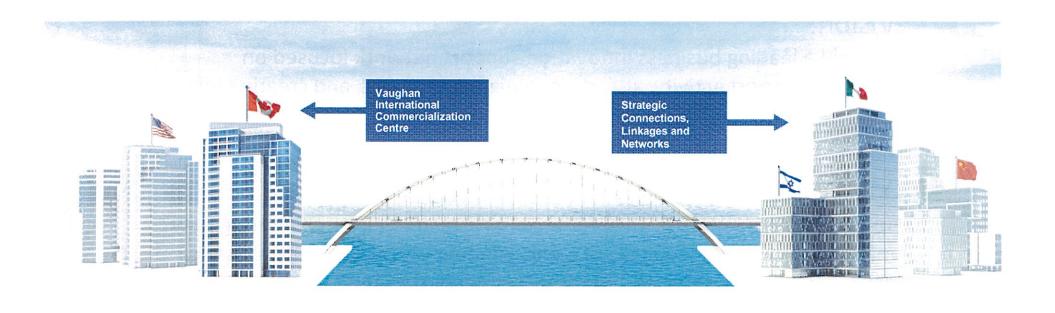






## Creating a Bridge

Vaughan...the gateway to International Markets





#### The Solution

Vaughan International Commercialization Centre (VICC)

#### Vision:

To build a leading business **innovation support network** focused on increasing export activity, attracting foreign investment, and creating jobs.

#### Mission:

To demystify the process of **commercializing technology** and entering **new markets** through the creation of a **one-window portal** that centralizes the existing programs, services and resources needed by businesses to achieve growth.







#### **VICC Concept Model**

#### **Market Drivers** & VICC Partner Solutions 1. Market Reach Driver Market Research, Education & Training

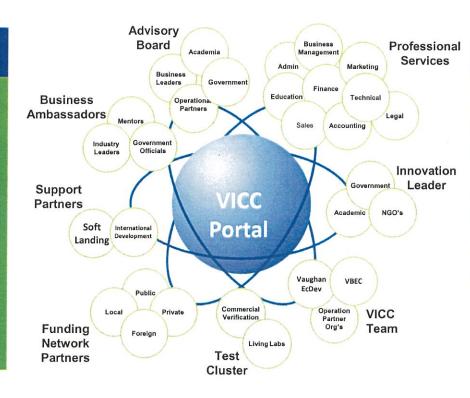
- Mentor & Service Provider Network
- Matchmaking
- International Business Missions
- Incoming Business Delegations
- · Soft Landing Network

#### 2. Innovation Driver

- Technology Access Program
- · Localization Support
- · Living Lab & Commercial Verification
- Mentor & Service Provider Network
- Matchmaking

#### 3. Funding Driver

- Education & Training
- Funding Source Support Program
- Mentor & Service Provider Network
- Matchmaking



#### **Strategic Partners Network**

Establishment of a collaborative commercialization hub, "one window" access that provides go-to-market programs and connections to strategic partners necessary for businesses to successfully access the international market.

#### **Vaughan Motivation**

- Job Creation & Increased Tax Base
- Incoming Investments
- Vaughan International Brand Awareness
- Vaughan Business Retention & Growth
- Innovation





#### Soft Landing Program

- Establishment of a soft landing network/database, locally and internationally, using a co-location strategy where businesses can rent space for a pre-determined amount of time within an existing facility.
- By leveraging partnerships with businesses and organizations with available offices who are willing to accommodate VICC members.

# Local Soft-Landing Sites • Lebovic Community Centre • Businesses located in Vaughan, such as: Ciot, Deloitte, Intelligent Office and Hughes Decorr • Business located in international markets, such as: Deloitte, ColdSpring Commerce (in Israel), The App Lab (in China), and TEC Canada (global)

#### Test City Program



Living Labs:





**Commercial Verification Sites:** 









Providing access to a network of:

**Living Labs and Commercialization Verification Sites** 

#### **Opportunity**

Playground or sandbox

#### **Test Types:**

- Proofs of concept
- Technology demonstration
- Commercial demonstration

#### **Testing Scenarios:**

- Cold weather
- Transportation and logistics
- Mass market and scaling





# Making it Happen... Leveraging the network

# Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada CBDC SIATE OF INAMI MINISTRY OF FORMAN Winternational Cooperation Institute Winternational Cooperation Institute MINISTRY OF COMMERCE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA





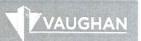


#### Making it Happen... Leveraging the network









#### A Unique Opportunity... Taking a leadership role

In addition to the VICC network of service providers and collaborators, a number of organizations have proposed to enter into a more significant "operational" partnership with the City.

The City has been presented with the unique opportunity to partner with multiple existing, proven organizations in the operation of the VICC, including:

- ventureLAB, York Region's designated innovation centre
- UnySource
- Kinetex
- Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC)
- Terracap Ventures
- -30- Communications
- Keiretsu Forum Central Canada

#### **Innovation Facilities Core Competencies**







# Establishing an Operating Structure





### How the VICC will Operate

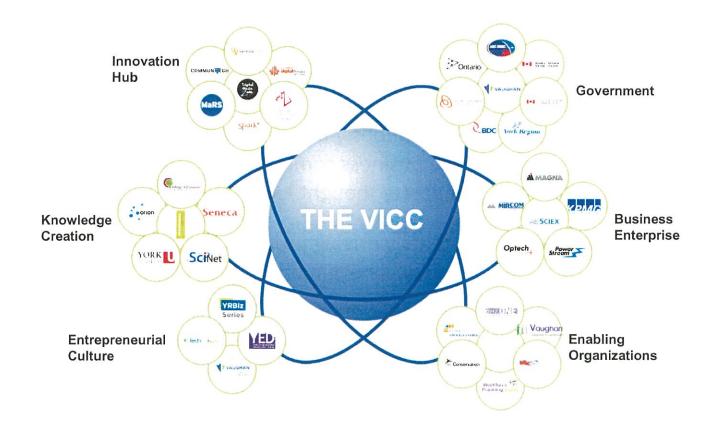
This final section offers insight into how the VICC will operate by answering the following questions:

- 1. Where do people access services?
- 2. What is the City of Vaughan's role?
- 3. How do VICC Partners contribute?
- 4. What occurs in the initial implementation phase?
- 5. What is the cost?
- 6. What are the next steps?



#### **Decentralized Model**

Leveraging and formalizing an **existing network** with zero reliance on a physical facility in the early stages.



#### Connecting the Parts... City as Catalyst

Vaughan will act as the catalyst for growth and move this initiative forward.

Vision and Leadership:

City will take a mobilizing/facilitating role,

ensuring all the VICC partners and

stakeholders are working collaboratively

towards achieving the shared vision and mission.

**Network Establishment:** 

Continuously building the network, engaging

the business community, market leaders and

industry thought leaders.

**Maintaining Momentum:** 

Steadily driving progress, promoting programs,

and achieving measurable results.





## Leveraging the Partners Network

The VICC and its ecosystem partners deliver unique and comprehensive services for international commercialization.

Service	Service	Delivery Source				
Туре	Description	VICC	Ecosystem			
	Test City	*	0			
Program	Soft Landing	*	0			
	Match Making (i.e., Technology Access)	*	*			
	Match Making	*	*			
Network Access	Mentors & Service Providers	*	*			
	Funding Access	0	*			
	International Development	0	*			
Support	Localization	0	*			
	Market Research & Education	0	*			

Legend:

**★** O = VICC Leads

**★ \*** = VICC Co-Leads

○ **\*** = VICC Supplements

## Taking a Phased Approach... Pilot Projects

Phase one is expected to include several actions and programs, which will be piloted and scaled up based on results and available funding. Initial activities include:

- Network formalization
- Launch of three pilot projects:
  - 1. Test City Program
  - 2. Soft Landing Network
  - 3. Match Making Program



### Potential Operating Models

The **VICC Working Group** will evaluate three possible scenarios for service delivery access points:

**Scenario 1**: Access through the City of Vaughan's EDOs, who direct the

client to the appropriate contact within the network.

Currently, this service is being offered on a limited scale.

**Scenario 2**: Access through ventureLAB.

**Scenario 3**: Access through a newly created and

independently operated public-private

"arms length" organization.





All scenarios expect to be complemented by a comprehensive web portal.



#### Financial Model

The funding model for the decentralized phase of the VICC is largely dependent on the core operational partners in addition to the completion of the strategic plan and business model, which will be undertaken by the VICC Working Group.

The following approaches to supporting the program are being explored:

- · Phased approach, leading with a centralized model
- Engaging core operational partners
- · Private sector funding
- In-kind support
- Grants and regional support
- Scaled service model, with some revenue generating solutions



# Pilot Program Scorecard

Measurement Categories	Performance Metrics	Thresholds
1. Attractiveness	Level of demand to join the network; level of demand to use the service	Monthly
2. Financial	Financing secured in dollars	Yearly
3. Company Status	Thriving; acquired; on hold; lost touch	Half-yearly
4. External Engagement	Level of communication with investors; media outlets; future entrepreneurs; businesses	Monthly
5. Internal Support	Quantifiable support through corporate calls, meetings, phone calls	Monthly
6. Client Satisfaction	Success stories; testimonials; satisfaction surveys	Half-yearly

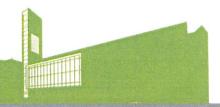


# **Next Steps**



#### **Moving Forward**

- 1. Council endorsement of the VICC Concept.
- 2. Signing of MOUs and NDAs with interested partners.
- 3. Formation of a VICC Working Group.
- 4. Strategic planning sessions held with Working Group.
- Report back to Council with a proposed VICC Business Model(s) and Operational Strategy, for approval to move forward.
- 6. **Test pilot** selected programs and services identified within the approved phase one approach (i.e., Test City Program, Soft Landing Network, and Match Making Program).
- 7. Preliminary Marketing Campaign designed to introduce the concept to the market, while also generating further interest and involvement from key stakeholders.





# Why it Makes Sense for Vaughan

#### The VICC...

- Drives VMC growth.
- Boosts Vaughan's standing to a world-class city.
- Supports businesses at the critical phase of commercialization.
- Strengthens the existing business community.
- Increases operational efficiencies inside the Economic Development Department.

